



Legislation Text

File #: 1939-2023, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND

This ordinance authorizes the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court to accept an additional \$62,731.00 from the grantor, Franklin County Office Board of Commissioners, and to appropriate the total amount of the grant from the unappropriated balance of the general government grant fund to the Department of Pretrial and Probation Services of the Franklin County Municipal Court. This adjustment will provide additional funds for salaries and a vehicle for the Strategic Enforcement Response Team (SERT). The grant is also being extended through 07/31/24.

Franklin County Municipal Court Pretrial and Probation Services, under the direction of the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs (OJPP) and as supported by the Office of Violence Against Women 2020 Innovative Criminal Justice Response program, will work to achieve the objective of **reducing domestic violence homicides**. By working with justice partners to adopt the Blueprint for Safety: Interagency Response to Domestic Violence model in Franklin County, the Blueprint for Safety inter-agency project team will:

§Promote increased use of evidence-based practices and programs to improve identification of and coordinated responses to high-risk domestic violence incidents.

§Promote proactive collaboration and data sharing among Franklin County justice system agencies to address domestic violence crimes.

§Further develop relationships that promote seamless referrals and linkages of victims to community-based supports.

Emergency Legislation is requested so that a vehicle can be purchased for staff to go out into the field and provide the necessary services.

FISCAL IMPACT

\$62,731.00 will be expended from the General Government Grant Fund.

To authorize and direct the Administrative Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court to accept an additional award from the grantor, Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs; to appropriate \$62,731.00 from the unappropriated balance of the general government grant fund to the Franklin County Municipal Court to fund Strategic Enforcement Response Team (SERT) salaries and purchase a vehicle to be used by SERT staff; and to declare an emergency. (\$62,731.00)

WHEREAS, Franklin County Municipal Court Pretrial and Probation Services, under the direction of the Franklin County Office of Justice Policy and Programs (OJPP) and as supported by the Office of Violence Against Women 2020 Innovative Criminal Justice Response program, works to achieve the objective of reducing domestic violence homicides, by working with justice partners to adopt the Blueprint for Safety: Interagency Response to Domestic Violence model in Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners has authorized a grant of \$62,731.00 to be used by the Department of Pretrial and Probation Services of the Franklin County Municipal Court to fund salaries and to purchase a vehicle for SERT; and

WHEREAS, it is in the city's best interest that the Franklin County Municipal Court receive this financial support to

provide additional staff dedicated to reducing domestic violence homicides and to purchase a vehicle to be used by SERT staff performing their work to reduce domestic violence homicide; and

WHEREAS, additional monies from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, in the amount of \$62,731.00, are available to provide for SERT salaries and a vehicle, to be purchased through the City's fleet department; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the City in that it is immediately necessary to approve the acceptance of this grant so that a vehicle can be acquired for the SERT personnel to get out into the field and provide the vital services to those in need who suffer from, or may suffer from, domestic violence, and for the health, safety and welfare of the City and its residents; **now, therefore,**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Administrative Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court is authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$ 62,731.00 from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, and to sign any and all documents/agreements necessary to accept and use the grant funds.

SECTION 2. Funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated. That from the unappropriated balance in the general government grant fund, fund 2220, and from all monies estimated to come into said fund from any and all sources and appropriated for any other purpose during the months ending July 31, 2024, the sum of \$62,731.00 is appropriated to the Franklin County Municipal Court.

SECTION 3. That the monies appropriated in the foregoing Section 2 shall be paid upon the order of the Administrative and Presiding Judge of the Franklin County Municipal Court and that no order shall be drawn or money paid except by voucher, the form of which shall be approved by the City Auditor.

SECTION 4. At the end of the grant period, any repayment of unencumbered balances required by the grant is hereby authorized, and any unused City match monies may be transferred back to the City fund from which they originated in accordance with all applicable grant agreements.

SECTION 5. That for the reasons stated in the preamble herein, which are made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither vetoes nor approves the same.