

FY 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, Local Solicitation.

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

The Aurora Police Department is authorized for 307 sworn officers. The City of Aurora has an approximate population of 209,000. The City spans over approximately 39.33 square miles and sits in 4 counties. The City of Aurora (like most cities) is still experiencing financial constraints with funding for additional equipment and training limited.

The City of Aurora Police Department is in need of obtaining the following equipment for its Law Enforcement Personnel:

We would like to purchase six (6) night vision devices for our Special Response Team (SRT). Currently we don't do not have any department purchased night vision devices for the team. Some of the SRT officers have purchased their own night vision to enhance their visual awareness when conducting nighttime operations. Having night vision capabilities gives officers on the team the tactical advantage to assess and appropriately address a nighttime scenario. Having the ability to see in the dark also greatly increases officer safety as well as the safety of others; to include suspects and offenders.

Purchasing night vision devices will allow the department to standardize the team's equipment, so all of the team members will be familiar with the night vision device. This would also allow the department to have more of the team members outfitted with night vision capabilities.

City of Elgin Police Department plans to use this award for equipment. To purchase replacement cameras for already existing cameras that have reached end of life and are in need of replacement. The City of Elgin Police Department began a citywide camera network system in 2014 with a single camera atop of the Elgin Tower Building. Since then we have increased to over 425 cameras. Most of these cameras are in public areas of the community and have assisted Elgin Police staff with everything from special event surveillance, traffic crashes, locating missing persons and homicide investigations to name a few. The cameras are visible to the public allowing them to be aware the location is under surveillance. Over time, camera technology has changed and many of the cameras on the citywide network have become outdated and unsupported by the camera manufacturer.

Our disparate agency, the **County of Kane**, has communicated its intent to use its portion of the grant funds to continue to fund a "Lexipol Law Enforcement & Custody Manual and Daily In-Service Training Bulletin" Program. This is an organizational policy development program which includes development tools, policy updates and Daily Training Bulletins for public safety deputies, court security officers and corrections officers. Lexipol offers up to date policy and procedure notifications, daily in-service training bulletins and legal updates.

The County of Kane's goal for this project is to improve policy / procedures, disseminate notifications to employees in a timely manner while reducing risk and liability to the County of Kane. Thus, this would improve the police service to the citizens within the county.