

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FY2024 ANNUAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET FOR ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA SO AS TO PROVIDE GRANT FUNDING, IF AWARDED, FROM THE FEDERAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR ENHANCED COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES AND IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Commission of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. The Commission of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia desires to amend the Grants Special Revenue Fund to provide grant funding, if awarded, from the Federal Justice Assistance Grant Program for enhanced community outreach and improved communications. Said Operating and Capital budget is hereby amended as follows:

Grants Special Revenue Fund:

REVENUES:

Increase:

Federal Justice Assistance Grant	\$67,003
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Expenditures:

Increase:

Police Department - Operating Expenses	\$67,003
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SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application

DATE: July 18, 2023

BUDGET INFORMATION:

REVENUES: \$67,003

EXPENSES:

ANNUAL:

CAPITAL:

OTHER: \$67,003

FUNDING SOURCE:

U.S. Department of Justice / Office of Justice Programs

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: September 5, 2023

PURPOSE:

To request that the Mayor and Commission:

- a) Approve the submission of an application (**Attachment #1**) by the Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) for the 2023 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG);
- b) Accept the grant funds, if awarded;
- c) Adopt the attached budget amendment ordinance (**Attachment #2**); and
- d) Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all documents associated with the grant.

HISTORY:

1. Since 1996, the ACCPD has received Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) awards to reduce crime and improve public safety. The LLEBG program was an annual, direct allocation to local jurisdictions based on their immediate past three-year crime rate and other factors.
2. In Federal FY05, Congress and the Bush administration combined the LLEBG with the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program to create the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program.
3. On June 30, 2023, the U.S. Department of Justice / Office of Justice Programs released its solicitation for 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) local grant applications with an application deadline of August 31, 2023.

FACTS & ISSUES:

1. As a result of past LLEBG awards, the ACCPD obtained needed equipment and tactical supplies such as: fingerprint kits; Alco-Sensors; bicycles; flashlights; radar units; shotguns; shotgun racks; in-car video systems; photography and video equipment; and SRT tactical equipment. ACCPD also hired a crime analyst and a quality control technician with LLEBG awards.
2. Under the statutory provisions of the JAG Program, only one award will be available to the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia (ACCGov).
3. ACCGov is eligible during Federal FY 2024 to receive \$67,003 in JAG funding, with no match required. After funds are awarded, funds must be expended within four years.
4. Under the terms of the previously awarded 2020 JAG, the ACCPD has employed two part-time, at-will employees in support of ACCGov / ACCPD criminal justice reform efforts. Notably, such personnel have assisted the ACCPD's Community Communications Coordinator in supportive efforts inclusive of mental health services data analysis, public outreach material development, community surveys, public engagement, and general community outreach programming.
5. The synergy generated from the interaction of students and personnel from different academic traditions and backgrounds has resulted in refined service delivery and improved outreach materials in the ACCPD's Community Connections Office. In light of such positive interactions, the ACCPD seeks to allow for the development of a fellowship program to allow for sustained contributions of diverse members of ACC's academic communities inclusive of undergraduate and graduate students.
6. The ACCPD proposes 2023 JAG funds allow for the acquisition of no more than four (4) part-time, at will employees ("ACCPD Fellows") at any one time in support of ACCGov / ACCPD criminal justice reform efforts inclusive of:
 - The Citizens' Advisory Board;
 - Mental Health Services inclusive of Co-Response;
 - General Community Outreach Programming;
 - Community Engagement inclusive of Surveys, and
 - Other Tasks as required of a 21st Century Policing Department with an emphasis on co-production of services and officer wellness.
7. It is proposed that such an ACCPD Fellowship Program be incorporated into operations as a pilot program under the terms of the 2023 JAG; and if demonstrated as an effective community engagement tool, for such program to be proposed to the Mayor and Commission as a standard operating budget initiative for further investment and refinement at the conclusion of the grant's term.

8. These recommendations support the following ACCGov Strategic Plan Goals & Strategies:
- Good Neighbors
 - Strategy C: *Decrease crime and keep residents safe through “community-centric” services.*
 - Strategy F: *Examine, understand, and improve public safety policies and processes to enhance public trust*
 - Identify and Close Gaps in Partnership with the Community
 - Strategy A: *Partner to develop tools and relationships to increase awareness of and access to Athens workforce and workplace development opportunities.*
 - Strategy B: *Build and maintain two-way information pipelines through relationship building.*
 - Organizational Improvement
 - Strategy A: *Develop strategies to recruit, reward, and retain high performing employees, both internally and externally, including individuals coming out of the justice system.*
 - Strategy D: *Increase resident engagement in the decision-making process to give greater emphasis to information and power sharing, mutual respect, and reciprocity between residents and their government*

OPTIONS:

