## **CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION**

## Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

Date: <u>May 11, 2009</u>

Mr. Clayton H. Wilder Administrator Office of Criminal Justice Grants Florida Department of Law Enforcement 2331 Phillips Road Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Wilder:

This is to inform you that the Board of County Commissioners Accepts  $\underline{x}$ Declines \_\_\_\_\_ the invitation to serve as the coordinating unit of government in the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

For purposes of coordinating the preparation of our application(s) for grant funds with the Office of Criminal Justice Grants, we have designated the following person:

Name: <u>Eron D. Thompson, AICP</u>

Title: Grants and Special Projects Manager

E-mail address: ethompson@nassaucountysheriff.com

Agency: <u>Nassau County Sheriff's Office</u>

Address: 76001 Bobby Moore Circle, Yulee, FL 32097

Telephone: (904) 548-4012 County: Nassau

Date: <u>May 11, 2009</u> Sincerely. Chair, Board of County Commissioners

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

## Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

The State of Florida, Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), anticipates an award from the United States Department of Justice for \$81,537,096 in Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. A total of \$51,996,642 will be passed through, as required, to local units of government. This announcement is to notify eligible applicants of program requirements.

#### **Eligible Applicants**

Units of local government are eligible to receive subgrants from FDLE. "Units of local government" means any city, county, town, township, borough, parish, village, or other general-purpose political subdivision of a State and includes Native American Tribes that perform law enforcement functions as determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

#### **Program Strategy and Purposes**

JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice.

Local units of government receiving JAG funding have the flexibility to implement projects in any of the seven federally approved purpose areas, listed below. As directed by the Office of Justice Programs, you are encouraged to choose projects that can be started and completed expeditiously and in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefits. Applicants should anticipate that awards under the Recovery Act will be one-time awards and should propose project activities and deliverables that can be accomplished without additional JAG funding.

- 1) Law enforcement programs
- 2) Prosecution and court programs
- 3) Prevention and education programs
- 4) Corrections and community corrections programs
- 5) Drug treatment programs
- 6) Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
- 7) Crime victim and witness Programs

Any law enforcement or justice initiative previously eligible for funding under Byrne or LLEBG is eligible for JAG funding.

#### **Coordination Efforts**

Each county is allocated a sum of money for use by all local governments within the county. This amount is determined through a funding algorithm established in the administrative rule. Chapter 11D-9.005, Florida Administrative Code, requires that units of government in each county reach consensus concerning the expenditure of these funds, including the projects to be implemented and the agency responsible for such implementation.

Maximum coordination is required to meet this program requirement, and the Department requests the county board of commissioners to serve as the coordinating unit for all local governments within the county. The Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, in each county so notified is requested to return to the Department a statement of certification indicating the county's willingness to serve. This certification must be returned within 30 days from the date of receipt of notification. In the event the county declines to serve in this capacity, the Department will request the governing body of each municipality in the county, in descending order of population, to serve as the coordinating unit of government.

Each county or coordinating unit of government is encouraged to form a criminal justice coordinating/planning group to identify and implement criminal justice priorities for the county, to plan strategies to address those priorities, to identify areas of greatest need, and to review all possible sources of revenue to make sure that funds go to the programs or issues that need them most.

Furthermore, FDLE requires that units of government in each county reach consensus concerning the expenditure of the JAG funds, including the projects to be implemented and the agency responsible for such implementation. Each county must document this consensus by submitting letters from at least 51 percent of the units of government which also represents at least 51 percent of the population located in said county.

### Match Requirements

There is no match requirement under the guidelines of the JAG program.

## **Recovery Act Reporting Requirements**

The Recovery Act requires that FDLE submit performance and financial reports to the Office of Justice Programs. Subrecipients will be required to certify that they will provide any information required for FDLE to comply with the act. Project Expenditure Reports will be due monthly within 15 days of the end of the reporting period. Performance reports will be due quarterly within 15 days of the end of the reporting period. It is imperative that you submit your reports on time. Receipt of funds will be contingent on meeting the Recovery Act reporting requirements.

## Additional Recovery Act Requirements

The Recovery Act includes extensive, specific requirements for grant funding. For additional information about the specific requirements referenced below, please refer to <a href="http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm">http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm</a>.

**Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is required.** All subgrantees must maintain current registrations in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. Information about registration procedures can be accessed at <u>www.ccr.gov</u>.

**Certification regarding Infrastructure Investments.** Section 1511 of the Recovery Act includes specific requirements for funds that will be used for infrastructure investments. Subgrantees requesting funds for infrastructure investment projects will be required to submit an additional certification to satisfy the requirements of section 151.

