

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 10, 2015

The Honorable Loretta Lynch
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530-0009

RE: City of Madison Police Department's COPS Hiring Grant Application

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

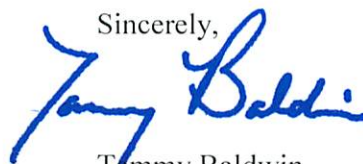
I am pleased to support the City of Madison Police Department's (MPD) application for COPS funding through the Department of Justice. Funding will assist the MPD in their efforts to improve community policing efforts and build trust and legitimacy in Madison's communities of color.

According to recent studies cited in the 2013 Wisconsin Council on Children and Families' *Race to Equity* report, African Americans comprise 46% of adult arrests but only 7% of the total population in Dane County. While the MPD considers itself a pioneer in community policing, they believe this data reveals an astonishing rate of racial disparity in the area's criminal justice system and undermines their efforts to be perceived as a legitimate and fair policing force. In response to this data and growing public scrutiny over officer use-of-force, the MPD is seeking COP funding to hire additional staff to support the Madison Community Outreach and Resource Education (CORE) Team. The CORE team, which is scheduled to become operational in 2016, will work with local partners to build relationships with minority youth in Madison neighborhoods, as well as foster mutual trust and positive, productive police interactions that prevent violence. It is my understanding that the expansion of the CORE team, made possible by COPS funding, will allow the MPD to better coordinate citywide initiatives and outreach efforts, particularly those aimed at building trust with communities of color.

I strongly support collaborative efforts aimed at creating safer communities and addressing and reconciling racial disparity in Wisconsin's criminal justice system. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the Madison Police Department's application for COPS funding. Please keep Hanna Homestead in my office informed on the progress of this application and contact her if you should have further questions or concerns. She may be reached by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov or in my Madison office by phone at (608) 264-5338.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

COMMITTEES:
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
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BUDGET
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 13, 2017

Mr. Russ Washington
Acting Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
145 N Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Washington:

I am pleased to support the Madison Police Department's application for Community Policing Development (CPD) funding through the U.S. Department of Justice. CPD funding supports projects that advance community engagement, facilitate problem solving, or address organizational challenges to support community policing through building officer wellness and resiliency.

The Madison Police Department (MPD) is a leader in progressive policing with 576 employees, 461 sworn officers and 115 civilian positions, working around the clock to protect and serve the citizens of Madison, Wisconsin. With the high stress and high stakes nature of police work, the MPD is seeking to improve the mental wellness of its employees. Approved CPD funding would allow MPD to train its entire Department in an evidence-based, innovative self-regulation and resilience-building program: Resiliency Advantage from the Institute of HeartMath. MPD would have training officers certified to teach the program, as well as a dozen peer mentors and coaches.

It is my understanding that the Resiliency Advantage program improves sleep, ability to maintain composure in challenging situations and environments, quick judgement and adaptive thinking, and the capacity to reset after stressful incidents. This advancement in officer wellness and resiliency seeks to improve the relationship between officers and citizens, resulting in better community policing and more high-quality interactions.

I strongly support efforts that seek to improve the well-being of our law enforcement and their ability to effectively serve our Wisconsin communities. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the Madison Police Department's application. Please keep Jessica Sielaff in my Madison office updated on the progress of this application and contact her should you have further questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at 608-264-5338, or by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 21, 2020

The Honorable William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

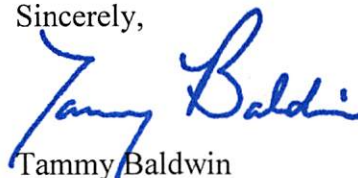
I am pleased to support the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin's application for Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) funding through the U.S. Department of Justice. The Tribe will be applying for Purpose Area 1, Purpose Area 5, and Purpose Area 9 funding opportunities in order to upgrade their outdated law enforcement equipment, as well as combat drug abuse, domestic violence, and truancy issues in the community.

The St. Croix Reservation is home to approximately 3,000 Tribal community members, located over four counties in northwestern Wisconsin. The St. Croix Tribal Police Department (SCTPD), Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Program (DVSA), and Education Department are currently facing a myriad of challenges. The primary social and community safety crisis in the Tribal community is northwestern Wisconsin's drug abuse epidemic. CTAS funding will be crucial to the Tribe and their proposed collaborations with neighboring law enforcement agencies, school districts, and area social services organizations in responding to the substance abuse crisis.

