

ANALYSIS

Item 26: Department of State Police Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness

Analyst: John Terpening

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for up to \$175,000 for the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness grant.

Analysis: The Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness grant provides funding to assist with access to and delivery of mental health and wellness services for law enforcement. Eligible projects can include training, technical assistance, demonstration projects, or implementation of promising practices related to peer mentoring.

This fiscal year 2022 grant has \$7.2 million in funding available that is anticipated to fund up to 42 project awards over a two-year period, beginning September 1, 2022. This is a competitive grant, and no state match is required. The Department of State Police would utilize this grant to fund additional travel and training for Peer Support Team members. If awarded, the Department may need to return to the legislature for additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation.

The grant application deadline was April 29 and the Department did not provide the Legislative Fiscal Office or DAS Chief Financial Office with the required 10-day notification letter. Going forward, the Department is expected to adhere to the interim legislative process for federal grant applications as outlined for all state agencies.

Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Emergency Board approve the request.

26
Department of State Police
McDonald

Request: Retroactive authorization to apply for a grant of up to \$175,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for the FY 2022 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) competitive grant.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Department of State Police (OSP) requests retroactive authorization to apply for a competitive federal grant of up to \$175,000 for the purpose of improving the access to and delivery of mental health and wellness services for law enforcement. The LEMHWA grant aims to support law enforcement agencies seeking to implement or enhance programs offering training and services on officer emotional and mental health, peer mentoring, suicide prevention, stress reduction, and support services for officers and their families.

The grant solicitation was posted on March 15, 2022, with a deadline of April 29, 2022. There is approximately \$7.5 million in federal funding available with a maximum award of \$175,000 and no local match requirement. The period of performance is two years, beginning on September 1, 2022.

OSP intends to increase the number of members serving on the agency's Peer Support Team. This would include both sworn and professional staff. If awarded, OSP anticipates using grant funds to pay for qualified trainers to deliver mandatory in-state training for new Peer Support Team members, and travel costs incurred by new Peer Support Team members as they attend the required training.

OSP did not provide a 10-day notification to the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) and the Chief Financial Office (CFO) prior to their grant application submission. After discussions with both LFO and CFO, the Department is expected to adhere to the interim process in the future. If retroactive authorization is granted and the grant application is successful, OSP will return to seek additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation in accordance with the interim guidelines.



Orego

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon State Police

General Headquarters
3565 Trelstad Ave SE
Salem, OR 97317
Voice: 503-378-3720
Fax: 503-378-8282
TTY: 503-585-1452

May 2, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon State Police (OSP) is requesting retroactive approval to apply to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), for the FY 2022 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Competitive Grant in an amount up to \$175,000.

This grant provides funding to assist public governmental agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, for-profit (commercial) organizations, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, community groups, and faith-based organizations. LEMHWA funds are used to improve the delivery of, and access to, mental health and wellness services for law enforcement through training and technical assistance, demonstration projects, and implementation of promising practices related to peer mentoring mental health and wellness programs.

The COPS Office expects to make up to 42 project awards for a 24-month period of performance, to begin on September 1, 2022. This grant solicitation was posted on March 15, 2022. The grant application deadline was April 29, 2022.

Agency Action

It is a priority of OSP to increase the number of members (both sworn and professional staff) for the agency's Peer Support Team. It is anticipated that grant funds will be used for travel costs associated with new Peer Support Team members attending required in-state training, as well as costs for the chosen, qualified trainer(s) to conduct the training.

The grant does not require a state funding match.

Action Requested

Retroactively approve OSP's request to apply for the FY 2022 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) Competitive Grant through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and to approve reoccurring grant application requests.

Legislation Affected

None

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terri Davie".

Terri Davie
Superintendent
Oregon State Police

cc: Constantin Severe, Governor's Office
 April McDonald, Dept. of Administrative Services - Chief Financial Office
 John Terpening, Legislative Fiscal Office
 Jon Harrington, OSP Deputy Superintendent
 Jenny Cribbs, OSP Chief Financial Officer