



Fund to Combat Violent Crime Program
P.O. Box 818, Dover, Delaware 19903
(302) 744-2674

Fund to Combat Violent Crime Committee Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2020

A Fund to Combat Violent Crime Committee meeting was held Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 12:30 p.m. As current restrictions on gatherings of people exist due to COVID-19, this meeting was held via WebEx.

Chairman Nathaniel McQueen called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. and conducted the proceedings, including a roll call of committee members and attendees.

Committee Attendees:

The Honorable Nathaniel McQueen, Chairman – DSHS, Secretary
Colonel Melissa Zebley – Delaware State Police
Mr. A.J. Roop - Delaware Department of Justice
Chief Randall Hughes – Georgetown PD, Chairman of Sussex County Police Chiefs' Assoc.
Sergeant Frederick Calhoun – President of the Delaware State FOP Lodge

Other Attendees:

Ms. Lisa M. Morris – Deputy Attorney General
Mr. Christopher Klein – DSHS, Deputy Principal Assistant
Ms. Lacey Hutchison – DSHS, Grant Coordinator
Miss. Taylor Nuneviller- DSHS, Management Analyst
Mr. Darin Cathel- Bethany Beach PD
Chief Paul Anthony- Blades PD
Lt. Robert James- Bridgeville PD
Chief Christopher Workman- Cheswold PD
Chief Carl Hudson- Clayton PD
Chief Steve Flood- Dagsboro PD
Chief David Baylor- Delaware City PD
Chief Ivan Barkley- Delmar PD
Chief Samuel Mackert- Dewey Beach PD
Chief Thomas Johnson- Dover PD
Chief Bruce VonGorres- Ellendale PD
Chief Laura Giles- Felton PD
Mr. John Devlin- Fenwick Island PD
Chief Randall Hughes- Georgetown PD
Chief Rawley- Greenwood PD

Chief Keith Shyers- Harrington PD
Sergeant Adam Hitchens- Laurel PD
Chief Thomas Spell- Lewes PD
Chief Robert Kracyla- Middletown PD
Captain Gary Bailey- Milford PD
Chief Brian Calloway- Millsboro PD
Chief Derrick Harvey- Milton PD
Chief Richard McCabe- New Castle City PD
Ms. Lori Kane- NCCDP
Chief Paul Tiernan- Newark PD
Chief Mark Wohner- Newport PD
Chief Kenneth McLaughlin- Ocean View PD
Chief Keith Banks- Rehoboth Beach PD
Chief Marshall Craft- Seaford PD
Chief Scot Collins- Selbyville PD
Chief Torrie James- Smyrna PD
Chief Jason Lovins- South Bethany PD
Mr. Charles Emory- Wilmington PD
Chief Martin Willey- Wyoming PD

I. Approval of August 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that the minutes be approved as submitted. Hearing no discussion, the minutes were unanimously approved by the Committee members.

II. Consideration of FY2021 Fund to Combat Violent Crime applications

1. V-04-21 - Cheswold PD - \$20,416.12

Expand the current video surveillance system to add the necessary equipment for a seven (7) cameras in the Town of Cheswold. These include areas where violent crimes and drug crimes occur normally. The addition of these will assist us with 24 hour monitoring of the area and aid in the identification, apprehension and prosecution of violent and other crimes in the area. These areas include two sections of Main St and also Commerce St which are major thoroughways for subjects travelling to and from Smyrna and Dover, and out of State vehicles. These cameras, like those in other municipalities, can help in possibly solving crimes in other jurisdictions. Cost \$14,186.86.

The remainder of the funds \$6,229.26 will be used for overtime including warrant round ups with other municipal departments, bike patrols and supplemental patrols in high crime areas at the rate of \$65.00 per hour for a total of approx. 96 hours.

A motion was made by Sergeant Frederick Calhoun and seconded by Chief Randall Hughes that the application be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

2. V-05-21 - Rehoboth Beach PD - \$38,018.50

Rehoboth Beach is requesting funds to purchase 2 new boardwalk surveillance cameras, which will be monitored 24/7 in the dispatch center. The cameras will capture and monitor any criminal activity, assist in apprehension and deployment of officers in high risk areas. This will result in the reduction of violent crime incidents.

Funds for overtime for officers who are called in for drug/violent crime investigations, proactive patrols assisting other police agencies with drug/violent crime investigations, and patrols for high crime areas and larger scale community events.

Purchase firearms upgrades for officers. These upgrades will assist with firearms training and increase accuracy and night vision.

3. V-06-21 - Dagsboro PD - \$11,562.09

Dagsboro PD's overtime funds will be used to increase patrols in known violent, drug and high crime areas. This will include the use of vehicle and foot patrols as well as other investigative measures. FCVC will also allow officers to support neighboring agencies when called upon in their efforts to combat violent crime.

