

**EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM
SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT
FY 2009 LOCAL SOLICITATION
CFDA # 16.738
APPLICATION
EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE**

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

Overview

The Springfield Police Department, as the organizational unit, on behalf of the City of Springfield, respectfully submits this program narrative in support of our 2009 JAG Local Solicitation application. This application focuses on technology upgrades and field operation support. It is our intention to apply for the entire \$305,103 dollar allocation as indicated in your agency allocation page.

As funding becomes available throughout the year, we continuously review opportunities relative to technology acquisitions that will best support overall operations. We weight the potential of the acquisition on the following criteria:

1. Improve operational efficiency
2. Reduce crime, fear, and disorder
3. Increase officer safety and public trust
4. Improve and enhance technology infrastructure

Upon notification of this years JAG solicitation, we held a number of meetings to establish and prioritize a list of needs pertaining to information technology and operations within the Springfield Police Department. Department personnel, civilians and members of the public were present and privy to the discussions regarding current needs based on the criteria above.

In conducting an accurate assessment of the needs of the department, we identified four areas within the police department which would this funding would ideally support. This application is limited to equipment and technology in support of the identified needs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Prisoner Processing Audio/Video Recording System - \$ 38,741.25

The Springfield Police Department processes an average of 4,600 to 5,000 prisoners each year. The current audio/video prisoner booking/processing system is 13 years old and is in need of immediate upgrade. The current technology that supports this function was installed in 1996. The equipment regularly breaks down and has become “unreliable” to audio and visually record the prisoner booking process. It suffices to say that the current hardware and technology reached the end of its “useful service life”. This assertion is supported by the fact that we still utilize VHS cassette tapes that require manual replacement every 8 hours. These cassettes are stored for a period of time and then reused time and again. The quality of the recording is suffering and the expense of this system is increasing.

WPCS International, of Windsor, Connecticut has assessed our technological needs in support of this upgrade. Their findings recommend that we digitize the recording and storage of this data. WPCS recommended the installation of a (2) Panasonic Network Disc Recorders, model number WJ-ND400/1000/2000 as well as (7) Network/IP Indoor Color Mini Dome Cameras, 3.6x2.8-10 mm variable focus lens cameras with requisite mounting and wiring hardware. These cameras include integral microphones that satisfy the audio recording component.

This technology upgrade will ensure the existence of a quality recording of the entire booking process for each prisoner. Having this type of quality data will ensure the safety of the prisoner as well as the processing officers. Additionally, we anticipate that the amount of manual manipulation of this data will decrease precipitously once the information is digitized, thereby increasing efficiency and decreasing cost.

Computer Aided Dispatch / Watch Commander Monitor Upgrade - \$ 11,000.00

The Springfield Police Department is in the final stages of installation of a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) hardware and software upgrade. In 2007, we received federal Byrne money to purchase and install a new Information Management Corporation (IMC) CAD system. At that time we did not fully realize the scope and potential of such an upgrade with regard to how the new system could be fully exploited.

As we approach the “go-live” date, department supervisory staff and CAD design engineers identified a “gap” in the full exploitation of the new system. The gap involves the ability of the on-duty, senior commander and staff to physically view the computer aided dispatch activity city-wide as well as monitor department resources deployed across the city.

Currently, command staff has to physically “turn around” and monitor an array of 17” and 19” color monitors to ascertain the location and status of departmental resources spread-out across the City. With the CAD upgrade, we did not anticipate the needs of the

on-duty watch commander to monitor the activities generated by CAD. The current configuration is ad-hoc at best and was created “piece-meal” as the current system was configured over the last 15 years.

IMC is the vendor responsible for the CAD upgrade, however, their scope and service is limited to that project. As such, we sought the services of a local IT company, Valley Communications, who specialize in this area. Valley Communications recommended a complete reconfiguration and upgrade involving a total of (6) 42 inch flat screen color monitors. Three of the monitors would be dedicated in support of CAD. Pending calls for service, available resources and dispatched calls would be displayed on each of the three monitors. The remaining three monitors would display live video feed of 20 plus video monitoring cameras mounted at fixed locations across the city.

All six monitors will be suspended from the ceiling in the watch commander’s office, in such a fashion that activity could be monitored at a “glance”, rather than physically repositioning one’s location.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Motorola Portable 2-Way Radios - \$ 42,066.60

We propose to purchase **(30) Motorola Astro Digital XTS 1500 UHF R2 Model 1.5 1-5W 96 Channel** portable handheld radios. This purchase would replace 30 Motorola HT 1000 models which are ten years old. The new XTS 1500 radios would be issued to officers assigned to the Student Support Unit. The XTS 1500 model would support up to 96 separate radio frequencies. This capability is vital to officers assigned to the Student Support Unit as that unit is responsible for 63 public and private schools located throughout the City of Springfield.

Most, if not all of the schools have a unique radio communications channel that supports the daily communication needs between faculty, staff and the police officer assigned to that school. The current HT 1000 model only supports up to 16 separate channels. The issues become relative to officer safety as department resources are often reallocated to different locations throughout the school day, based on need for service. It is not uncommon for a officer to begin their day at one middle school or high school only to be redeployed to another due to a fight or a gang issue.

Often times, the reassignment of the officer results in the inability to communicate via a handheld radio due to frequency issues. The Motorola Astro Digital XTS 1500 model would completely address this issue due to the 96 Channel capacity.

**TRANSPORTATION — Crown Victoria Marked Patrol
Vehicles - \$200,989.56**

The Springfield Police Department's Transportation Division oversees a fleet of 275 vehicles, of which 220 vehicles directly support patrol and investigative functions. The majority of the fleet vehicles are Ford Crown Victoria Police Package cruisers.

Locally, FY2010 budget cuts have resulted in a significant reduction in the line item funding to purchase new, marked police vehicles. Each year, the Springfield Police Department purchases (15) new vehicles, on average, which is the bare minimum to ensure a reliable and safe fleet of E911 response vehicles.

At writing, we have funding to purchase (9) fully marked vehicles. We propose to purchase **(6) 2009/2010 Ford Crown Victoria 4 door, sedan, Model 71** patrol vehicles **(\$34,173 per vehicle)**.

These vehicles will have the following features:

- Mobile Data Computer
- Motorola Radio Package CDM 1550 LS
- Police Equipment – Lights, siren, prisoner cage, lettering
- Two-tone paint
- Fleet keyed
- Driver's side spot light
- Noise suppression package
- Limited slip differential
- Heated mirrors
- Power seats
- Rain guards