Purpose Area 1 funding will allow the Tribe to replace inadequate police vehicles, upgrade outdated communication systems, and provide officers with standard-issue gear. Purpose Area 5 funds will allow the hiring of a designated DVSA officer, as well as provide more resources for DVSA survivors and families impacted by domestic violence. Additionally, Purpose Area 9 funds will establish a Truancy Intervention Program to battle school nonattendance and provide culturally relevant engagement activities for Tribal youth to reduce juvenile substance abuse and crime in the community.

I strongly support programs that protect and improve the safety of Wisconsin's Tribal communities. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin's application. Please keep Elaine Menigo in my Madison office updated on the progress of this application and contact her with further questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at 608-264-5338, or by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 5, 2020

The Honorable William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

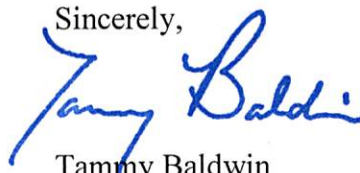
I am pleased to support the City of Madison Police Department's (MPD) application for the COPS Hiring Program (CFDA 16.710) through the U.S. Department of Justice. The COPS Hiring program provides funding to hire and rehire law enforcement officers to increase community policing capacities, support crime prevention efforts, and preserve jobs.

The MPD is applying for the COPS Hiring Program to address identified needs in Madison's Entertainment Zone. This area encompasses a vibrant shopping and dining area, includes a pedestrian mall, an abundance of art and entertainment options, as well as the State Capitol building and associated government infrastructure. Rounding out this dynamic downtown area is the University of Wisconsin's flagship campus, which is adjacent to the zone. Unfortunately, the area's popularity attracts behaviors and activities which have negative effects on the health and safety of downtown Madison. Compounding the zone's vulnerability is the area's significant percentage of public space, where misconduct often occurs, hindering its management and control. The area also provides many social services, creating heavy traffic for those in need of housing, mental health support, and more. The combination of negative behaviors by individuals and the influx of individuals needing services presents challenges to those who live, work, and visit the area. The result is a tougher work environment for police officers on duty.

With COPS funding, MPD will create an Entertainment Zone Team consisting of two shifts of a sergeant and four police officers (10 positions total) who will focus on the unique downtown circumstances. The team will be involved in bar and tavern issues, partner with community stakeholders to address the homeless population, explore environmental issues, work closely with university police, and provide additional operational coverage and visibility to the area. Funding will ensure larger coverage in the Entertainment Zone and create a safer, healthier environment for its residents and visitors.

I strongly support programs that protect and improve the safety of Wisconsin's communities. Therefore, I request that full and fair consideration be given to the Madison Police Department's application. Please keep Elaine Menigo in my office updated on the progress of this application, contacting her with further questions or concerns. She may be reached by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov, by phone at 608-264-5338, or at 30 West Mifflin St, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

March 19, 2020

The Honorable William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

I am pleased to support the City of Wauwatosa Police Department's (WPD) application for the COPS Hiring Program (CFDA 16.710) through the U.S. Department of Justice. The COPS Hiring program provides funding to hire and rehire law enforcement officers to increase community policing capacities, support crime prevention efforts, and preserve jobs.

The City of Wauwatosa is a municipality just west of the City of Milwaukee, and a part of the Milwaukee metropolitan area. It is home to approximately 48,000 residents. According to local officials, crime does not stop at the city borders in Milwaukee County. The Wauwatosa Police Department often works in conjunction with other police departments, including the Milwaukee Police Department, especially on criminal cases.

With funding, the WPD will participate in the Relentless Pursuit: United States Marshals Task Force-Fugitive Apprehension Unit. They will hire one full time Task Force Officer for three years during this program, and the grant will cover three years of salary and benefits for the officer. The WPD would not otherwise be able to staff or justify taking an officer off of the streets of Wauwatosa to assist in a Federal Task Force in support of Operation Relentless Pursuit to combat violent crime in the Milwaukee Metropolitan area. Funding will allow more law enforcement to combat violent crime as part of a Federal Task Force at no additional cost to the taxpayer while keeping a funded officer position on the streets of Wauwatosa.

