2019 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Law Enforcement Equipment to Strengthen Domestic Violence Investigations

Deadline
All proposals are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on April 15, 2019

Contact Information
For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact:

Wioleta Gaddy at Gaddy_Wioleta@fcadv.org

NOTE: It is very important that applicants review the enclosed information carefully. Incomplete applications or applications that are submitted by non-eligible entities will not be considered for funding.
Program Description

Background
Services, Training, Officers and Prosecution (STOP), Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) formula grant funding supports Florida’s efforts to provide a collaborative and well-coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhance advocacy and improve the criminal justice system’s response to violence against women. Each of the STOP components: Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors, are given priority to address strategies which are utilized to hold perpetrators accountable and provide critical services to victims/survivors. Florida’s current STOP Implementation Plan focuses on developing a collaborative approach among law enforcement, prosecution agencies, the courts, and victim service providers to increase appropriate arrest and prosecution of these crimes while also increasing survivor safety. Strong partnerships exist at the community and statewide levels between each of the before mentioned systems to create a coordinated approach to responding to and eventually ending violence against women. Through STOP funding, FCADV and other experts are able to assist law enforcement agencies maintaining their commitment to ensuring an appropriate and specialized law enforcement response to domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

The Law Enforcement Equipment grant program creates a unique opportunity for Florida communities to enhance law enforcement’s response to victims/survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. This program will assist agencies with the procurement of needed equipment to ensure victim safety and offender accountability. One goal of the grant program is to help provide prosecutors with the best possible evidence while improving communities’ capacity to hold offenders accountable for their crimes. Domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are crimes that require the criminal justice system to hold offenders accountable for their actions through investigation, arrest, and prosecution of violent offenders, through close judicial scrutiny and management of offender behavior. This grant program is designed to encourage local law enforcement agencies and their community partners to treat domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law requiring the coordinated involvement of the entire criminal justice system.

Florida State Statutes Defined

Domestic Violence: Florida statute 741.28. “Domestic violence” means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member. "Family or household member" means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who are presently residing together as if a family or who have resided together in the past as if a family, and persons who are parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have been married.
With the exception of persons who have a child in common, the family or household members must be currently residing or have in the past resided together in the same single dwelling unit.

**Dating Violence:** Florida statute 784.046 (1) (d), “Dating violence” means violence between individuals who have or have had a continuing and significant relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the consideration of the following factors:

1) A dating relationship must have existed within the past 6 months;

2) The nature of the relationship must have been characterized by the expectation of affection or sexual involvement between the parties; and,

3) The frequency and type of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship must have included that the persons have been involved over time and on a continuous basis during the course of the relationship.

The term does not include violence in a casual acquaintanceship or violence between individuals who have only engaged in ordinary fraternization in a business or social context.

**Stalking:** Stalking is a serious crime that often escalates over time and is on the rise in the State of Florida. During the 2012 legislative session, the criminal definition related to stalking was revised. Primarily the definition of “credible threat” was updated which is a component of aggravated stalking. A credible threat is not required to prove simple stalking. “Credible threat” was amended to protect a person who is a target of threats (including electronic communications) when the person is in reasonable fear for his or her safety or the safety of family members or of individuals closely associated with the person, and the stalker has the apparent ability to carry out the threat. The revised definition of stalking (Florida Statute 784.048) which was effective October 1, 2012 also:

- Removes the requirement that the threat be against the life or bodily injury to the person and establishes a separate civil injunction for protection against stalking. The procedures created closely track the procedures for the injunction for protection against domestic violence;

- Provides a first-degree misdemeanor penalty for violating an injunction against stalking; and,

- Requires the court to consider issuing an order restraining a defendant from victim contact for up to ten years.
Equipment Areas

The Equipment Areas will focus on a specialized list of law enforcement equipment that will be utilized to enhance the agency’s response to domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking in Florida. Survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking often confront unique challenges when seeking assistance such as the community’s lack of knowledge about the dynamics of domestic violence, unsupportive attitudes, and/or a societal acceptance of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking within their communities. In many cases survivors have a fear of testifying due to the realization that if the perpetrator is found not guilty or the case is dropped, they will be placed in greater danger in future incidents of violence. Therefore, the need to increase the number and enhance the quality of evidence-based cases and not testimonial-based cases is needed. The following are purchases that may be made under the Law Enforcement Equipment grant program:

Equipment Area 1: MegaMAXX 3-Watt Alternate Light System

The MegaMAXX™ 3-WATT is an Alternate Light System for investigators to have all light wavelengths at their fingertips at a crime scene or in the crime lab. The system consists of handheld and self-contained light sources, covering the light spectrum from longwave 365nm ultraviolet (UV) up to the red region of 625nm. Included is a white light source for general crime scene searches.

