



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq.
Chief Deputy Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting

April 24, 2025

Members Present

Sheriff Brian Hieatt, Vice Chair
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.
Ebony Clark
Maria Jankowski
Russell "Rusty" McGuire

Members Absent

Chief Craig Branch, Chair

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair Sheriff Hieatt called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM

II. Roll Call

Sheriff Hieatt asked Wendy Lohr Hopp to conduct the Roll Call. Wendy stated there was a quorum with five members present. All members joined the meeting by electronic communication.

III. Introductions/ Opening Comments

Sheriff Hieatt officially welcomed guests and any agency dignitaries.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Sheriff Hieatt called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the February 27, 2025 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire to approve the minutes and was seconded by Officer Evans.

V. Grant Review

a. Pre-Release and Post-Incarceration Services (PAPIS) Program – Adult Justice Programs, Jennifer MacArthur

The purpose of the Pre-Release and Post-Incarceration Services (PAPIS) Grant Program is to support PAPIS programs in providing direct services to incarcerated

individuals nearing release into the community or previously incarcerated individuals living in the community. This grant is intended specifically to facilitate case management and coaching, reentry success planning, treatment, and referrals. It also provides resources to meet the basic needs of reentering individuals, such as transitional housing, and employment readiness and placement for individuals returning to the community from prison or a local or regional jail. PAPIS is funded by state general funds.

DCJS received nine (9) applications for the PAPIS program requesting a total of \$3,600,989. DCJS staff recommends the approval of nine (9) applications in the amount of \$3,596,429.

No applications were denied. DCJS staff recommends funding all PAPIS programs at FY2025 level funding.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund nine (9) grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026), totaling \$3,596,429 using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski and seconded by Ms. Clark. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

b. Jail Mental Health Pilot (JMHP) Program – Adult Justice Program, Patricia Shaw

The purpose of this Jail Mental Health Pilot (JMHP) Program funding opportunity is to facilitate mental health services to individuals housed in local and regional jails. This includes assessments to identify participants, treatment plans, treatment services within the jail, and connections to services in the community upon release. The total amount of funds available is \$1,875,000.

DCJS received five (5) applications for JMHP requesting a total of \$2,160,273. DCJS staff recommends the approval of five (5) applications in the amount of \$1,875,000.

No applications were denied. Grantees submitted needs-based applications and the funding requested exceeded the total grant funds available. DCJS recommends funding programs at the same amount as FY2025.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund five (5) grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2026), totaling \$1,875,000, using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion regarding reporting requirements for outcomes. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski and seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

c. Victim Services Grant Program-Sexual and Domestic Violence Services (VSGP-SDVS) – Victims Services Section, Andi Martin

The purpose of the Victims Services Grant Program for Sexual and Domestic Violence Services (VSGP-SDVS) is to support the delivery of direct services to sexual assault and domestic violence victims. Funding comes from both State General Funds allocated to support sexual assault and domestic violence victims and federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, awarded to DCJS by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime.

DCJS received 55 applications for the VSGP-SDVS program requesting a total of \$19,165,934. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 55 applications in the amount of \$19,165,934 or \$21,165,934 depending on the outcome of the state budget bill.

No applications were denied.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 55 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2026), totaling \$19,165,934, using federal VOCA and state general funds allocated for this purpose. *Alternatively, if approved in the FY2026 state budget bill awaiting action by Governor Youngkin, an additional \$2,000,000 in state general funding will be added to this funding opportunity using the same requirements set forth in the grant guidelines to fund the grant applications totaling \$21,165,934. Updated individual grant amounts will be provided at the May 8, 2025 CJSB Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Officer Evans. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes. Mr. McGuire requested confirmation that there were no grants to Louisa County; staff confirmed there were not any to Louisa County.

d. Victim Services Grant Program – Victims Services Section, Anya Shaffer

The purpose of the Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. This funding opportunity offered continuation funding for a group of currently funded subrecipients selected through a competitive application process in 2025. The initial funding opportunity was designed to fulfill the federal requirement that 10% of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding support services to victims from underserved populations.

DCJS received 32 applications for VSGP requesting a total of \$5,167,690. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 32 applications in the amount of \$5,167,643.

No applications were denied. Two (2) subrecipients requested award amounts that exceeded their predetermined amounts, resulting in \$47 of reductions.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 32 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2026), totaling \$5,167,643, using \$4,134,113 in state general funds/federal VOCA funds and \$1,033,530 in subrecipient match contributions.

A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski and seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Ms. Clark recused herself from the vote.

e. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program – Office of Safer Communities and Youth Services, Terry Willie-Surratt

Legislation enacted by the 1990 General Assembly provides for the implementation of a statewide Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program. This legislation authorizes the use of specially trained volunteers to serve as advocates for abused, neglected, or abandoned children coming before the court. This grant is intended specifically to support local CASA programs as specified in the Code of Virginia § 9.151 et seq.

DCJS received 27 applications for the CASA program requesting a total of \$3,053,730, in state funds, federal VOCA funds, and federal Children’s Justice Act (CJA) funds. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 27 applications in the amount of \$3,053,730.

No applications were denied as funding is awarded on a non-competitive formula basis.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 27 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2026), totaling \$3,053,730, using federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), federal Children’s Justice Act (CJA) funds, and state general funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ms. Clark and seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

f. Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention (FVIP) in Public Housing – Office of Safer Communities and Youth Services, Greg Hopkins

The purpose of this Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention (FVIP) Grant Program is to support the implementation of strategies that will result in the reduction of violent crime within the Commonwealth of Virginia while implementing effective and sustainable intervention and prevention programming to interrupt and prevent local cycles of violence. The current grant solicitation is to support local public housing agencies’ efforts to enhance safety and address violent crime.

DCJS received nine (9) applications for the FVIP program requesting a total of \$2,361,554. DCJS staff recommends the approval of six (6) applications in the amount of \$1,780,304.

Three (3) applications in the amount of \$581,250 were not recommended for funding. Two (2) applications were deemed ineligible and one (1) application provided insufficient information.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund six (6) grant applications for the 24-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2027), totaling \$1,780,304, using the Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention funding allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

g. School Resource Officer (SRO) Program – Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Tracy Matthews

The purpose of the School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program is to continue funding for School Resource Officer (SRO) positions and continue funding and establish new funding for School Security Officer (SSO) positions in Virginia public schools. School Resource Officer positions provide law enforcement and security services to schools across the Commonwealth, and School Security Officer positions maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, and investigate violations of school board policies. Funding originates from Code of Virginia § 9.1-110.

DCJS received 116 applications for the SRO program requesting a total of \$23,858,346. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 103 applications in the amount of \$21,213,251.

Thirteen (13) applications in the amount of \$993,809 were deemed ineligible and denied because they requested continuation for a grant whose four-year cycle has ended. In addition, thirteen (13) applications are recommended for an increase in funding due to the match funding and/or requested funding being incorrect on the initial application.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 103 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026), totaling \$21,213,251, using \$14,085,445 SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program funding and \$7,127,806 in local match.

There was discussion on the general assembly funding of grants that are past four years; staff noted that the decision is part of the final budget decision. A motion was made by

Officer Evans and seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote with one opposed. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

h. School Safety Officer (SSO) Program – Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Tracy Matthews

The purpose of the School Resource Officer (SRO)/School Security Officer (SSO) Incentive Grant Program is to continue funding and establish new funding for SRO and SSO positions in Virginia public schools. SRO positions provide law enforcement and security services to schools across the Commonwealth, and SSO positions maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, and investigate violations of school board policies. Funding originates from Code of Virginia § 9.1-110.

DCJS received 49 applications for the SSO program requesting a total of \$8,370,275. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 46 applications in the amount of \$8,434,164.

Three (3) applications in the amount of \$292,420 were not recommended for funding. Two (2) applications were determined ineligible as they were intended for FY2026 new positions (not FY2025 resubmissions). One (1) application was an incorrect submission, as it was an SRO application mistakenly submitted through the SSO funding opportunity. This application was withdrawn in coordination with the applicant. It has been resubmitted in the SRO funding opportunity. In addition, six (6) applications are recommended for an increase in funding due to the match funding and/or requested funding being incorrect on the initial application.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 46 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025-6/30/2026), totaling \$8,434,164, using \$5,493,392 of SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program funding and \$2,940,772 in local match.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Officer Evans. The motion passed by majority vote with one opposed. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

i. Office of First Responder Wellness (OFRW) Program – Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Tracy Matthews

The purpose of the Office of First Responder Wellness (OFRW) Grant Program is to provide resources to first responder agencies and non-profit organizations to fund first responder wellness training for agency employees; fund registration fees, lodging, and per diem for agency employees to attend first responder wellness conferences; fund support costs for therapy/ support dogs; fund the purchase of therapeutic wellness equipment; and provide funding for non-profit agencies to provide wellness training, resources, or direct services to first responders in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Executive Order 38 directed DCJS to award up to \$2,700,000.

DCJS received 122 applications for the OFRW program requesting a total of \$2,765,040. DCJS staff recommends the approval of 77 applications in the amount of \$1,588,597.

The 45 applications, in the amount of \$968,380, recommended for denial were determined to have significant or multiple application deficiencies. This included failing to complete sections of the application, providing insufficient information, descriptions, and justifications for the requested items, and requesting unallowable items.

In summary, DCJS staff requests approval to fund 77 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026), totaling \$1,588,597, using state funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion regarding what guidance was provided on funding priorities and confirmation that there will be another round of funding. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Clark. The motion passed by majority vote with one opposed. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

j. Combatting Hate Crime Program (HCGP) – Division of Public Safety Training and Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Tracy Matthews

The purpose of the Hate Crimes Grant Program (HCGP) 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, age, sexual orientation, or national origin.

DCJS received 10 applications for the HCGP program requesting a total of \$803,125. DCJS staff recommends the approval of four (4) applications in the amount of \$213,708.

Six (6) applications were denied in the amount of \$486,725. One (1) application was determined ineligible as the applicant is a non-profit organization and had not partnered with a local government. Five (5) applications were not recommended for funding because they did not meet the criteria of the Hate Crimes Grant Program funding opportunity. The applications did not focus specifically on hate crime prevention but on general crime prevention.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund four (4) applications for the 12-month period (6/1/2025-5/31/2026), totaling \$213,708, using the FY2025 Hate Grant Program funding allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

VI. Old Business

No Old Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VII. New Business

No New Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

No Public Comment was brought forth at this meeting.

IX. Announcements

Sheriff Hieatt announced that the next Grants Committee meeting will be held May 29, 2025.

X. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. McGuire and seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:51 am.

Recusals

Sheriff Brian Hieatt

- Application #549122 - Tazewell County
- Application #549299 - Tazewell Town
- Application #549655 - Tazewell County
- Application #549737 - Tazewell County
- Application #549879 - Tazewell County
- Application #549880 - Tazewell County
- Application #550085 - Tazewell County

Officer Bennie Evans Jr.

- Application #548927 – Alexandria City
- Application #549892 – Alexandria City

Ms. Ebony Clark

- All Victim Services Grant Program (VSGP) Grants