4. V-07-21 - South Bethany PD - \$23,124.18

South Bethany is requesting FCVC funds to purchase a Tazer 7 System for their department

5. V-08-21 - Newport PD - \$23,124.18

Newport is requesting overtime funds as follows:

Increased Patrols - Increased police presence in the community is the most effective way to deter crime and encourage citizens to report suspicious activity before crime occurs. These patrols will also allow the community to interact with officers in an effort to promote public trust.

Special Overtime - When necessary and authorized by the Chief of Police, funds from this grant will be used to pay officers overtime to conduct special investigations involving violent felonies.

A motion was made by Mr. A.J. Roop and seconded by Sergeant Frederick Calhoun that applications 2 through 5 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

6. V-09-21 - Middletown PD - \$66,453.14

The Middletown Police Department would like to use the FY 2021 Fund to Combat Violent Crime Allocation of \$66,453.14 to combat violent felonies in the following ways:

\$38,577.14 of the funds for overtime for violent felony investigations and prevention utilizing search warrants, surveillance operations and proactive patrols and protests. (\$54.82 Average overtime pay X Approx. 703.7 overtime hours)

\$10,000.00 of the funds to purchase APX6000 Radios with Mics and accessories for police use, designed to reduce violent crime.

\$10,800.00 for rental of motor vehicles, on an as-needed basis, to conduct covert operations.

\$5,000.00 of the funds for crime reduction funds, i.e. informant and drug “buy” money.

\$2076.00 for riot/ballistic helmets and face shields for police protection during violent crime investigations and protests.

7. V-10-21 - Bethany Beach PD - \$28,540.30

The Bethany Beach Police Department is requesting the above funds to overtime to include foot patrol, bike patrol and saturation patrol to combat violent crimes within the Town of Bethany Beach jurisdiction.

8. V-11-21 - Dover PD - \$136,862.70

Violent crime within the City of Dover is approaching its highest point in the department’s history. In addition, the onset of the coronavirus pandemic and the resulting social distancing restrictions complicates efforts of police agencies responding to crimes on so many levels. As a result, safety has become even more important for everyone in the community. In addition, public demonstrations are becoming more common and are not always conducted peacefully by the citizens involved.

Unfortunately, funding is not always available from local sources to keep up with all the enforcement measures needed. As always, the funds from this grant are greatly appreciated since they will be used to promote safety within our community as well as provide additional measures to provide for the safety of officers in the department.

Police Extra Duty Foot Patrols – a portion of the funds from this grant will be used fund Extra Duty hours to target gang and related crimes through the continued use of crime analysis techniques to determine the trends in crime and where to target enforcement activities. The employment of extra duty patrol in this manner have proven to be highly successful in the past.

Undercover Vehicle Rental – Dover PD would like to continue the rental of one undercover vehicle lease for use by our Drug, Vice and Organized Crime (DVOC) unit. This unit is focused on reducing criminal drug dealing and gang operations within the city, which are both root causes of violent crimes in the community.

Upgrade/Expansion of the City Camera Network – continuation of funding will provide additional upgrades to and expansion of the city-wide camera network. Costs include the installation of system components and their connectivity to the network, as well as the maintenance of these upgrades for an extended warranty period. This system of cameras has been extremely valuable for police officers in their investigations of all types of crime, especially violent crimes. As a result, coverage will be expanded to new areas in the city and upgrade/replace cameras and system components in select areas that are not providing adequate coverage where they are currently located.

FARO Laser Scanner Equipment Upgrade - a new tripod and 3D advanced digital download software will be purchased. The 3D software will be used along with our FARO Laser Scanner system to render crash and crime scene drawings/animations for court presentations.

Mobile Field Force Supplies – officer safety is paramount for officers responding to public demonstrations and riot situations. Additional protective gear will be purchased and includes riot suits, helmets and other associated items for this new unit. Funding for these purchases is not available from local sources.

Promotional Materials – purchase of various give-away promotional items to be given away at educational events with the public to educate them about police programs and violent crimes.

9. V-12-21 - New Castle County Div. of Police - \$533,593.49

The New Castle County Division of Police (NCCPD) continues to combat violent and quality of life crimes through the Targeted Analytic Policing System (TAPS). Since the inception of TAPS style policing over six years ago, overall crime in New Castle County has decreased by 20%, making it a safer place to live, work and visit. This evidence-based style of policing has proven that we are deploying our officers at the right time of day in the most accurate locations to prevent crime and apprehend individuals committing criminal acts.

In 2019, this department seized 396 firearms, conducted 1,603 drug investigations, and confiscated 62,904 grams of various drugs, i.e. heroin, cocaine/crack, marijuana, methamphetamine and prescriptions drugs. They will address this increase in violent crime by using nearly half of the award to fund overtime assignments and special operations (Chapter IV, 4.: Overtime pay) in identified high crime areas. They will continue to remove as many firearms and drugs from the streets as possible during these overtime assignments.