I strongly support programs that protect and improve the safety of Wisconsin's communities. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the WPD's application. Please keep Elaine Menigo in my office updated on the progress of this application and contact her with questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone, 608-264-5338, or by email, projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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June 18, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2021-97003 - FY 2021 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) application – City of Madison, WI

Dear Attorney General Garland:

I am pleased to support the City of Madison's application to receive FY 2021 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Funding will support the hiring of eight new officers to build legitimacy and trust with residents in the soon-to-be annexed Town of Madison.

The City of Madison is the state's capital and Wisconsin's second largest city after Milwaukee, with an estimated 2020 population of 260,000 residents, not including the surrounding metro area. In 2022, the City of Madison will annex the Town of Madison. In comparison to the City overall, Town residents are younger, more racially diverse, more likely to rent housing and less affluent than City residents.

The Madison Police Department (MPD) has a long history of community policing and has embraced new avenues to build trust and achieve greater legitimacy in the community. Under new leadership, MPD seeks to create an exemplary community policing partnership with residents of the newly annexed Town. With CHP funding, MPD will hire additional officers to fill new beats in the annexed area which is comprised of 5,000 residents, 2335 housing units and 835 additional parcels. The City will provide the required 25% match, as well as the initial uniform issue, work supplies, vehicles and salary support, as needed.

I support projects that aim to strengthen our communities through engagement strategies and build trust between local law enforcement and the public they serve. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the application submitted by the City of Madison. If you have additional questions about my support, please contact my staff by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov or by phone at 414-297-4451. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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July 15, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2021-75012 - Community Policing Development (CPD) Microgrants – Madison Police Department

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I am pleased to support the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive Community Policing Development (CPD) Microgrant funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Funding will help the MPD implement a services based approach to offer resources and specialized treatment for juvenile offenders and their families in the City of Madison.

According to the MPD, in the City of Madison there has been a major trend of juvenile crimes involving stolen cars, burglaries, strong arm robberies and weapons offenses. Both law enforcement and the larger community are concerned that the current methods of catch, arrest, and juvenile corrections have created a recidivistic cycle.

If awarded, CPD funds will allow MPD to develop a multi-faceted, tiered approach designed to identify, assess and then offer specialized treatment for juvenile offenders and their families. This type of model requires intensive intervention and a multi-agency partnership that relies on each agency sharing their expertise. As such, MPD will partner with Madison's RISE, an experienced youth and families services provider, to work towards meaningful solutions that not only reduce crime but provide youth in crisis with targeted resources and increased opportunities for growth.

I support projects that aim to strengthen our communities through engagement strategies and provider partnerships that help build trust between local law enforcement and the public they serve. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive a CPD microgrant. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application. They can be reached by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov or via phone at 414-297-4451. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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July 20, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2021-75008 - Community Policing Development (CPD) De-Escalation Training Solicitation
– Madison Police Department

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I am pleased to support the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive Community Policing Development (CPD) funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Funding will help the MPD expand the use of Virtual Reality (VR) equipment and technology for de-escalation training, increase the amount of de-escalation training MPD officers receive, and improve the overall quality and consistency of MPD's de-escalation training efforts.

MPD's current VR system only allows a single Officer to participate in the training scenario at one time. However, MPD Standard Operating Procedures require a two Officer response to most calls that anticipate contact with a person in crisis, or who would stand a high likelihood of arrest. CPD funds would allow the MPD to retrofit their current VR system to accommodate a second Officer as a participant, giving trainers opportunities to present situations that test the Officers' ability to work together to de-escalate.

In addition to expanding the use of VR technology in training exercises, MPD would also utilize CPD funds to provide increased instructor-level training, helping to incorporate the principles, techniques, and expectations of de-escalation into more of their existing course materials. This will allow MPD to develop a more holistic training framework that promotes de-escalation as a philosophy through the Academy, field training, and throughout an Officer's career.

I support projects that aim to prioritize de-escalation principles within law enforcement. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive a CPD De-Escalation State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agency Grant. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application. They can be reached by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov or via phone at 414-297-4451. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

April 22, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2022-171164 - FY22 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) National Level Training and Technical Assistance – Madison Police Department

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I am pleased to support the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive LEMHWA program funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Funding will allow MPD to expand on a peer support program to encompass overall mental health wellness coordination, improving the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers.

Currently, key components of MPD's wellness services are delivered externally via the City of Madison's Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which cannot adequately meet the increasing demand for these critical support systems. With awarded funding, MPD will expand and improve upon the services of an existing best practice program by hiring an internal Wellness Coordinator, helping to maximize the impact and sustainability of mental and emotional health support. While the Wellness Coordinator and their function will be embedded in the department, they will not provide therapy. Clinical referrals will be done in coordination with providers through the City of Madison's EAP.

I fully support proposals that aim to improve coordinated access to mental health and wellness services within law enforcement. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive LEMHWA funding. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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June 30, 2022

Karhlton F. Moore, Director
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
810 7th Street NW
Washington, DC 20531

RE: BJA FY 22 Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program – Milwaukee Police Department

Dear Director Moore,

I am writing in support of the Milwaukee Police Department's (MPD) application for BJA FY 22 Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program funding through the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (O-BJA-2022-171099). If awarded, funding will assist MPD to provide advanced crisis intervention training (CIT) for targeted sworn members in order to improve the law enforcement and public safety response to individuals who have behavioral health conditions, intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or physical disabilities.

According to MPD, the department has responded to over 39,000 behavioral health calls since 2017. MPD's proposal includes making a comprehensive assessment of CIT needs, identifying training partners and stakeholders, and examination and evaluation of training models based on the voluntary tenet of the Memphis Model Crisis Intervention Team to develop a training plan appropriate for Milwaukee. Awarded funding would then allow MPD to deliver advanced CIT training to equip over 100 members with an increased understanding of behavioral health conditions and disabilities, and to develop empathy, help navigate and refer individuals to community resources, and improve member de-escalation skills.

I strongly support collaborative efforts to better equip police departments and community partners to respond to behavioral health calls, reduce negative interactions with law enforcement, and connect individuals with the services they need. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to MPD's application. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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LABOR, AND PENSIONS

June 30, 2022

Mr. Robert Chapman, Acting Director
Office of Community Oriented Policing Strategies
U.S. Department of Justice
145 N Street NE
Washington, DC 20530

RE: FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program – Milwaukee Police Department

Dear Acting Director Chapman,

I am writing in support of the Milwaukee Police Department's (MPD) application for FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program funding through the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Strategies (O-COPS-2022-171229). If awarded, funding will allow MPD to hire and fully fund 50 new police officers for 3 years.

According to the Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee currently faces acute fiscal distress while also experiencing surging violent gun crime, senseless reckless driving, and large numbers of stolen vehicles. The City's ability to add new police officers above the department's current authorized sworn strength to address these challenges and continue to build legitimacy and trust in the community is severely limited due to a structural budget imbalance and declining revenues. Awarded funding would provide an opportunity to hire additional police officers to effectuate improvements in community relations through the department's renewed commitment to community policing.

Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson wants MPD officers to be in the community providing effective, respectful, and Constitutional community policing. As a result, MPD Chief Norman places a priority on community policing as a strategic tool to impact crime, build sustainable neighborhoods, and foster positive community relations as he directs the daily operations of the department. With local support in mind, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to MPD's application for FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program funding. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

July 28, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2022-171175 FY22 Microgrants - Community Policing Development Solicitation

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I write today regarding the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive Community Policing Development (CPD) Microgrants Program funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. MPD proposes to help increase legitimacy and trust by expanding the department's current community policing capacity through a formal, collaborative partnership with the Madison Community Policing Foundation (MCPF), a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Per MPD, MCPF is an "Affiliated Organization" of MPD pursuant to Madison General Ordinance 4.29, providing both financial and volunteer support to MPD community policing activities throughout the year.

If awarded funding, MPD intends to work with MCPF to replicate and expand the MPD's successful 2016 multiracial police advisory group project model to all six MPD police districts. These "Community Policing Advisory Boards" (CPAB) will continue the past emphasis on building police community trust and legitimacy through building police community relationships. MPD aims to have all six CPABs operational by March 2023. MPD also proposes to leverage the new formal MCPF partnership to help expand efforts to identify at risk and underserved neighborhoods where more focused and targeted community policing strategies might be implemented.

I fully support proposals that aim to strengthen our communities through collaborative engagement strategies and strategic partnerships that help build trust between local law enforcement and the public they serve. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive CPD Microgrants Program funding. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator