

## Proposal Narrative

The City of Waycross is applying for funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Fiscal Year 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – Local Solicitation to fund a law enforcement project titled FY2023 JAG Program. The Waycross Police Department and the Ware County Sheriff's Office have been declared disparate for this grant program and have agreed in a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to divide the funds equally between the two agencies. The City of Waycross will act as the applicant/fiscal agent for the joint funds. The award amount is \$10,328. The project goal of the FY2023 JAG Program is to improve and enhance local law enforcement efforts by supplementing the ability of the Waycross Police Department and the Ware County Sheriff's Office to purchase equipment. This will benefit the efforts of both agencies to increase public safety and reduce crime in their jurisdictions.

Using allocated funds for the FY2023 JAG Program will enable both agencies to complete the following proposed program activities during the 2-year grant period:

- Waycross Police Department will use grant funds to purchase equipment to include an air purification system for the police department's property and evidence storage rooms to protect personnel from dangerous airborne contaminants including narcotics fumes and biohazards.
- Ware County Sheriff's Office will use grant funds to purchase equipment to include ballistic shields to protect deputies when they are serving high-risk search warrants and arrest warrants as part of their efforts in crime fighting, crime reduction, and public safety in Ware County.

Many law enforcement agencies in Georgia have benefited from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – Local Solicitation in the past several years. The Waycross Police Department and the Ware County Sheriff’s Office appreciate the opportunity to meet needs for equipment for officers and deputies of the two agencies. There is always a need for updated and additional equipment that is not always available with budgeted local funds. Being just one of several departments in their respective local governments Waycross Police Department and Ware County Sheriff’s Office must compete for budgeted funds with other departments that are in need. This often results in not being able to fill all requests for equipment. The FY2023 JAG Program will assist the requesting agencies in meeting their current needs for equipment. The efforts of the Waycross Police Department and the Ware County Sheriff’s Office to serve the community with the highest standards of excellence will be enhanced with better equipped employees.