1. Mayor and Commission:
 - a) Approve the submission of an application (**Attachment #1**) by the Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) for the 2023 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG);
 - b) Accept the grant funds, if awarded;
 - c) Adopt the attached budget amendment ordinance (**Attachment #2**); and
 - d) Authorize the Mayor and appropriate staff to execute all documents associated with the grant.
2. Mayor and Commission deny the authorization to submit the grant application.
3. Mayor and Commission-Directed Option.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Option # 1: a, b, c, and d

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Joshua Watkins



Jerry G. Saulters

8/3/2023

Date:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Option #1: a, b, c, and d



Manager

August 10, 2023

Date:

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2023 JAG Application

Attachment 2: FY24 Budget Ordinance

**Application Proposal Narrative:
2023 Byrne (Local)
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)**

**Athens-Clarke County Police Department
July 24, 2023**

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Abstract:

The ACCPD proposes 2023 JAG funds allow for the acquisition of no more than four (4) part-time, at will employees (“ACCPD Fellows”) at any one time in support of ACCGov / ACCPD criminal justice reform efforts inclusive of:

- *The Citizens’ Advisory Board;*
- *Mental Health Services inclusive of Co-Response;*
- *General Community Outreach Programming;*
- *Community Engagement inclusive of Surveys, and*
- *Other Tasks as required of a 21st Century Policing Department with an emphasis on co-production of services and officer wellness.*

Project Identifiers:

Community Policing; Education; Community Based Programs; Crime Prevention

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Narrative/Project Proposal:

Description of the Issues:

This request for \$67,003 in grant funds is submitted by the Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD), a unit of the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, Georgia (ACCGov).

This application, made under the guidelines of the 2023 Byrne (Local) Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, seeks funding in support of funds allow for the acquisition of no more than four (4) part-time, at will employees (“ACCPD Fellows”) at any one time in support of ACCGov / ACCPD criminal justice reform efforts inclusive of:

- The Citizens’ Advisory Board;
- Mental Health Services inclusive of Co-Response;
- General Community Outreach Programming;
- Community Engagement inclusive of Surveys, and
- Other Tasks as required of a 21st Century Policing Department with an emphasis on co-production of services and officer wellness.

The synergy generated from the interaction of students and personnel from different academic traditions and backgrounds has resulted in refined service delivery and improved outreach materials in the ACCPD’s Community Connections Office. In light of such positive interactions, the ACCPD seeks to allow for the development of a fellowship program to allow for sustained contributions of diverse members of ACC’s academic communities inclusive of undergraduate and graduate students.

Community Considerations:

The Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) serves the residents and visitors of Athens, Georgia, approximately 65 miles northeast of Atlanta. Athens-Clarke County has an estimated service population of 128,561 (U.S. Census Bureau estimate, 2022) and is home to the University of Georgia (UGA). The governments of the City of Athens and Clarke County were unified on January 14, 1991, becoming Georgia’s second unified government.

Athens-Clarke County is a diverse, vibrant, urban area surrounded by rural counties. Clarke County is the smallest county (by land area) in Georgia. It has an above-average population density of 1,094.4 compared to the state average of 185.6 (2020) persons per square mile. The jurisdiction’s home ownership of 40.7% is below the state’s average of 64.5%. The median household income is \$43,466; the state’s average is \$65,030. Critically, the community’s individual poverty level of 26.6% is more than the state average of 14.0%.

The area’s population also continues to climb from 101,489 in 2000 to an estimated 128,561 in 2021 (U.S. Census Bureau).

The University of Georgia, primarily located within Athens-Clarke County, has an enrollment among all its campuses of approximately 40,118, further adding to the community’s density and

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

diverse service needs. The community also serves as a hospitality zone for a large portion of northeast Georgia.

Thus, Athens-Clarke County must contend with a relatively high density, above-average poverty, and the issues associated with an expanding population as it seeks to reduce the presence and fear of crime in its service area.

Program Design/Implementation:

The Athens-Clarke County Police Leadership Team meets regularly with internal and external stakeholders to discuss ongoing and nascent community / departmental concerns. Such concerns may be addressed, in part, via activities funded by the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. Notably, Leadership Team actions are informed by data analysis and collaborative discussions.

Should this acquisition program be approved, the ACCPD's Leadership Team will work collaboratively with officers, the ACCPD Planning Unit, and the ACCPD Community Connections Communications Coordinator to outreach to the Athens academic community, inclusive of undergraduate and graduate students.

Outreach would allow for four (4) part-time, at will employees ("ACCPD Fellows") at any one time in support of ACCGov / ACCPD criminal justice reform efforts inclusive of:

- The Citizens' Advisory Board;
- Mental Health Services inclusive of Co-Response;
- General Community Outreach Programming;
- Community Engagement inclusive of Surveys, and
- Other Tasks as required of a 21st Century Policing Department with an emphasis on co-production of services and officer wellness.

