



## Finance Committee Agenda Item

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| Meeting Date:                       | 04/28/2026  |
| Agenda Item:                        | Our Rescue Grant Opportunity - GrayKey  |
| Staff Contact (name, email, phone): | Dan Meyer<br><a href="mailto:dmeyer@whitewater-wi.gov">dmeyer@whitewater-wi.gov</a><br>262-473-1371 |

### BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The Whitewater Police Department has increasingly relied upon extracting data from electronic devices such as computers and cell phones to investigate significant crimes. Currently, we contract with the Waukesha Police Department so that our detectives can access their forensic lab and software to facilitate these extractions. While this has been a tremendous resource, it comes at both a hard cost (contract cost, fuel/equipment costs and overtime) as well as a cost to our staff efficiency (staff time commuting to and from Waukesha PD and lack of productivity while at the lab waiting). These costs have been estimated to the best of our ability and have been aggregated on the included spreadsheet. The total estimated cost is approximately \$24,383.

One of the critical pieces of software that we utilize at the Waukesha Lab for extractions is GrayKey. We have the opportunity to purchase this software through Magnet Forensics for an annual cost of \$13,000 in 2026 and thereafter. Purchasing the GrayKey software would remove our need to utilize the Waukesha forensic lab and would remove the ancillary costs associated with using the lab. Furthermore, Detective Lieutenant Heilberger applied for grant funding through Our Rescue and our department was selected to receive \$8,000 of 2026 funding toward the GrayKey software if accepted. It is anticipated that \$4,000 of grant funding would also be awarded for 2027 and would discontinue thereafter.

After considering all the hard costs involved and staff efficiency costs, the costs associated with accepting the Our Rescue grant and purchasing the GrayKey software are lower than our current costs. Based on that, staff recommends moving forward with accepting the grant funding and purchasing the GrayKey software through Magnet Forensics in 2026 and canceling the contract with the Waukesha forensic lab effective January 1, 2027.

### PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

See attached spreadsheet

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Accept grant funding and purchase GrayKey software through Magnet Forensics, and canceling the contract with the Waukesha forensic lab effective January 1, 2027.

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ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Costs Explained Spreadsheet
  2. Magnet Forensics Quote
  3. Our Rescue grant MOU
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