

**2023 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT
APPLICATION**

AGENCY: Fort Lauderdale Police Department

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Dayna Bhaggan

PROJECT TITLE: Enhancement of Operational Support Equipment

GOALS: To reduce crime and improve public safety

OBJECTIVES:

1. To improve the ability to provide information to the public.
2. To improve marine law enforcement response.
3. To improve the evidence storage capacity.

PROJECT IDENTIFIERS:

Crime Prevention

Equipment – General

PROGRAM NARRATIVE:

Project #1 Public Notification

Description of the Issue: Law Enforcement often has to convey vital information to the public. The objective of the message may be as a crime deterrent, for personal safety or purely informational. In order to target a large portion of the community in a specific area, mobile messaging signs are quite effective. The department currently has only one functioning sign. This sign is deployed daily and moved to different locations

throughout the City. For the needs of our department and community, one mobile messaging sign not sufficient and should that sign stop working, there would be no means to accomplish the required task.

Project Design and Implementation: Grant funding will be utilized to acquire two mobile messaging signs to be deployed as needed.

Capabilities and Competencies: Acquisition of the mobile messaging signs will be responsibility of the Special Events and Emergency Management (SEEM) Captain, in coordination with City Procurement. The SEEM Unit is tasked with coordination of large crowd events and critical event response.

Plan for Collecting the Data: The SEEM Captain will be responsible for maintenance of the mobile messaging signs.

Project #2 Marine Law Enforcement Response

Description of the Issue: The Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Marine Unit is responsible for providing law enforcement coverage for Fort Lauderdale's beach, intercostal waterway and expansive network of canals. The City serves as primary host to a variety of aquatic related business and activities. These include marinas, waterfront establishments, charter cruises, and boat manufacturing, repair and storage facilities. The City also serves as host to the Fort Lauderdale Air Show, the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, the Tortuga Festival and the Winterfest Boat Parade. As a result of the plethora of marine businesses and recreational activities occurring within our uniquely situated municipality, the City of Fort Lauderdale regards marine law

enforcement patrols as highly essential to ensuring the safety of our navigational waterways and to maintaining overall public safety within our jurisdiction.

In order to perform rescues, make citizen contacts or conduct investigations, the police boats must be able to maintain a steady float. A sponson is a feature on any watercraft that extends from the hull or other part of the vessel to aid in stability while floating, or to act as a securing point for other equipment. The sponson on Marine Boat #9 needs to be secured to the vessel with rope and is in need of repair, jeopardizing the ability of the marine officer to perform his duties.

Project Design and Implementation: Grant funding will be utilized to acquire one sponson to replace the one installed on Marine Boat #9.

Capabilities and Competencies: Acquisition of the sponson will be responsibility of the Marine Unit Sergeant, in coordination with City Procurement.

Plan for Collecting the Data: The marine officer assigned to Boat #9 will be responsible for maintenance of the vessel and sponson.

Project #3 Evidence Storage

Description of the Issue: The purpose of the Evidence Unit is to provide for the orderly receipt, packing, storage, release and disposal of evidence/property coming into possession of the police department. The capacity of the unit is limited due to the increasing number of items collected to be contained in a space not designed for such a high volume. A strategy will need to be developed to better maximize the use of evidence unit space in order need demand.

Project Design and Implementation: Grant funding will be utilized to install high density (movable) storage shelving in the Evidence Unit. This mobile storage system eliminates unnecessary aisles and creates one or more movable aisles instead. Fewer fixed aisles mean more available space. In most instances, a mobile shelving unit will allow for the storage of twice as much in the same space without the need for renovation or expansion.

Capabilities and Competencies: Acquisition of the high density storage shelving will be responsibility of the Evidence Custodian, in coordination with City Procurement.

Plan for Collecting the Data: The Evidence Custodian will be responsible for maintenance of the high density storage system.