Capabilities and Competencies:

To meet its service mandate, the Athens-Clarke County Police Department has an authorized full-time staffing level of 256 sworn officers and 77 civilians. ACCPD members are involved with strategic planning/coordination efforts inclusive of: Clarke County School District School Resource Officers (SROs), Northeast Georgia Regional Drug Task Force, Family Protection Center, U.S. Secret Service's Electronic Crimes Task Force, and the FBI's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. The ACCPD also works with varied juvenile justice agencies, and programs, as a matter of fulfilling its law enforcement mandate inclusive of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, Athens-Clarke County Juvenile Court, and Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC).

Under the terms of a service contract, the ACCPD provides six School Resource Officers (SROs) to the Clarke County School District to ensure officers are in each of the district's middle and high schools. The Family Protection Center (inclusive of the ACCPD, District Attorney's Office, Project Safe, and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) addresses all service needs for victims of domestic and sexual assault, inclusive of juveniles. So, too, does the ACCPD operate three

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

mental health co-responder teams (NeSmith Mental Health Co-Responders) with Advantage Behavioral Health Systems, with expansion of the teams scheduled in 2023-2025.

ACCPD staff are active members of numerous community partnerships and actively contribute to the planning, coordination, and service delivery of such initiatives.

Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures:

The following performance metrics are proposed:

1. Number of ACCPD fellows hired; the number of graduate-level fellows; the number of undergraduate fellows;
2. Date of hire for each part-time fellow;
3. Number of paid service hours by part-time fellows by assignment type; and
4. Metrics inclusive of events attended, community / department impressions of impact, and citizen contacts made.

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Budget Worksheet

A. Personnel **\$67,003**

Name	Computation	Cost
<i>Part Time Fellow A</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow B</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow C</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow D</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>

B. Fringe Benefits **\$0**

Name	Computation (Rate)	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>		

C. Travel **\$0**

Purpose	Location	Item	Computation	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>				

D. Equipment **\$0**

Item	Computation	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>		

E. Supplies **\$0**

Supply Item	Computation	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>		

F. Construction **\$0**

Description	Computation	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>		

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
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G. Consultants/Contracts \$0

<i>Consultant Fees</i>			
Name	Service	Computation	Cost
<i>Not Applicable</i>			

H. Other \$0

Description	Computation	Cost
<i>Not applicable</i>		

Total Direct Costs \$67,779

I. Indirect Costs \$0

<i>Not Applicable</i>

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Budget Summary Page

A. Personnel/Salary Costs	<u>\$ 67,003</u>
B. Fringe Benefits	<u>\$ 0</u>
C. Travel	<u>\$ 0</u>
D. Equipment	<u>\$ 0</u>
E. Supplies	<u>\$ 0</u>
F. Construction	Unallowable
G. Consultants/Contracts	<u>\$ 0</u>
H. Other	<u>\$ 0</u>
I. Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 0</u>
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	<u>\$ 67,003</u>
Federal Request	<u>\$ 67,003</u>
Applicant Funds, if any, to be applied to this project	<u>\$ 0</u>

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Budget Narrative:

A. Personnel

Up to four (4) part-time Fellows, not to exceed 20 hours per week for a period of no greater than 48 weeks, for a total Fellow cost of \$16,750.75 (each).

<i>Part Time Fellow A</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow B</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow C</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>
<i>Part Time Fellow D</i>	<i>\$17.50 x ~ 20 hours per week x ~48 weeks</i>	<i>\$16,750.75</i>

B. Fringe Benefits

Not Applicable

C. Travel

Not Applicable

D. Equipment

Not Applicable

E. Supplies

Not Applicable

F. Construction

Not Applicable

G. Consultants/Contracts

Not Applicable

H. Other

Not Applicable

I. Indirect Costs

Not Applicable

Athens-Clarke County Police Department
2023 JAG (Local)

Review Narrative:

The Athens-Clarke County Police Department 2023 JAG application is scheduled for review and vote by the Athens-Clarke County Mayor & Commission on September 5, 2023.

Disclosure of Pending Applications:

The Athens-Clarke County Police Department (ACCPD) does not have any pending grant applications, submitted within the last 12 months, for federally-funded assistance that include requests for funding in support of the same project elements (e.g., ACCPD Fellow Program) proposed under this solicitation.

However, it is noteworthy that the ACCPD has employed two (2), part-time at will employees in support of criminal justice system reform efforts under the terms of the 2020 Byrne JAG (Local). It is in light of the contributions of such part-time employees that the ACCPD seeks to expand student contributions via the ACCPD Fellow Program.