



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Sheriff-Coroner  
**Department No.:** 032  
**For Agenda Of:** May 14, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Sheriff's Office Bill Brown, Sheriff-Coroner, 805-681-4290  
Contact Info: Lieutenant Garrett TeSlaa, 805-681-4108  
**SUBJECT:** 2023 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds (\$122,375) for Bomb Squad Equipment

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management, CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Approve and authorize the County Executive Officer to execute an Inter-Local Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Santa Barbara and the County of Santa Barbara (Attachment A), an Inter-Local MOU between the City of Santa Maria and the County of Santa Barbara (Attachment B), and an Inter-Local MOU between the City of Lompoc and the County of Santa Barbara (Attachment C);
- b) Authorize the Sheriff or his designee to execute a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, upon review and approval of County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller, or their designees, when the anticipated Justice Assistance Grant funding is awarded (Attachment D)
- c) Approve Budget Journal Entry (BJE) #0009611 (Attachment E) to establish appropriations of \$15,200 in Sheriff's Office General Fund for Services and Supplies (\$15,200) funded by Unanticipated Revenue from Intergovernmental Revenue – Federal;
- d) Authorize the County Executive Officer to execute the "Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government" form (Attachment F) no sooner than 30 days after the Board's authorization of this action item;
- e) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to 14 CCR 15378 (b)(4), in that it involves government funding mechanisms and/or fiscal activities.

**Summary Text:**

This item is before your Board to authorize the Sheriff to accept an anticipated award of the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) totaling \$122,375, and to authorize Inter-Local MOUs for the Sheriff to administer these funds on behalf of the specified local cities. If approved, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office will use the funds for the purposes of maintaining, training, and equipping the Santa Barbara Countywide Bomb Squad (Squad). This JAG project will positively impact our local communities by providing updated equipment for the Squad.

**Background:**

Santa Barbara County has received JAG funds for more than 25 years. The Local JAG program is a formula grant that is awarded to local governments, and administered by the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The JAG grant supports a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and enhance the justice system. The allocation formula favors high density municipalities, which is corrected by the use of a "disparate funding" provision. Within the proposed FY 2023 funding, the cities of Santa Barbara and Santa Maria, and the County of Santa Barbara were identified as a disparate jurisdiction, requiring a joint application between the three entities. The cities of Santa Barbara and Santa Maria have agreed to enter into an MOU with the County of Santa Barbara and submit a joint "disparate" application. In addition, the City of Lompoc has agreed to pool its allotted JAG funding and join the single JAG application for the entirety of Santa Barbara County.

The County Law Enforcement Chiefs (CLEC) historically worked together to develop the allocation plan for the JAG funds, as well as other grants and asset forfeiture revenue. In 2023, CLEC member agencies affirmed their commitment to the Squad and agreed to a JAG funding allocation plan that will assist in continuing the operation of the Squad by purchasing and updating equipment during FYs 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026. In essence, the proposed JAG funds will be administered by the Sheriff's Office, which will utilize the funds for maintaining, training, and equipping the Squad. The Sheriff's Office has agreed to submit the sole JAG application for Santa Barbara County and will be responsible for completing reporting requirements mandated by the grant administrator (DOJ – OJP/BJA).

For FY 2023, the DOJ has included a requirement in the form of certifications that must be signed by the County Executive of the County prior to the receipt of any grant funds pursuant to 34 U.S.C. §10153(a)(5) (Attachment A).

For FY 2023, the DOJ has already notified the Sheriff's Office that its grant proposal was approved for disbursement, pending approval from the Board of Supervisors (Board). Local JAG funds will not be released by the DOJ until 30 days after the Board reviews the Local JAG funding proposal and the public is given an opportunity to provide comment on the use of the funding at the Board meeting when this item is agendaized.

The Squad is Santa Barbara County's only public safety bomb squad. The Squad was formed in 1971, in response to domestic bombings that were occurring around the country. The Squad is responsible for the safe disposal of actual or suspected explosive devices, deteriorated explosives, illegal fireworks, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and military ordnance. The Squad also aids local, state, and federal agencies and provides assistance with dignitary protection of persons coming to the area. The FBI certifies each of the bomb technicians and oversees the national bomb technician program.

The goals of the Squad are to:

1. Investigate, render safe and dispose of suspected hazardous devices, explosives, explosive materials (as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives currently defines) and pyrotechnics ammunition within Santa Barbara County
2. Coordinate investigations with local, State and federal partners
3. Perform diagnostics and render safe procedures in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) events within Santa Barbara County
4. Conduct bomb crime scene investigations
5. Collect and preserve evidence
6. Provide technical support to special operations, dignitary protection and special events

The Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office will administer the combined JAG funding for the county and all applicable cities within the county, and will serve as the sole point of contact for the DOJ – OJP/BJA grant administrators.

**Performance Measure:**

The Squad works under the direction and supervision of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), which sets minimum standards for training and equipment and the Squad must and currently meets those standards in order to maintain its certification as a Public Safety Bomb Squad in the United States.

The Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office will ensure that all DOJ required data collection and reporting will occur in a timely manner. To accomplish this, the Sheriff’s Office will assign an appropriately trained Sheriff’s manager to oversee the Local JAG project. In addition to ensuring that all required reporting is accomplished in a timely manner, the Sheriff’s manager will also ensure that all JAG grant, DOJ and OMB grant rules are adhered to. The Squad will report all expenditures used to acquire, support, maintain or purchase new or replacement equipment to be used in support of the Squad. These data collection instruments can be modified to add or remove data collection points as necessary to ensure compliance with JAG Program requirements.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No; recommend approval of BJE # 0009611.

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2024-25 Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State			
Federal	\$ 15,200.00	\$ 107,175.00	\$ 122,375.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 15,200.00	\$ 107,175.00	\$ 122,375.00

Narrative: This grant provides \$122,375 to purchase various pieces of equipment for the Squad. Per the grant terms, the funding is available to be spent through 9/30/2026. It is anticipated that approximately

\$15,200 of the grant funds will be used in FY23/24, with the remainder to be used in FY24/25. At this time, items anticipated to be purchased include protective clothing, 3-D printing materials, mattanite binary explosives, emergency medical supplies, and robotics equipment, although items are subject to change based on future need assessment. There is no existing funding currently allocated for this purpose.

**Key Contract Risks:**

None.

**Staffing Impacts:**

None.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board: Please send a minute order to Hope Vasquez, CFO – Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office.

Please send a minute order and copies of the executed Inter-Local MOU between the City of Santa Barbara, the City of Santa Maria, the City of Lompoc and the County of Santa Barbara to Lieutenant Garrett TeSlaa, Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: JAG Inter-Local MOU between the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Santa Barbara

Attachment B: JAG Inter-Local MOU between the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Santa Maria

Attachment C: JAG Inter-Local MOU between the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Lompoc

Attachment D: FY 2023 JAG Award Package

Attachment E: Budget Revision Request #0009611

Attachment F: Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government

Attachment G: Local Byrne JAG Grant Application Narrative

Attachment H: 2023 California Local JAG Allocations document

Attachment I: 2023 Grant Budget Detail Worksheet

**Authored by:**

Lieutenant Garrett TeSlaa, Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office