



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Manager

Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested

May 3, 2018

Ms. Petrina Herring
Bureau Chief
Office of Criminal Justice Grants
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
2331 Phillips Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Funding Opportunities

Dear Ms. Herring:

The Palm Beach Police Department is evaluating the necessity of purchasing a training simulator (VirTra 300 Firearms Simulator System) that would allow law enforcement officers the ability to train in an immersive training environment. The simulator delivers real-life law enforcement scenarios to provide training on de-escalation opportunities, critical decision making in the use of force encounters, marksmanship, tactical skills, etc. In our pursuit of funding, it has come to our attention that FDLE may provide an opportunity for partial funding through the JAG Residual Funding Program upon request.

The Palm Beach Police Department is located on a barrier island in Palm Beach, Florida. The Town of Palm Beach is a prestigious high profile community which attracts affluent residents and visitors alike and whose population swells from approximately 10,000 annual residents to approximately 40,000 seasonal residents. The Town of Palm Beach is home to one of the world's most prestigious shopping districts (Worth Avenue) as well as the Henry Flagler Museum and the world-renowned Breakers Hotel. In addition, as I am sure you are aware; the Town is also home to the Winter White House for the President of the United States.

As a result, in the past two years, the Palm Beach Police Department has been involved in many demonstrations and protests that included some hostile crowds, as well as preparations for Presidential and dignitary visits. As the popularity of the Town of Palm Beach increases along with violence at schools and throughout the nation, use of force training is ever prevalent and under increasing scrutiny. Obtaining an on-site training environment that would provide tailored scenarios for events including but not limited to active shooters at schools or places of worship, aggressive protests encounters, home invasions, pursuits, etc. would be an invaluable asset to this department and this community,

The Palm Beach Police Department has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars on overtime, variable message boards, barriers, Emergency Field Force equipment and training, etc. to ensure adequate security measures are in place to provide the President of the United States, the first family, and other dignitaries the necessary protection while residing in or visiting the Town of Palm Beach.

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Attached for funding consideration is a quote on the VirTra Systems 300 Law Enforcement Simulator. While the Town of Palm Beach is requesting funding assistance from the Office of Criminal Justice Grants Residual Funding Program, we believe we can provide a 50% match. We believe these funds can be secured through community philanthropy as the community has been and continues to be tremendously supportive of the Department and its many initiatives over the years.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at 561-838-5410 or you may contact Deputy Chief Ann-Marie Taylor directly at 561-227-6352 for further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirk W. Blouin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kirk W. Blouin
Town Manager

cc: Gail Coniglio, Mayor
Town Council Members
Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager
Jane Le Clainche, Director of Finance
Nicholas Caristo, Major