



**Grant  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 15  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 03/02/2006  
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**SUBJECT:** Authorize application for and acceptance of \$243,229 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Program (JAG), to fund equipment for the Austin Police Department.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice Assistance Program, for the grant period October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2008. A cash match is not required.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING Police  
DEPARTMENT:**

**DIRECTOR'S  
AUTHORIZATION: Robert Dahlstrom**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** Acceptance of 2004 JAG funding on March 24, 2003.

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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This action authorizes the City to apply for and accept \$243,229 in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The City will use its JAG to provide funds for computer forensics equipment and training as well as overtime for community policing.

The federal legislation which authorizes this grant program also includes a provision whereby cities and counties must submit a joint funding application if the state's Attorney General certifies that a funding disparity exists in a county's allocation compared with that of a single municipality (at least a 150 percent difference), and the county bears more than 50 percent of prosecution or incarceration costs arising from Uniform Crime Report Part 1 violent crimes reported by the municipality to the FBI. Once certified, jurisdictions are to decide if funds will be shared, and if so, the funding allocation. There is no requirement as to how funds should be shared. Since FY 2000-2001 the funding has been split 50/50 and this arrangement will continue. Travis County's allocation is \$121,614.50 and \$96,614.50 of this funding will be used to purchase audio and video equipment for the Travis County Sheriff's Office. APD and Travis County have agreed to share the expenses for the computer forensics equipment and will contribute \$25,000 each towards the project. APD will also contribute \$5,000 towards computer forensics training. The total allocation for computer forensics for the two year period is \$55,000. The City will use its remaining \$91,614.50 in JAG funding for overtime for community policing activities.

The City of Austin and Travis County will enter into an interlocal agreement so the City can serve as the fiscal agent for the grant funds.