



City of Eustis

P.O. Drawer 68 • Eustis, Florida 32727-0068 • (352) 483-5430

TO: Eustis City Commission

FROM: Tom Carrino, City Manger

DATE: November 17, 2022

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NUMBER 22-85: EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANTS (FY2021-JAGD-8C015)

Introduction:

Resolution Number 22-85 authorizes the Mayor and the Chief of Police to accept and utilize funds in the amount of \$4,021.00 from the Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, FY2021-JAGD-8C015. The grant will be utilized for the purchase of one Bellator 20 x 30 Level III Rifle Shield. The acquisition of the Bellator 20 x 30 Level III Rifle Shield will greatly increase both officer and public safety, by giving the Eustis Police Department the increased ability to confront armed subjects when necessary. One of the most hazardous activities that law enforcement undertakes is the need to confront and arrest an armed suspect. With the risk increasing when the suspect has taken a hostage or is hidden within a building, a confined area or has barricaded himself inside a structure. In addition, the utilization of a level III rifle shield during the execution of search and arrest warrants exponentially increases officer safety. The addition of the Bellator 20 x 30 Level III Rifle Shield will not only be an additional step to increase the Eustis Police Departments abilities and preparedness when responding to critical situations, it will increase the Department's ability to better protect its officers and serve the citizens of the City of Eustis.

A level III Rifle Shield is a ballistic shield, which is rated to withstand high caliber pistol or rifle rounds up to 7.62 mm Full Meta Jacket (US military M80) with a mass of 147 grains and a velocity of 2,780 feet per second. While there are higher rated ballistic shields, such as those that will withstand armor piercing rounds, the level III will give Eustis Polices Department Officers an added level of protection they do not current possess.

Recommended Action:

The administration recommends approval of Resolution Number 22-85.

Background:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. JAG funds support all components of the criminal justice system, from multijurisdictional drug and gang task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts,

corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research and evaluation, data collection, training, personnel, equipment, forensic laboratories, supplies, contractual support, and criminal justice information systems that will improve or enhance such areas as:

- Law enforcement programs
- Prosecution and court programs
- Prevention and education programs.
- Corrections and community corrections programs
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation)

The Eustis Police Department has determined the following:

The best use of the current FY2021-JAGD-8C015 award of \$4,021.00 would be the purchase of one Bellator 20x30 Level III Rifle Shield.

The FY2021-JAGD-8C015 grant award will allow the Eustis Police Department to acquire one Bellator 20x30 Level III Rifle Shield. The acquisition of the Bellator 20x30 Level III Rifle Shield will significantly increase the ability of the Eustis Police Department to protect the citizens of the City of Eustis, while at the same time increasing officer safety, and its ability to assist other law enforcement agencies within the area.

Community Input:

There has been no specific community input associated with this resolution.

Budget/ Staff Impact:

The approximate \$4,228.00 purchase of one Bellator 20x30 Level III Rifle Shield has a budget impact of approximately \$207.00 beyond the grant award of \$4,021.00. Monies from the police department's general fund will be utilized to cover the approximate \$207.00 difference.

Reviewed By:

Craig A. Capri, Chief of Police

Prepared By:

Richard J. Cerniglia, Accreditation and Grants Compliance Manager