



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Criminal Justice Services*

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller  
Director

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To: Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee

From: Tracy Matthews, Manager, Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

Date: November 15, 2024

Re: 2025 Combatting Hate Crimes Grant Program

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The purpose of the Combatting Hate Crimes Grant Program is to minimize bias-motivated incidents by providing funding that supports institutions and/or nonprofit organizations within a locality that may be at risk for targeted, bias-motivated violence based on race, religious conviction, color, gender, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or national origin. State general funds in the amount of \$3.5 million are available for distribution.

DCJS received **13 applications with requests totaling \$1,612,314**. For FY2025, staff is **recommending funding of seven applications in the amount of \$668,622**.

The grant period for this award is from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.

Staff is **not recommending funding for six applications totaling \$744,220** due to requests for ineligible equipment or failure to provide a clear, justifiable connection to the purpose of the Hate Crimes Grant Program.

In summary, DCJS staff **request approval to fund seven awards, totaling \$668,622**, for the 12-month period (1/1/2025–12/31-2025), using state general funds designated for this purpose.

**HCGP Grants Committee Recommendations (Cover Report)**

**Hate Crimes Grant Program**

25-Nov-2024

Application #	Location	Jurisdiction	Requested DCJS Funds	Requested Local	Requested Total	Recommended DCJS Funds	Recommended Local	Recommended Total
541413	Alexandria, City	City Government	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
541544	Altavista, Town	Town Government	\$141,714.00	\$0.00	\$141,714.00	\$26,540.00	\$0.00	\$26,540.00
540423	Dickenson, County	County Government	\$93,125.00	\$0.00	\$93,125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
537991	Fairfax, County	County Government	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$144,900.00	\$0.00	\$144,900.00
540696	Hanover, County	County Government	\$81,735.00	\$0.00	\$81,735.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
540828	Harrisonburg, City	City Government	\$45,300.00	\$0.00	\$45,300.00	\$45,300.00	\$0.00	\$45,300.00
540749	Lexington, City	City Government	\$129,360.00	\$0.00	\$129,360.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
541349	Loudoun, County	County Government	\$83,082.00	\$0.00	\$83,082.00	\$83,082.00	\$0.00	\$83,082.00
539228	Manassas Park, City	City Government	\$140,000.00	\$0.00	\$140,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
540154	Newport News City	City Government	\$147,998.00	\$0.00	\$147,998.00	\$68,800.00	\$0.00	\$68,800.00
541515	Prince William County	County Government	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00
540533	Roanoke City	City Government	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
538812	Virginia Beach City	City Government	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Program Category SubTotal:			\$1,612,314.00	\$0.00	\$1,612,314.00	\$668,622.00	\$0.00	\$668,622.00
Grant Program Grant Total:			\$1,612,314.00	\$0.00	\$1,612,314.00	\$668,622.00	\$0.00	\$668,622.00

## HCGP -- Grants Committee Recommendations (Summary Report)

### Hate Crimes Grant Program

25-Nov-2024

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Applicant Location	Implementing Agency	Type of Application	Requested Funding	Recommended Funding	Internal Status	Grant Project Description
541413	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Alexandria, City	City Government	New	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	Meets criteria	The Alexandria Police Department (APD) Community Engagement Division has partnered with five historically Black churches and two Jewish congregations to address safety and security concerns at their locations. Upon assessment of each location, several safety and security vulnerabilities were identified.
541544	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Altavista, Town	Town Government	New	\$141,714.00	\$26,540.00	Meets criteria with conditions	The Town of Altavista is home to over 3,500 permanent residents, however this number increases exponentially with workers in our expanding manufacturing and businesses located within town limits. The FBI reports there has been a 10% increase in hate-motivated violence and unrest in areas with populations under 50,000. Altavista is not exempt from these crimes. This proposal will strengthen law enforcement capabilities, enhance public safety, and foster collaboration with community stakeholders to raise awareness to prevent hate crime and domestic terrorism. Initiatives supported will be focused on prevention, intervention, and community engagement to mitigate these threats.
540423	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Dickenson, County	County Government	New	\$93,125.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	Dickenson County Sheriff's Office seeks to continue to partner with local religious organizations to lower the risk of targeting for hate crimes and to increase resilience and survivability in the event of violent attacks. Deputies will provide enhanced protection to area churches through security checks and increased patrols. Active shooter training will be provided to members of religious organizations. This grant supports our local sheriff's office in its aim to safeguard vulnerable communities and prevent hate crimes.
537991	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Fairfax, County	County Government	New	\$150,000.00	\$144,900.00	Meets criteria with conditions	FCPD will partner with 21 religious organizations (churches, synagogues, Islamic Centers, schools, and community centers) to harden their physical and cyber security. Projects include installing security doors and locks, access control, CCTV cameras, window security film, panic buttons, and cyber network protections, as well as hiring security personnel. Projects were chosen based on security assessments with the goal to deter and detect physical and cyber threats and reduce or eliminate damage caused by a bias incident.
540696	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Hanover, County	County Government	New	\$81,735.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The Hanover County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) is seeking funding to enhance its forensic investigation capabilities through the acquisition of a Full Spectrum Color Imaging System (FSIS-II) Rugged Master. This advanced fingerprint and forensic evidence capture device will be instrumental in addressing hate crimes, which have increasingly targeted vulnerable groups, including local nonprofits serving racial, religious, and LGBTQ+ communities. This product will enable HCSO to conduct more precise and efficient investigations, enhancing the protection of at-risk populations and create a safer environment for the nonprofits that serve them, ultimately fostering a more inclusive and secure community.
540828	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Harrisonburg, City	City Government	New	\$45,300.00	\$45,300.00	Meets criteria	The Harrisonburg Police Department will partner with the Muslim and Jewish communities in the city to support employing off-duty police officers during times of worship for these communities' religious institutions, providing enhanced security and protections for congregants.

540749	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Lexington, City	City Government	New	\$129,360.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	In response to the alarming rise of hate crimes and vandalism in the City of Lexington, the Lexington Police Department is seeking grant funding to implement advanced technological solutions to bolster public safety. The department aims to acquire a drone and install additional cameras to enhance its surveillance and rapid response capabilities. The drone will serve as a critical tool in high-risk situations, such as active bomb threats, large-scale demonstrations, and community events, allowing for real-time aerial surveillance and assessment of potential threats. The proposed cameras will be strategically placed throughout areas that have experienced an increase in hate-related graffiti and other criminal activities.
541349	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Loudoun, County	County Government	New	\$83,082.00	\$83,082.00	Meets criteria	Loudoun County seeks \$83,082 to assist one congregation in contractual security services and target hardening activities at their house of worship to address security challenges facing their community. The County will administer funding and provide support for these goals.
539228	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Manassas Park, City	City Government	New	\$140,000.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The City of Manassas Park has a significant need for a modular vehicle barrier system that can be rapidly deployed to protect city events and soft targets, as well as substantial critical infrastructures, from violent vehicle terrorist attacks. Furthermore, the modular vehicles barriers would also substantially aid the police department in effort to prevent both potential and attempted acts of terrorism before they happen, as well as the response to acts of terrorism committed and mitigating any further damages and loss of life and property.
540154	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Newport News City	City Government	New	\$147,998.00	\$68,800.00	Meets criteria with conditions	A collaboration between the City of Newport News and the United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula to assist with enhancing security on their city campuses.
541515	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Prince William County	County Government	New	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	Meets criteria with conditions	The Prince William County Police Department will work with each of its partnering faith communities to conduct outreach, training, and facility security assessments. Ultimately, our goal is to enhance the safety and security of their respective locations for the purpose of preventing and reducing the possibility of hate or bias-motivated crimes against houses of worship in our community.
540533	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Roanoke City	City Government	New	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The Roanoke Jewish Federation is the umbrella for the SOJ(c)3 organizations: Temple Emanuel, Beth Israel Synagogue and the Jewish Community Preschool. Due to the significant rise in antisemitic rhetoric and the presence of hate groups in eastern West Virginia, central and southwestern Virginia, each organization has engaged the services of off-duty law enforcement officers and private security companies to protect their property and the safety of congregants including young children. In the past, these organizations have obtain detailed threat assessments from local law enforcement which resulted in target hardening measures. However, hiring on-site security personnel continues to be a significant drain on their budgets.
538812	Hate Crimes Grant Program	Virginia Beach City	City Government	New	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The city of Virginia Beach Police Department (VBPD) is proposing continuation of the initiatives awarded in the FY22 Hate Crimes grant to include successful didactic security training and real-life scenario exercises to 'at risk' community partners. In addition, the department would like to provide target hardening equipment that has been identified through onsite security assessments by VBPD Community Liaison Officers to 'at risk' community partners. Lastly, VBPD would like to offer to those community partners the ability to directly integrate their cameras into the department's Real Time Crime center through the Keep Virginia Beach Safe program- <a href="https://keepvirginiabeachsafe.org">https://keepvirginiabeachsafe.org</a>