



## Minutes

Criminal Justice Grants Committee Meeting  
Monday, September 9, 2019; 2:00PM  
State Bar of Georgia; 104 Marietta St. NW  
Presidents Boardroom

### Attendees

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The following members were present: Director Homer Bryson (Chairman), Mr. Joe Hood, Commissioner Hausmann\*, and Director Pete Skandalakis\*.

The following Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) staff members were present: Director Jay Neal, Robert Thornton, Stephanie Mikkelsen, Rachel Kilgore, Destiny Brantley, Laura Thompson, Ursula Kelley, Mia Smith, Stephanie Lopez Howard\*, Keima Davis\*, Chelsey Benson\*, Robert Thornton\*, and Chris Allen\*.

The following guests were present: Director Mike Ayers\*, GBI; and Michael O'Conner\*, Fulton County Commissioner's Office.

\*Via conference call

### Welcome and Call to Order

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Chairman Homer Bryson called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. and called for a review of the minutes of the June 4, 2019 meeting. Mr. Joe Hood made a motion to approve the minutes; Director Pete Skandalakis seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### Criminal Justice Recommendations, *Ms. Laura Thompson*

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Ms. Laura Thompson, Program Director of the Criminal Justice Grants Team, presented recommendations on behalf of staff to the Committee regarding Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Grant Program funding allocations and the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

First presented were recommendations regarding RSAT. CJCC received state funding requests from the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), as well as local requests from Forsyth, Hall, and Newton counties. For RSAT state projects, the total funding amount available was \$761,326. Staff recommended funding DJJ at their full request of \$332,185 and GDC at their full request of \$400,000. For RSAT local programs, the funding amount available totaled \$206,538. Staff recommended funding each of the following at

their full request: Forsyth County (a new applicant) at \$99,618, Newton County at \$87,719, and Hall County at \$28,000. Mr. Hood made a motion to approve the recommendations, with the clarifying statement that all programs would be subject to budgetary and programmatic review as required. Director Skandalakis seconded, and the motion carried.

Secondly, Ms. Thompson presented staff's recommendation to make 2020 Byrne JAG awards based on current funding levels as indicated:

**Drug Task Force Agency (by Fiscal Agent) – Current Funding Levels Total \$3,075,004**

1. Athens-Clarke County (Northeast GA Regional DTF) - \$139,461
2. Baldwin County (Ocmulgee DTF) – 151,896
3. City of Carrollton (West Metro Regional DTF) - \$353,413
4. Crisp County (Mid-South Narcotics DTF) - \$66,927
5. Dawson County (North GA K-9 Task Force) - \$122,204
6. Dodge County (Oconee DTF) - \$151,896
7. City of Metter (Southeastern Regional Drug Enforcement Office) - \$357,610
8. GA Department of Public Safety) K-9 Regional Task Force) - \$352,199
9. Haralson County (Haralson-Paulding DTF) - \$172,432
10. Irwin County (South Central DTF) - \$147,186
11. City of Lafayette (Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit DTF) - \$152,838
12. Pickens County (Zell Miller Mountain Parkway DTF) - \$159,055 *and* White County (Appalachian RDEO) - \$446,121

The Zell Miller Mountain Parkway DT has dissolved, and two of the counties (Fannin and Gilmer) have joined the Appalachian Regional Drug Enforcement Office (RDEO). The Zell Miller Mountain Parkway DTF Control Board and Pickens County Commissioner have signed off on Fannin and Gilmer joining the Appalachian RDEO and dedicating the existing Byrne grant resources. After final reimbursements to Zell Miller Mountain Parkway DTF, staff anticipates there will be approximately \$40,000 remaining. Staff recommended awarding the balance of the existing grant (approximately \$40,000) to Appalachian RDEO for the remainder of the grant year. For 2020, staff anticipates Appalachian RDEO will apply for \$500,000. Staff requested approval to make an award up to \$500,000.

13. Upson County (Upson County Narcotics Task Force) - \$111,766
14. City of Albany (Southwestern RDEO) - \$200,000

Previously, the Committee and Council approved funding to the City of Albany for the Southwestern RDEO. The GBI-led taskforce is in the process of establishing and seeks to provide coverage to approximately 40 counties in the southwest portion of the state. For the fourth quarter, the Southwestern RDEO has requested \$80,941, and a portion of this amount is for one-time costs related to setting up the new office. For 2020, Southwestern RDEO is requesting \$248,000. Staff recommended approving the Southwestern RDEO both requests based on one-time costs and the broad service area for a portion of the state that has limited drug enforcement.

## State Projects – Current Funding Levels Total \$868,424

1. Georgia Information and Statistical Analysis Center (GISAC) - \$219,096
2. Georgia Public Safety Training Center - \$414,483
3. Sexual Offender Registration Review Board - \$868,424

Additionally, staff recommended providing \$20,238 in Byrne JAG funding to supplement the Southern District Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) award to the City of Savannah. The Southern district has been allocated the smallest amount of the three PSN grants (northern, middle, and southern districts), and staff believes the PSN projects are vital to the state as they provide resources to curtail gang and gun crimes.

Finally, Ms. Thompson presented two final recommendations to the Committee: 1) a onetime grant award of \$15,000 to the Georgia Public Defender Council to make professional recordings of the annual conference and make them available through the agency's intranet for ongoing training; and 2) an award to CJCC's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) in the amount of \$41,825. Beginning October 1, 2019, CJCC is required, by conditions added to the Byrne JAG grant, to collect and report Deaths in Custody to the Bureau of Justice Assistance. This funding would allow the SAC to create a data collection mechanism and report data for the entire state.

Chairman Bryson asked for a motion regarding staff recommendations. Mr. Hood made a motion to accept all recommendations as presented by staff; Judges Scales seconded, and the motion carried.

### Juvenile Justice Updates and Recommendations; Ms. Stephanie Mikkelsen

Ms. Stephanie Mikkelsen presented the Committee with a brief update on juvenile justice-developments, including the current FY20 expense report, ongoing model fidelity projects, and the Opioid Affected Youth Initiative Grant. She also shared that, per both the Committee's and Full Council's previous decision, \$18,694 had been allocated to the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purpose of the Incentive Grant Tool annual maintenance. However, staff now recommends increasing this allocation by \$11,000 to provide additional support for data storage and maintenance. Mr. Hood motioned to adopt the recommendation presented by staff with the caveat that staff ensure security measures are put in place to properly secure and backup the stored data. Commissioner Liz Hausmann seconded, and the motion carried.

### Adjourn

Chairman Bryson thanked members of the Committee for taking the time to attend the meeting and reminded everyone that the next Committee meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.