

**2017 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Local Solicitation Award  
Preliminary Application Narrative for Albemarle County, Virginia**

*Supporting Community Policing Efforts 2017*

In keeping with the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program's intentions for prevention and control of crime, Albemarle County plans to use these funds to support overtime activities for community policing projects and activities by the Police Department. Many of these activities and projects would not occur without this funding. Budgeting and funding for Police Department overtime activities are quite restricted due to competing overtime demands, mandatory special events, and staffing concerns. Overtime is closely monitored and often restricted. In addition, staffing is short due to expanding needs for services and the Police Department's incremental implementation of a GeoPolicing model of policing that involves more citizen contact and engagement related to in-depth problem-solving activities and projects.

Prevention, public education, and public relations activities have been limited by these staffing concerns and competing overtime opportunities. The Police Department depends on grant funding to provide for most of these types of activities. With GeoPolicing, the focus on problem recognition and intervention has increased, but limited available time restricts involvement. Patrol Officers do what they can, but developing problem description and intervention strategies requires research, documentation, coordination, focused effort for a considerable time, and follow-up. Such complex special assignments occur primarily through overtime funding. Problem-solving projects, National Night Out, Shop with a Cop, Operation Safe Shopper, Scottsville River Rat, Project Toy lift, community safety activities such as bike patrols, and the Citizens' Police Academy are the planned uses for these grant funds.

The County has used previous Justice Assistance Grant funds to provide the following community support projects and activities, as well as others.

- Operation Safe Shopper with increased patrol, assistance and enforcement in shopping malls and high traffic areas from Thanksgiving to New Years;
- Project Toy Lift to assist with the safety and collection of donated toys for needy children at a high profile community event;

- Several ongoing Neighborhood Coalitions including a trailer park, three Section-8 housing subdivisions, and a community of rural poverty, that bring together residents, community and government services, police, property managers and owners to improve the quality of life in these neighborhoods;
- National Night Out where groups of Police personnel visited Neighborhood Watch get-togethers or publicized public settings with equipment and K9 demonstrations along with educational literature and other government services;
- Bike Patrol activities in neighborhoods and shopping malls, at the County Fair, at Foxfield Horse Races, at parks and on walking paths, at parades and festivals, and bicycle rodeos;
- Community Supervision Program for monitoring people on restricted probation or parole;
- Operation Spring Cleaning as a concerted effort to serve criminal warrants;
- Park Leash Law Enforcement to reduce the nuisance of loose dogs in County parks;
- Gun Violence Project working with ATF Agents to reduce the presence and use of illegal weapons in high incident areas;
- Citizens' Police Academy to educate the citizenry about the police and police work;
- Police Explorer Program for upper class high school students;
- Working with apartment managers to provide training towards developing a neighborhood safety certification program with annual inspections;
- Planning and executing a range of problem solving and proactive policing, including foot patrols, bike patrols, saturation patrols, and stake-outs; and
- Organizing and participating in numerous community events providing safety and prevention information and referrals along with equipment displays and demonstrations.

Such services will be diminished or ended without supportive external funding such as this grant program.

**We welcome any comments or questions about this preliminary application for the use of these grant funds. Please contact Chad Felts with the Albemarle County Police Department at 434.972.4036 or [feltsc@albemarle.org](mailto:feltsc@albemarle.org) with any questions, comments or suggestions.**