

Walton County Department Agenda Request

Department Name: Walton County District Attorney's Office

Department Head/Representative: Randy McGinley

Meeting Date Request: November 07, 2023

Has the topic been discussed at past meetings? No

If so, when? _____

Topic: Approval for Renewal of the VOCA Grant

Wording for Agenda: Renewal of the VOCA Grant

This Request: Needs Action by Commissioners*

*What action are you seeking from the Commissioners? Approval for submitting the renewal and acceptance of the VOCA Grant administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Department Comments/Recommendation: _____

Additional Documentation Attached?: Yes

Is review of this request or accompanying documentation by the County Attorney required? No

If so, has a copy of the documentation been forwarded to the County Attorney? ____

Date forwarded to the County Attorney: _____

Has the County Attorney review been completed? _____

If this request involves the expenditure of county funds, please answer the following:

Approved in current budget? Yes

Budget information attached? No

Comments: _____

Purchasing department Comments: _____

County Attorney Comments: _____

Chairman's Comments: _____

RANDY MCGINLEY
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CLIFF HOWARD
CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
WALTON COUNTY

AMBER DALLY
CHIEF ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWTON COUNTY



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ALCOVY JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

October 25, 2023

To: Walton County Board of Commissioners

From: Kim Kelly, Victim Services Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Kelly', is written over the printed name 'Kim Kelly'.

Re: VOCA Grant Awards

I am seeking the Board of Commissioners approval to receive the VOCA Grant federal funds the Walton County District Attorney's Office has been awarded for the grant year beginning October 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024. I have attached an email from the Georgia Prosecuting Attorney's Office stating the award amount our office will receive in grant funds. This grant year our office is receiving a VOCA Grant in the amount of \$89,964.00. This amount is a decrease in the amount of VOCA funds we have received in the past years due to the shortage of federal funds to be distributed to VOCA approved programs. This grant year the VOCA funds will be used towards Victim Services Director Kim Kelly and Victim Compensation Advocate Jayme Willingham's salaries.

The Walton County District Attorney's Office was approved for a new Legal Assistant position in the budget year beginning July 01, 2023. District Attorney Randy McGinley chose not to fill that position after he was told by the Georgia Prosecuting Attorney's Council that VOCA funding cuts were going to happen beginning October 01, 2023. The funding that was approved for the new Legal Assistant position funding is now being used for Victim Advocate Suzanna Maulfair. Suzanna Maulfair was previously listed on the VOCA Grant but due to federal funding cuts of our grants there is no longer enough federal funds to support her position.

The match funds for the VOCA Grant will continue to be waived this year.

Please give me a call at 770 266 1793 if you have any questions regarding this request.

Newton County District Attorney's Office
1132 Usher Street
Room 313
Covington, GA 30014
Phone: 770-784-2070
Fax: 770-784-2069

Walton County District Attorney's Office
303 South Hammond Drive
Suite 334
Monroe, GA 30655
Phone: 770-267-1355
Fax: 770-267-1364

Kim Kelly

From: Sarai Leonides-Medina
Sent: Friday, September 15, 2023 4:30 PM
To: Cathy Davis (Newton County Finance); Kim Kelly; Randy McGinley; Christine MacDonald; Kim Kelly; Leslie Smith; Missy Peters
Subject: FFY24 VOCA AWARD INFORMATION
Attachments: FAQ for VOCA Funded Offices for FFY24.pdf; Budget_Detail_Worksheet.xlsx; Guidelines for Preparing your Budgets (FFY24) .pdf

Good Afternoon Alcovy Judicial Circuit:

We have been working diligently with CJCC to determine what the upcoming grant year, which begins October 1, 2023, will look like. **Please read this email carefully in its entirety for important information regarding the VOCA grant.**

Below is your estimated VOCA award for FY24 based on verbal confirmation we have received from CJCC.

Alcovy Judicial Circuit	
FFY24 CONFIRMED ESTIMATED Award:	\$89,964

FAQ:

Please see the attached FAQ for answers to questions about special positions and more. PAC will periodically update and share this document as we receive additional questions from the VOCA funded offices.

Timeline:

It is important to note that the above amount is an estimate based on the verbal confirmation provided by CJCC in advance of formal award approval. Neither CJCC’s Victim Services Grants Committee nor the CJCC Full Council have voted to approve the awards yet. The Committee is scheduled to vote on September 22, 2023, and the Full Council is scheduled to vote on September 27, 2023. As soon as the CJCC Full Council has voted on the award recommendations, we will communicate any changes to your offices. Award letters, MOAs, and grant activation documents will follow as soon as we receive an award letter from CJCC, which could take several weeks.

Budget:

Please begin preparing **ONE** budget based on the award amount provided above. These budgets are due by COB **October 13, 2023**. Note that only one budget should be submitted per DA or SG’s office. Funds should not be split between counties or for specified positions. Please use the attached Budget Worksheet and Guidelines for Preparing your Budget document as you prepare your budget.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

SARAI LEONIDES MEDINA

Prosecuting Attorneys’ Council of Georgia
Victim Services/Grants Manager
1590 Adamson Parkway, 4th Floor
Morrow, GA 30260
Main Office: 770-282-6300
Direct: 770-282-6290
Website: www.pacga.org
Twitter, IG & Facebook: @GAProsecutors

WALTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

GRANT SUMMARY

Department: Walton County District Attorney's Office Date: 24-Oct-23

Grant Title: Victims of Crime Act Grant (VOCA) Grant #: _____

County Department Contact: Randy McGinley - Kim Kelly Phone: 770 267 1355

New or Renewal: Renewal Budget Amendment Required: No

Is Amendment Attached? _____

Purpose of Grant: Victim Services (Answer yes or no)

How does grant meet WC Board of Commissioners Mission and Goals?

The mission of the Board of Commissioners is to assist residents of Walton County. Through the VOCA Grant crime victims of Walton County are assisted after being victimized. The Victim-Witness Assistance Program assists victims with their immediate needs and as their case progresses through the Criminal Justice System.

How does grant meet Department Mission and Goals?

In 1998, the Office of the District Attorney in the Alcovy Judicial Circuit established the Victim-Witness Assistance Program. The Victim-Witness Program has offices in Monroe, Walton County and Covington, Newton County. Over the past ten years the program has grown in its mission and continues to strive to help victims regain stability after victimization. Victim advocates through the Victim-Witness Assistance Program are dedicated to helping victims through the criminal justice system and locating assistance for victims through community based programs.

How does grant benefit Walton County residents?

The Victim-Witness Programs of the Alcovy Judicial Circuit assist victims in Walton County in numerous ways. Victims of crime are treated with fairness, dignity and respect. Victim Advocates inform victims of their rights under the Victims' Bill of Rights, refer victims to other agencies that can help their needs, notify victims of court events as their case moves through the Criminal Justice System, and accompany victims to court hearings. The Victim-Witness Program assists victims with obtaining Temporary Protective Orders and assistance with locating emergency shelter and immediate needs. The Victim Compensation Advocate funded by this Grant specializes in being familiar with the Victim Compensation Program administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia. Currently the Victim Compensation Advocate position for the Walton County District Attorney's Office is vacant. Having a specialized Victim Compensation Advocate in our office allows us to provide better services for our victims and assist more quickly with obtaining compensation after their victimization through the Victim Compensation Program.

If this grant is a renewal

Does this grant require a cash match or in-kind match?

If yes, explain.

This grant normally requires a 25% cash match but it will be waived by CJCC for this grant year. The Alcovy Judicial Circuit will receive \$89,964.00 in federal funding from the VOCA Grant to partially pay for the salaries of Victim Services Director Kim Kelly and Victim Compensation Advocate Jayme Willingham.

If a cash match is required is the match in the current FY budget? Explain.

It will be waived by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the year.

WALTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
GRANT SUMMARY

Does this grant effect future FY budgets?

If yes, explain how.

The budget for Walton County begins July 01 and ends June 30 of each year. The VOCA budget year begins October 01 and ends on September 30 of each year.

What restrictions, if any, are required by the use of grant proceeds?

Explain any long term or short term obligations the County must meet by the use of this grant.

The grant monies received from this VOCA Grant must be used by the Victim-Witness Program of the Walton County District Attorney's Office.
