

Mayor Jim Gray

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Division of Grants and Special Programs

TO:

JIM GRAY, MAYOR

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM:

IRENE GOODING, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DATE:

MARCH 11, 2013

SUBJECT:

REQUEST COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT CONTINUATION APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE/OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN UNDER THE GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE ARREST POLICIES AND ENFORCEMENT OF PROTECTION ORDERS

PROGRAM

The LFUCG Division of Police in collaboration with community partners serving the victims of domestic violence has prepared a continuation application for submission of the U.S. Department of Justice/Office on Violence Against Women requesting \$300,000 in federal funds from the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program. No matching funds are required.

An Arrest Polices grant was first approved by the Office on Violence Against Women on July 1, 2006. on July 1, 2009, and on October 1, 2011, for a total award of \$1.2 million. These funds were originally used to provide additional training on domestic violence for police recruits and for patrol officers, overtime for patrol officers for the purpose of providing additional hours in apprehending violators and building cases for prosecution, and the creation of two victim advocate positions in the Division of Police. The purpose of the project is to hold offenders of domestic violence accountable for their actions through investigation, arrest, and prosecution.

The continuation application will provide for funding to continue the employment of the one victim assistant, required OVW training, police overtime for purposes of apprehending violators, victim services through community partners, and support of innovative practices to address domestic violence. U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women has reduced maximum funding for continuation projects from \$400,000 for a two-year period to \$300,000 for a three-year period.

The application requires execution of a Memorandum of Understanding among all community partners. Along with the police, this partnership includes prosecution, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, the Fayette County Sheriff's Office, District Court, Family Court, Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program, Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center, the Fayette County Domestic Violence Prevention Board, Fayette County Attorney, Fayette County Commonwealth Attorney.

Council authorization to submit the application and to authorize execution of the Memorandum of Understanding by Mayor with community partners is hereby requested.

Irene Gooding, Director

Xc: Clay Mason, Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety