



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

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To: Criminal Justice Services Board

From: Mr. Tracy Matthews, Law Enforcement Grants and Programs, Manager, Public Safety Training and The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

Date: October 9, 2025

Re: FY 2026 Combating Hate Crimes Grant Funding

Name of Person Presenting: Mr. Tracy Matthews, Law Enforcement Grants and Programs, Manager, Public Safety Training and The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety

The FY 2026 Combating Hate Grant Program, funding opportunity 555018, makes state funds available for competitive grants to localities to minimize bias-motivated incidents. The program provides 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.

Grant Application Review	
# Grants Submitted	11
# Grants Denied	5
# Grants Recommended	6

DCJS Recommendations	
Amount Requested	\$1,000,901
Amount Denied	\$338,797
Amount Reduced	\$1,908
Total Amount Recommended	\$660,196

Five (5) applications were denied. One (1) submitted application was determined ineligible as the applicant is a non-profit organization and not a local government in Virginia. Four (4) applications were determined to have no clear nexus to combating hate crimes.

In summary, **DCJS staff request approval to fund six (6) grant applications for a retroactive 12-month period (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026), totaling \$660,196, using the 2026 Hate Crimes Grant Program funding allocated for this purpose.**

HCGP -- Criminal Justice Services Board (Cover Report)

FY 2026 Hate Crimes Grant Program

9-Oct-2025

Application Number	Applicant	Organization Type	Requested	Requested	Requested	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
			DCJS Funds	Local	Total	DCJS Funds	Local	Total
558898	Alexandria, City	City Government	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
555404	Altavista, Town	Town Government	\$88,279.00	\$0.00	\$88,279.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
558174	Assist Youth Teen Center	Non-Profit Organization	\$64,000.00	\$0.00	\$64,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
558404	Campbell, County	County Government	\$14,127.00	\$0.00	\$14,127.00	\$14,127.00	\$0.00	\$14,127.00
556425	Coeburn, Town	Town Government	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
558849	Dickenson, County	County Government	\$71,250.00	\$0.00	\$71,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
558701	Fairfax, County	County Government	\$195,300.00	\$0.00	\$195,300.00	\$195,300.00	\$0.00	\$195,300.00
556234	Loudoun, County	County Government	\$63,013.00	\$0.00	\$63,013.00	\$61,105.00	\$0.00	\$61,105.00
555967	Luray, Town	Town Government	\$105,268.00	\$0.00	\$105,268.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
558551	Newport News, City	City Government	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00
558833	Norfolk, City	City Government	\$149,664.00	\$0.00	\$149,664.00	\$149,664.00	\$0.00	\$149,664.00
Grant Program Total:			\$1,000,901.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,901.00	\$660,196.00	\$0.00	\$660,196.00

HCGP -- Criminal Justice Services Board (Summary Report)

