

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Councilors
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Grant</b>
<b>AGENDA SUMMARY:</b>	Approval is requested to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for funds to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for the Sheriff’s Office, in the amount of \$200,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	<b>Sheriff’s Office</b>

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**Recommendation:** Approval is requested to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for funds to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for the Sheriff’s Office, in the amount of \$200,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

**Background:** LEMHWA funds are used to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers through the implementation of peer support, training, family resources, suicide prevention, and other promising practices for wellness programs.

**Analysis:** These funds are available through the U.S. Department of Justice.

**Financial Considerations:** There is no local match requirement.

**Legal Considerations:** The Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office is eligible to apply for and receive these funds if awarded, and will be obligated to the conditions of the grant award.

**Recommendation/Action:** Approval is requested for the application for and acceptance, if awarded, of a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for funds to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for the Sheriff’s Office, in the amount of \$200,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

**A RESOLUTION**

**NO.**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE, IF AWARDED, A GRANT OF \$200,000.00, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES, FY24 LAW ENFORCEMENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACT (LEMHWA) IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS, WITH NO LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT, AND TO AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED. FUNDS WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THE PURCHASE OF TRAINING EQUIPMENT AND CONDUCTING MENTAL HEALTH CLASSES FOR DEPUTIES AND CORRECTIONS OFFICERS TO SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OF THE OFFICERS INCLUDING SUCH THINGS AS SUICIDE PREVENTION, PEER MENTORING, CLINICAL SUPPORT, AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.**

**WHEREAS**, LEMHWA funds are used to improve the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers through the implementation of peer support, training, family resources, suicide prevention, and other promising practices for wellness programs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Muscogee County Sheriffs Office has been authorized by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. to apply for \$200,000.00 of grant monies; and,

**WHEREAS**, Programs focus on providing training, programming, and support services in law enforcement emotional and mental health, including such things as suicide prevention, peer mentoring, clinical support, and family support services. Programs may also serve agency civilian staff, such as crime scene technicians, dispatchers, and others who may regularly experience some of the same trauma exposure; and,

**WHEREAS**, funding is from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. FY24 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Implementation Projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, funds will be utilized to purchase technology, software/mobile applications, or equipment offering broader training, programming, or services to support those tools, and the equipment will be utilized to enhance the mental health of deputies and corrections officers in Columbus, Muscogee County; and,

**WHEREAS**, there are no matching funds required for this grant project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

That the City Manager, the Mayor, or their designee is authorized to apply for and accept, if awarded, a LEMHWA grant from the U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$200,000, or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount awarded.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Barnes voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Begly voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Cogle voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Crabb voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Davis voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Garrett voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Huff voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Thomas voting \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor Tucker voting \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor