



To: Budget Committee/Blount County Commission
From: Angelie Shankle, Finance Manager Sheriff's Office
CC: Fin. Dir. Brian Baldwin, Mayor Ed Mitchell
Date: 3/1/2023
Re: VCIF grant award (Violent Crime Intervention Fund)

Budget Committee Members and Commissioners,

The Sheriff's Office has been awarded the VCIF grant- initiated by Governor Bill Lee and the General Assembly, and awarded by the State of TN through the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP). This grant provides funds for local law enforcement agencies to purchase equipment and technology in an effort to reduce/address violent crime in our communities.

We came to you in November, requesting permission to apply for the grant. The grant runs from the time you approve acceptance, through June 30, 2025, thus crossing 3 budget years. There is no match required. Each law enforcement agency that applied, was awarded a specific amount, based on a formula that took into consider the size of the agency and community served. The amount for Blount County is \$431,198 over the 3 budget years, or 27 months.

The BCSO is using the grant funds to purchase "end of life cycle" ballistic vests (100 per year over 3 years), 6 ballistic shields (to be purchased in FY23-24), 1 dolly system shield for possible school/crowd situations (to be purchased in FY23-24), a TN Mobile Sheriff App to facilitate two-way, real-time communication dissemination between the Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Blount County (initial purchase to be current budget year, with annual maintenance fees to be covered in FY23-24 and FY24-25), as well as an extension/supplement to our current Leads Online software (to be covered each of the 3 budget years).

The amendment before you covers the purchases to occur in the first of the three budget years:

- 100 ballistic vests
 - the initial purchase of the Sheriff App, and
 - the prorated cost of the Leads Online supplement
- for the remainder of this budget year.

For the remainder of the grant (FY23-24 and FY24-25), we will include the expense and revenue in the requested budget.

Thank you,
Angelie Shankle