

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

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| TO: | Mayor and Councilors |
| AGENDA SUBJECT: | Veterans Court Grant for FY21 |
| AGENDA SUMMARY: | Approval is requested to submit and accept a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant in the amount of \$137,272 for the purpose of funding the Veterans Court for FY21. The purpose of funding the Muscogee County Veterans Court, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount awarded. This amount includes a cash match in the amount of \$13,727, or as otherwise awarded. |
| INITIATED BY: | Superior Court |

Recommendation: Approval is requested to submit and accept a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant in the amount of \$137,272, or as otherwise awarded for the purpose of funding the Muscogee County Veterans Court, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount awarded. This amount includes a cash match in the amount of \$13,727, or as otherwise awarded.

Background: This application is for the program’s yearly operating budget. The Muscogee County Veterans Court is one of over 100 Accountability Courts specifically servicing individuals with a history of having a severe and persistent mental illness and those individuals with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse, who are involved in the legal system in Georgia. The grant is to provide funding to continue the existing program.

Analysis: This grant is a yearly award, starting July1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. The funding will allow the existing program to continue its services. One of the program’s goals is to increase the number of participants being served. Funding will also provide needed emergency treatment and other support, which will increase the participant’s ability to remain free of the legal system.

Financial Considerations: Unless otherwise awarded, this grant will provide \$123,545 in funding to the City of Columbus for the operation of the Veterans Court, with the City being required to provide \$13,727 in local matching funds.

Legal Considerations: The city is eligible to apply for this grant, and if awarded and accepted, will be bound by the terms and conditions of the grant award.

Recommendation/Action: Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for and accept, if awarded, a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant award for the Muscogee County Veterans Court in the amount of \$137,272, including a \$13,727 cash match, or as otherwise awarded, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount awarded.

A RESOLUTION

NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE FOR ACCEPTANCE A GRANT FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL TO FUND THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY VETERANS COURT WITH A GRANT AWARD OF \$123,545 OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED TO PROVIDE FUNDING FROM JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021. THIS FUNDING WILL HAVE A STATE REQUIRED MATCH OF \$13,727, OR AS OTHERWISE AWARDED, MAKING THE TOTAL GRANT AWARD \$137,272, AND AMEND THE MULTI-GOVERNMENTAL FUND BY THE AMOUNT AWARDED. THIS FUNDING AMOUNT WILL PROVIDE THE OPERATING COST OF THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY VETERANS COURT FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

WHEREAS, funds have been made from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to the Muscogee County Veterans Court for a 12 month period from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, funds have been made available from the State to the CJCC to fund Accountability Courts in the State of Georgia and the CJCC received applications from Veterans Courts throughout the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, funds are being made available from the Federal Government to the CJCC to fund Veterans Courts in the State of Georgia and the CJCC has approved applications from Veterans Courts throughout the State of Georgia; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to approve the receipt of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Grant to provide funding for the Muscogee County Veterans Court in the amount of \$137,272, or as otherwise awarded, including a cash match of \$13,727, and amend the Multi-governmental Fund by the amount of the award.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held the _____ day of _____, 2020 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____members of said council.

Councilor Allen voting _____.
Councilor Barnes voting _____.
Councilor Crabb voting _____.
Councilor Davis voting _____.
Councilor Garrett voting _____.
Councilor House voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Thomas voting _____.
Councilor Thompson voting _____.
Councilor Woodson voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, Mayor