Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	**SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program**
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested for submission and acceptance, if awarded of a grant from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for funds that support jurisdictions to develop or maintain and enhance programs that implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, specifically Subtitle A, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), in the amount of $400,000 or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.
INITIATED BY:	**Muscogee County Sheriff's Office**

Recommendation: Approval is requested for the application for, acceptance, and expenditure of these funds as per the grant guidelines and City regulations, if awarded, a grant from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program, for funds that support jurisdictions to develop or maintain and enhance programs that implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, specifically Subtitle A, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), in the amount of $400,000 or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

Background: SMART FY 2026 funds will assist jurisdictions with their efforts to develop and/or enhance programs to implement the standards of SORNA. This includes increasing the capacity and efficiency of the tools and technologies used to collect information on registered sex offenders and share the information with relevant jurisdictions, federal agencies and databases, as well as improving law enforcement collaboration among jurisdictions, including federal, state, tribal, and local agencies to effectively and consistently monitor, register, and track sex offenders.

Analysis: These funds are available through the SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program.

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 Office of Justice Programs (OJP), SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program, for funds that support jurisdictions to develop or maintain and enhance programs that implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, specifically Subtitle A, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), in the amount of $400,000 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 MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT, IF AWARDED, A GRANT OF $400,000.00, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, FROM THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS (OJP), SMART FY 2026 SUPPORT FOR ADAM WALSH ACT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM, WITH NO LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT, AND TO AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED. FUNDS WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THE PURCHASE OF FORENSIC AND SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program funds will be used to support jurisdictions to develop or maintain and enhance programs that implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, specifically Subtitle A, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA); and,

WHEREAS, the Muscogee County Sheriff's Office has been authorized by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) to apply for $400,000 of grant monies; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be used to improve the efficiency and strengthen the capacity of systems to respond to search requests from the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW.gov) including bandwidth enhancements, database optimization, architectural changes, and web services improvements and,

WHEREAS, funding will be used to improve sex offender information collection (including biometric data) by law enforcement and other agencies as well as methods of sharing that information within and between jurisdictions and federal agencies; and,

WHEREAS, funds will be utilized for developing or improving collaboration with other organizations and entities within a state or territory, including Indian Tribes, victim services agencies, courts, probation offices, schools, and other relevant entities; 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 Mayor, or their designee is authorized to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), SMART FY 2026 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program, for funds that support jurisdictions to develop or maintain and enhance programs that implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, specifically Subtitle A, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), in the amount of $400,000 or as otherwise awarded, with no local match required, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund budget by the amount of the award.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 10th day of November, 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting _____.
Councilor Barnes voting _____.
Councilor Chambers voting _____.
Councilor Cogle voting _____.
Councilor Cook voting _____.
Councilor Crabb voting _____.
Councilor Davis voting _____.
Councilor Garrett voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Tucker voting _____.

_____ _____

Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor