WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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June 30, 2022

Karhlton F. Moore, Director Bureau of Justice Assistance Office of Justice Programs 810 7th Street NW Washington, DC 20531

RE: BJA FY 22 Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program – Milwaukee Police Department

Dear Director Moore,

I am writing in support of the Milwaukee Police Department's (MPD) application for BJA FY 22 Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program funding through the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (O-BJA-2022-171099). If awarded, funding will assist MPD to provide advanced crisis intervention training (CIT) for targeted sworn members in order to improve the law enforcement and public safety response to individuals who have behavioral health conditions, intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or physical disabilities.

According to MPD, the department has responded to over 39,000 behavioral health calls since 2017. MPD's proposal includes making a comprehensive assessment of CIT needs, identifying training partners and stakeholders, and examination and evaluation of training models based on the voluntary tenet of the Memphis Model Crisis Intervention Team to develop a training plan appropriate for Milwaukee. Awarded funding would then allow MPD to deliver advanced CIT training to equip over 100 members with an increased understanding of behavioral health conditions and disabilities, and to develop empathy, help navigate and refer individuals to community resources, and improve member de-escalation skills.

I strongly support collaborative efforts to better equip police departments and community partners to respond to behavioral health calls, reduce negative interactions with law enforcement, and connect individuals with the services they need. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to MPD's application. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Jany Baldi

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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April 22, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2022-171164 - FY22 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA) National Level Training and Technical Assistance – Madison Police Department

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I am pleased to support the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive LEMHWA program funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Funding will allow MPD to expand on a peer support program to encompass overall mental health wellness coordination, improving the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers.

Currently, key components of MPD's wellness services are delivered externally via the City of Madison's Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which cannot adequately meet the increasing demand for these critical support systems. With awarded funding, MPD will expand and improve upon the services of an existing best practice program by hiring an internal Wellness Coordinator, helping to maximize the impact and sustainability of mental and emotional health support. While the Wellness Coordinator and their function will be embedded in the department, they will not provide therapy. Clinical referrals will be done in coordination with providers through the City of Madison's EAP.

I fully support proposals that aim to improve coordinated access to mental health and wellness services within law enforcement. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive LEMHWA funding. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Jany Baldi

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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LABOR, AND PENSIONS

July 28, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: O-COPS-2022-171175 FY22 Microgrants - Community Policing Development Solicitation

Dear Attorney General Garland,

I write today regarding the Madison Police Department's (MPD) application to receive Community Policing Development (CPD) Microgrants Program funds offered through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. MPD proposes to help increase legitimacy and trust by expanding the department's current community policing capacity through a formal, collaborative partnership with the Madison Community Policing Foundation (MCPF), a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Per MPD, MCPF is an "Affiliated Organization" of MPD pursuant to Madison General Ordinance 4.29, providing both financial and volunteer support to MPD community policing activities throughout the year.

If awarded funding, MPD intends to work with MCPF to replicate and expand the MPD's successful 2016 multiracial police advisory group project model to all six MPD police districts. These "Community Policing Advisory Boards" (CPAB) will continue the past emphasis on building police community trust and legitimacy through building police community relationships. MPD aims to have all six CPABs operational by March 2023. MPD also proposes to leverage the new formal MCPF partnership to help expand efforts to identify at risk and underserved neighborhoods where more focused and targeted community policing strategies might be implemented.

I fully support proposals that aim to strengthen our communities through collaborative engagement strategies and strategic partnerships that help build trust between local law enforcement and the public they serve. For this reason, I request full and fair consideration be given to the MPD's application to receive CPD Microgrants Program funding. Please keep my staff informed on the progress of this application by e-mail at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Jany Baldi

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
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June 30, 2022

Mr. Robert Chapman, Acting Director Office of Community Oriented Policing Strategies U.S. Department of Justice 145 N Street NE Washington, DC 20530

RE: FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program – Milwaukee Police Department

Dear Acting Director Chapman,

I am writing in support of the Milwaukee Police Department's (MPD) application for FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program funding through the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Strategies (O-COPS-2022-171229). If awarded, funding will allow MPD to hire and fully fund 50 new police officers for 3 years.

According to the Mayor of the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee currently faces acute fiscal distress while also experiencing surging violent gun crime, senseless reckless driving, and large numbers of stolen vehicles. The City's ability to add new police officers above the department's current authorized sworn strength to address these challenges and continue to build legitimacy and trust in the community is severely limited due to a structural budget imbalance and declining revenues. Awarded funding would provide an opportunity to hire additional police officers to effectuate improvements in community relations through the department's renewed commitment to community policing.

Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson wants MPD officers to be in the community providing effective, respectful, and Constitutional community policing. As a result, MPD Chief Norman places a priority on community policing as a strategic tool to impact crime, build sustainable neighborhoods, and foster positive community relations as he directs the daily operations of the department. With local support in mind, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to MPD's application for FY 2022 COPS Hiring Program funding. Please keep my office updated on the progress of this application by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator