

Eustis Police Department

51 E. Norton Ave., Eustis, FL 32726

(352) 483-5400

Administrative Services Division

TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: Tom Carrino, City Manager

Craig Capri, Chief of Police

DATE: August 7, 2025

RE: Resolution Number 25-64 – Forfeiture Fund Transfer to Support the City

Manager's Education Initiative

Introduction:

The purpose of this staff report is to request City Commission approval of a resolution authorizing the transfer of \$20,000 from the Eustis Police Department's Forfeiture Fund. These funds will be used to support the City Manager's Education Initiative, a mentorship and tutoring program for local students who are struggling to meet academic benchmarks. This initiative aligns with the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act and is consistent with the city's commitment to community engagement, crime prevention, and youth development.

Background:

The City of Eustis maintains a forfeiture fund comprised of assets seized and forfeited in accordance with Florida Statutes Sections 932.701–932.7062. These funds may only be used for law enforcement purposes and activities that are not funded by the city's general operating budget. Authorized uses include efforts that enhance public safety, support crime prevention, and foster community involvement.

The City Manager's Education Initiative is a newly proposed program aimed at helping students who are falling behind academically. It provides mentorship, tutoring services, and access to academic resources outside the traditional classroom setting. The program's goal is to help participating students meet educational thresholds, develop confidence, and build long-term success both personally and professionally.

This program supports the city's broader crime prevention and youth outreach strategies by providing constructive alternatives and reducing risk factors often associated with academic failure.

The proposed allocation from the Forfeiture Fund is as follows:

• \$20,000.00 – Transfer to support operational and resource costs associated with the City Manager's Education Initiative, including tutoring materials, staffing support, outreach, and coordination expenses.

Community Input:

While there has been no formal public input specific to this resolution, the community has consistently expressed strong support for youth development, education, and proactive policing efforts. Similar initiatives have historically received positive feedback from both residents and stakeholders.

Budget/Staff Impact:

This transfer will be funded entirely through the Police Department's Forfeiture Fund. It will not impact the City's General Fund or require additional financial resources. There is no additional staffing impact anticipated at this time.

Recommendation:

Staff respectfully recommend the City Commission adopt Resolution Number 25-64, authorizing the transfer of \$20,000 from the Forfeiture Fund to support the City Manager's Education Initiative as described.

Prepared By:

Captain Jon Fahning, Administrative Services Commander

Reviewed By:

Craig A. Capri, Chief of Police Tom Carrino, City Manager