

**TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR  
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FROM: THERESA REYNOLDS, DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**DATE: April 2, 2026**

**SUBJECT: BJA FY25 Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program for  
the Division of Police**

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**Request:** Council authorization to submit an application and accept award, if offered, to the U.S. Department of Justice, under the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program requesting federal funds in the amount of \$300,000 in FY 2027. No matching funds are required.

**Purpose of Request:** The Division of Police is preparing a grant application for submission of federal funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, under the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program to purchase an interview and interrogation course. This is a five-day course and will enhance detectives' abilities to understand the underlying dynamics of human interaction, in order to more effectively plan for and execute interviews to gain more verifiable information in ethical ways.

**What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years?** Cost in Fiscal Year 2027 is \$300,000.00 if awarded. No local match is required. Future years funding is dependent upon availability of grant funding.

**Are the funds budgeted?** A budget amendment will be completed if awarded.

**File Number:** 0288-26

**Director/Commissioner:** Weathers/Armstrong