Domestic violence can take many forms including child abuse and neglect, elder abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and others. Any type of assault can leave bruises and contusions, the most common injuries observed in victims. Adults or children who are abuse victims may have constant bruising, which can be visible or invisible. Bruises or contusions are caused when blood vessels are broken because of a blow to the skin. During healing, bruises typically go through several color changes: from red to blue to purple to green to yellow. To the naked eye, bruises will usually disappear after a couple of days or weeks (depending on the severity of the bruise). However, using UV light, it may still be possible to see the injuries. This can be especially important to document as these types of injuries, which can help establish a pattern of previous occurrences of abuse. UV light has an advantage over visible light in that it penetrates the upper surface of the skin. As the UV light penetrates, it’s absorbed by areas that still retain blood, showing contrast with the surrounding skin, and therefore revealing bruises.¹

Equipment Area 2: Cellbrite – Cell Phones Forensics

Complicated locks, encryption barriers, deleted and unknown content, and other obstacles to reviewing device data, in addition to capturing and reviewing public domain social media and cloud-based data, can prevent important evidence from discovery. For investigations to move forward, teams need robust, efficient tools to examine device, and cloud data and produce meaningful insights without delays.

UFED Ultimate offers market-leading access to digital devices and unsurpassed capabilities to extract and decode data. Delve deep and thoroughly review logical, file system and physically extracted data to discover critical evidence and easily share findings with the entire investigative team. With UFED Ultimate, evidence hiding in plain sight on popular social media sites can also be revealed providing more evidence and even greater insights. This purchase includes ongoing software updates and support across a variety of hardware platforms to ensure that teams have the leading-edge digital forensic examination capabilities when and where they are needed most.² The requesting agency will be responsible for software update charges in future years.

Equipment Area 3: High Quality Digital Camera for Injury Photos

The camera used most often in crime scene investigations is the Digital SLR (single lens reflex) camera. Digital cameras which have 12 megapixel or greater image sensors and manual exposure settings (in addition to any automatic or programmed exposure modes) are usually suitable for crime scene and evidence photography.

One of the most important considerations in selecting digital cameras is the quality of the image sensor. Most image sensors that are 12 megapixels or greater can produce photographs capable of enlargement to 16" x 20" for court exhibits. There are many other factors involved in the quality of digital photographs that also must be considered when selecting digital photography equipment such as close-up capabilities, availability of accessories and even the printer used to print the digital photograph.³

Equipment Area 4: Other Equipment Deemed Appropriate

Other equipment you deem as necessary to assist in the evidence collection, arrest and successful prosecution of offenders. As an investigator in the field of domestic violence, your agency may find a need for a specific piece of equipment that has not been detailed in the above areas. Please

document the type and need of equipment you deem as necessary, including details of equipment, how it will be used, and the number of victims it will benefit.

Program Requirements

Applicants must commit to and demonstrate how they plan to improve the response to domestic violence, dating violence and stalking in their local communities. For example, applicants must describe in detail how the equipment will be utilized, if their agency currently utilizes the equipment in another unit and what the expected number of stalking, dating and domestic violence victims the agency expects this piece of equipment to serve.

Unallowable Activities

The following is a list of additional activities that are unallowable and cannot be supported by the grant program. Applications that propose purchases related to these unallowable activities will not be eligible for funding.

- Prevention education efforts and media campaigns
- Lobbying
- Fundraising
- Any criminal or departmental activity that does not relate to a case of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking.

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

It is very important that applicants review this information carefully. Applications that are submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding.

The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV) will accept proposals from any of Florida’s law enforcement agencies. This grant program focuses on assisting the law enforcement response to domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Priority will be given to agencies whose need for the requested equipment is greater due to budgetary restrictions.