**Buy American.** All subgrantees that propose to use grant funds to construct, alter, maintain, or repair a public building or public work should be aware that the Recovery Act (in section 1605)

contains a "Buy American" provision that applies to iron, steel, and manufactured goods, subject to certain exceptions.

**Wage Rate Requirements.** The Recovery Act contains a provision on wage rate requirements that concerns projects funded or assisted by Recovery Act funds that employ laborers and mechanics. See section 1606 of the Recovery Act.

**Contracts.** The Recovery Act places special emphasis on the use of fixed-price contracts awarded through competitive procedures. Subgrantees must comply with any requirements established by OJP.

**Limit on Funds.** The Recovery Act specifically provides that funds may not be used for any casino or other gambling establishment, aquarium, zoo, golf course, or swimming pool.

Separate Tracking and Reporting of Recovery Act Funds and Outcomes. Recovery Act funds may be used in conjunction with other funding as necessary to complete projects, but all funds must be tracked, accounted for, and reported on separately from all other funds. Recipients must also be prepared to track and report on the specific outcomes and benefits attributable to use of Recovery Act funds. The accounting systems of all subgrantees must ensure that Recovery Act funds are not commingled with funds from any other source.

**Reporting Fraud, Waste, Error, and Abuse.** The Recovery Act provides certain protections against reprisals for employees of non-Federal employers who disclose information reasonably believed to be evidence of gross management, gross waste, substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, abuse of authority, or violations of law related to contracts or grants using Recovery Act funds. For additional information, refer to section 1553 of the Recovery Act.

## **Application Requirements and Deadlines**

Once the Certificate of Participation form designating the coordinator for your county is received, the Office of Criminal Justice Grants will send this individual further information regarding the application process.

Applicants must apply on-line using FDLE's grant management system. In addition to the online submission, applicants must print out the completed application and submit **two (2) hard copies** (both with *original signatures*) no later than <u>5:00 P.M., Friday, June 12, 2009</u>. A **separate application must be submitted for each proposed project**. Applications should be mailed or hand delivered to the following:

> Florida Department of Law Enforcement Office of Criminal Justice Grants 2331 Phillips Road Tallahassee, Florida 32308 Attention: Clayton H. Wilder, Administrator

Applications must be accompanied by letters of approval representing agreement among at least 51 percent of all units of local government representing at least 51 percent of the county population as to the allocation of dollars to each project in the county.

Questions regarding this Program Announcement should be directed to Clayton H. Wilder, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, at (850) 617-1250.



Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Gerald M. Bailey Commissioner Office of Criminal Justice Grants Post Office Box 1489 Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489 (850) 617-1250 www.fdle.state.fl.us Charlie Crist, Governor Bill McCollum, Attorney General Alex Sink, Chief Financial Officer Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner of Agriculture

April 15, 2009

COUTED CONTROL OFFICE

The Honorable Barry Holloway Chairman, Nassau County Board of Commissioners 96160 Nassau Place Yulee, Florida 32097

# Re: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 – State Solicitation

Dear Chairman Holloway:

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) anticipates an award from the United States Department of Justice as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. FDLE will distribute these funds in accordance with the JAG Countywide distribution provisions of Chapter 11D-9, Florida Administrative Code. These funds are in addition to the standard 2009 JAG Countywide allocation that, when known, will be announced in a separate letter.

FDLE has set aside \$374,866 for use by all units of government within Nassau County. The enclosed Program Announcement provides an overview of these funds which can be used by local units of government to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system. Please note that the Program Announcement also includes some important program requirements specific to Recovery Act funds.

As a condition of participation in this program, the units of government in each county must reach a consensus concerning the expenditure of these funds. This consensus must include the projects to be implemented as well as the agency responsible for such implementation.

Developing such consensus will require someone to exercise leadership and assume a coordinating role in the development of applications for these funds. FDLE recommends that the Board of County Commissioners assume this responsibility.

In the event the county declines to serve in this capacity, the Department will request the governing body of each municipality in the county, in descending order of population, to serve as the coordinating unit of government. The Honorable Barry Holloway April 15, 2009 Page Two

The enclosed Certificate of Participation form requests the identification of an individual coordinator. We will send this individual further information regarding the application process in FDLE's on-line grant management system. Please complete the enclosed Certificate of Participation and return it within 30 days from the date of this correspondence to:

Florida Department of Law Enforcement Office of Criminal Justice Grants 2331 Phillips Road Tallahassee, Florida 32308 Attention: Clayton H. Wilder, Administrator

We look forward to working with you. If you have any questions or if we can provide you with any assistance regarding the JAG Program, please contact me at (850) 617-1250.

Sincerely,

Clayton H. Wilder

Administrator

CHW/JP/lg

Enclosures

cc: Mayors in Nassau County Law Enforcement Agencies in Nassau County Project Directors in Nassau County