FY 2026 Hate Crimes Grant Program

9-Oct-2025

Application Number	Applicant	Organization Type	Type of Application	Requested Funding	Recommended Funding	Application Criteria	Grant Project Description
558898	Alexandria, City	City Government	New	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	Meets Criteria with Conditions	The Alexandria Police Department (APD) respectfully requests consideration for the 2026 Combating Hate Crimes Grant to support our ongoing efforts to strengthen community trust and engagement, particularly with Alexandria's diverse faith-based communities. APD intends to strengthen partnerships with several historically Black churches, two Jewish congregations, a Catholic church, an Episcopal High School and an Islamic Relief Center. Through assessments conducted in collaboration with these organizations, several safety and security vulnerabilities were identified. Our goal is to broaden our outreach efforts to ensure that assistance, resources, and protective services are accessible to as many organizations as possible.
555404	Altavista, Town	Town Government	New	\$88,279.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The Altavista Police Department (APD) is partnering with the Altavista Area YMCA, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, to implement a state-of-the-art surveillance system at the YMCA's new childcare facility currently under construction in the Town of Altavista. This new facility will enable the YMCA to serve an additional 75 families, complementing the more than 612 children already supported through its programs. This project aims to enhance the safety and security of the childcare center by making it a harder target for potential threats, including hate-based crimes. Both APD and the YMCA share a proactive commitment to crime prevention and community protection.
558174	Assist Youth Teen Center	Non-Profit Organization	New	\$64,000.00	\$0.00	Ineligible	A.S.S.T. Youth Teen Center in Richmond, VA, is a 10,000 sq ft sports and youth development hub offering after school programs, summer camps, and day care that combine academic support with physical fitness and life skills training. The center includes STEM tutoring, individualized fitness (strength training, mobility, weight loss), and mentoring by certified trainers complete with gym access, consultations, and one on one coaching. Founded in 2003, the Athlete Scholastic Support Initiative for Securing Success Tomorrow has supported over 2,000 student athletes, particularly those facing academic challenges and economic hardship. Its mission is to provide a bridge to college through academic assistance and athletic exposure.
558404	Campbell, County	County Government	New	\$14,127.00	\$14,127.00	Meets Criteria	Campbell County Sheriff's Office is partnering with Second Saint Paul Baptist Church to improve the real and felt safety of their parishioners by installing a video surveillance system to monitor the church building and grounds. Churchgoers in the 21st century are painfully aware that houses of worship across the U.S. and the world have been targeted by terrorists or homegrown violent extremists (HVEs). This security system will help church leaders and members better partner with law enforcement to rapidly recognize and respond to threats to church members whether they occur during worship services or midweek.
556425	Coeburn, Town	Town Government	New	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	This project addresses a rise of hate crimes in our rural community by fostering understanding and resilience. We will implement community-led initiatives focused on education, security, victim support, and reporting mechanisms. Goals: Increase awareness of hate crimes and their impact. Provide resources and support for victims. Strengthen community cohesion and bystander intervention. Activities: Workshops and training on hate crime identification and prevention. Creation of a local support network for victims. Development of a secure, accessible reporting system. Public awareness campaigns through local media and events. Impact: A safer, more inclusive rural community that can prevent, report, and respond to incidents.
558849	Dickenson, County	County Government	New	\$71,250.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The Dickenson County Sheriff's Office seeks funding through the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Combating Hate Crimes Grant Program to enhance security for local religious institutions. Our proposal focuses on target hardening, increased security measures, and training church members in active shooter response. Given the rural nature of Dickenson County and its limited minority population, religious institutions are the most likely targets of hate crimes and bias-motivated violence.

558701	Fairfax, County	County Government	New	\$195,300.00	\$195,300.00	Meets criteria	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.
556234	Loudoun, County	County Government	New	\$63,013.00	\$61,105.00	Meets criteria at a reduced level	Loudoun County, in partnership with the Loudoun Islamic Center (LIC) and Equality Loudoun (EL), respectfully requests FY2026 Combating Hate Crimes Grant funding to address rising threats against Muslim and LGBTQ+ communities. The proposed initiative will enhance physical security, deliver multilingual and culturally competent training, and expand public outreach. LIC will support more than 400 regularly engaged congregants plus an additional 400 visitors from neighboring counties and occasional attendees, with safety upgrades and preparedness efforts. EL will lead inclusive training, deploy mobile security, and grow its Equality Allies network to reach over 5,000 residents by reducing and preventing bias-based hate crimes and incidents.
555967	Luray, Town	Town Government	New	\$105,268.00	\$0.00	Does not meet criteria	The Luray Police Department aims to prevent and respond to hate crimes by installing shatterproof window tint and security cameras at the town municipal and police facility, high traffic areas through town, and near our community organizations; as well as deploying a drone in high-traffic and vulnerable areas to better protect residents, visitors, and targeted community spaces.
558551	Newport News, City	City Government	New	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	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 campuses.
558833	Norfolk, City	City Government	New	\$149,664.00	\$149,664.00	Meets criteria with conditions	This application aims to install cameras at several synagogues in Norfolk, Virginia, to enable early detection of threats against the Jewish community. The cameras will also cover nearby locations, including a Presbyterian church, a public high school, and surrounding residential areas. Integrated with the city's camera system, they will provide 24/7 monitoring to deter potential threats and enhance safety for the synagogues, churches, schools, and neighborhoods.