All agencies submitting an application for funding are advised that by accepting federal dollars under this Request for Proposals, as a sub-recipient they will be required to comply with all federal and state laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing these funds. Prior to an award, all agencies must be found to be in good standing as indicated by the Federal Excluded Parties List System. [https://www.epls.gov/](https://www.epls.gov/)
Award Information

Availability of Funds
All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the Florida Department of Children and Families, FCADV, the U.S. Department of Justice, or Florida Statutes.

Funding from this grant program will be awarded based upon the applicant’s adherence to the Request for Proposals guidelines and purpose areas as well as the availability of funds.

Matching Funds
Matching funds are required for this project. Match is calculated assuming that the federal award comprises only 75% of the project and the local match comprises 25% of the total project. For example, a total project is $133,333: 75% = $100,000 federal award and 25% = $33,333 match. Matching funds may be provided by cash OR in-kind contributions such as the use of office space, supervision, additional department or officer time, etc. or, a combination of both cash and in-kind contributions. Federal funds are not an allowable funding stream to use as match in either cash or in-kind contributions. All in-kind contributions must be directly related to the STOP project. Any award that is accepted by an applicant will constitute agreement to providing the match contribution whether in cash, in-kind, or a combination of both.

Application and Submission Information

Application Deadline
An application submission is complete if the application has been submitted via email to gaddy_wioleta@fcadv.org by the deadline and contains each required element. The deadline for applying for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. ET on April 15, 2019.

Hard copies of the application are not required. However, it is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure they receive email verification that the application has been received by FCADV. Applicants should ensure plenty of time to verify FCADV’s receipt of their application. It is anticipated that all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application on or before April 30, 2019.

Award Period
Proposals submitted in response to this Request for Proposals may be funded at the discretion of FCADV in one of two time frames dependent on funding availability, as follows:

1) Awarded from April 30 – June 30, 2019
2) Awarded from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020
Pre-Application Questions
Applicants must email gaddy_wioleta@fcadv.org with questions related to clarifying the Request for Proposals. Questions will be accepted through April 10, 2019 and will be responded to no later than April 12, 2019. The questions and answers will be attached to this RFP and posted on FCADV’s website at www.fcadv.org. Questions submitted after April 10, 2019 may not be accepted.

Schedule of Events

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<th>Activities</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Request for Proposal Available</td>
<td>March 15, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for Submission</td>
<td>April 15, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of Awards</td>
<td>No later than April 30, 2019</td>
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Application Contents
This section describes what is included in a complete application package. Applicants should anticipate that failure to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements will result in the application not being considered for funding. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that a complete application is submitted by the deadline. FCADV will not contact applicants for missing items.

Formatting and Technical Requirements
Applicants must follow the requirements below. The proposal should follow the order below for easy reading.

- One-inch margins
- Type no smaller than 12-point, Times New Roman font
- Project Narrative (no more than 4 pages, double-spaced)
- Page numbers are highly encouraged, but not required
- The budget must be submitted in Excel format, not a PDF file

Proposal Narrative
The Proposal Narrative must be double-spaced, and limited to 4 pages.

A. Purpose of the Application

- Describe the jurisdiction, including county and community data, in which the project will be implemented;
• Describe the target population to be served;
• The number of people it will serve; and
• Provide a detailed description of the need for the equipment for law enforcement’s response to domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Include gaps and barriers in the jurisdiction as it relates to the evidence collection and prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking perpetrators.

B. What Will Be Done

The applicant must provide a clear description of how the piece of equipment will be used to assist in the prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking perpetrators.

• Describe the policies and procedures that your agency has or will adopt to enhance use of the specialized equipment to strengthen cases of domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking;
• Describe how this funding will address the identified needs in the agency’s jurisdiction;
• Describe how this funding will assist the agency with strengthening and institutionalizing an appropriate response to domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking; and
• Describe how the applicant is currently addressing evidence collection for prosecution. The applicant should state what enhancements, if any, will be made through the proposed purchase and utilization of the aforementioned equipment.

C. Sustainability

• Describe the organization’s plan for the long-term sustainability of this project as relates to any subscriptions or future software/hardware updates.