They continue to fight against heroin and other illegal drugs which serve as a nexus to violent crime; and will utilize \$15,000 of the allocation as crime reduction funds (Chapter IV 9.: Informant and drug buy money,). Throughout calendar year 2019, their Drug Squad confiscated 1,553 grams of heroin, 13,264 grams marijuana, 5,541 grams of cocaine, 3,013 grams of methamphetamine, and 3,033 doses of prescription pills. Furthermore, they have seized 33 firearms, \$130,568 USC and 19 vehicles. Their DCS made a total of 435 criminal arrests: 197 of those were felony and 238 were misdemeanors.

To ensure that officers are equipped adequately to reduce violent crime by individuals in volatile situations, they are requesting specialized equipment (Chapter IV, 8.: Upgrade to service/specialized weapons). This equipment includes: three (3) EoTech PEQ/AT Advanced Target Pointer Illuminator Aiming Laser Model; three (3) White Phosphor Night Vision Devices; one (1) Drone that will be used to locate suspects; thirteen (13) Bolawraps, which is a less lethal option our officer's to apprehend a volatile suspect safely and sixty-three (63) cartridges; and an upgrade to our EOD (bomb) robot.

Lastly, NCC realizes that training our officers is a key element to allowing them to reach their fullest potential. Expanding the knowledge base of officers by providing training on innovative and creative trends in law enforcement will increase their chances of obtaining their career goals. They are confident that by providing the officers with the tools to gain the knowledge to develop their career, they are ultimately improving the lives of the citizens they serve. (Chapter IV, 2.: Advanced training of law enforcement officers)

10. V-13-21 - Ellendale PD - \$8,854.03

\$862.89 will be used to upgrade an older .45 cal. Pistol to a new Sig Sauer P320 in .9mm cal. (This would fall under IV.8, The upgrade of Service Weapons.) \$1,521.65 will be used to upgrade an older Patrol Rifle. (This would fall under IV.8, The upgrade of Service Weapons.) \$607.74 will be used to purchase (2) Pistol Duty Weapon lights with holsters to accommodate the weapon lighting system. (This would fall under IV.8, The upgrade of Service Weapons.) \$2,500.00 will be used to purchase Give-A-Way items and Handouts teaching children the danger of Firearms and other items to improve community police relations. (This would fall under IV. 3, Public education programs relating to violent crime prevention and encouraging respect for law and order, including education programs to improve public understanding and cooperation with Law Enforcement. \$3,361.75 will be used to fund additional proactive patrols in the town of Ellendale to reduce violent crime. (This would fall under IV.4, overtime pay to conduct special investigations and programs to combat violent crime.)

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that application 6 through 10 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

11. V-14-21 - Harrington PD - \$32,602.39

Funds will be used for overtime to provide foot and bike patrols for community policing events, holiday season patrols and extra patrols in problem areas to deter violent crime with pro-active measures. Harrington then made an amendment request to change their overtime line to \$22,216.00 and move funds over to purchase surveillance cameras at \$10,386.39.

A motion was made by Chief Hughes and seconded by Sergeant Calhoun for the amendment request to be approved. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

An additional motion was made by Sergeant Frederick Calhoun and seconded by Chief Randal Hughes that the amended application be approved as re-submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

12. V-16-21 - Laurel PD - \$40,726.57

The Laurel Police Department requests to use grant funds to upgrade the departments tasers and to use the remaining money for directed patrols and to investigate crimes that are considered violent per Title 11 of the Delaware code. The Taser is a less than lethal weapon that can be utilized in potential dangerous situations to arrest a criminal. The Laurel Police Department currently utilizes the Taser X26P which is getting phased out by Taser. Most of the units we currently have continue to have issues and they are out of warranty. The Laurel Police Department would like to purchase the new Taser 7 for each officer in the department.

The Laurel Police Department requests to use \$ 25,906.57 for overtime to be used for directed patrols that would focus on the areas of town that have a high concentration of criminal activity. Such as open air drug dealing, assaults and shootings. The overtime would also be used on a case by case basis to further investigate known drug dealers and other felony level crimes that occur within the town of Laurel. These extra patrols and police presence is a great deterrence of criminal activity.

The Laurel Police Department requests to purchase 19 Taser 7's (\$9,120.00) and 150 taser cartridges (\$5,700.00) to be used for training/certification and patrol. The total cost will be \$14,820.00

The Laurel Police Department requests \$25,906.57 to be used for directed patrols and violent crime case investigations. This overtime will be paid at \$50 an hour which would be 518.13 hours over available overtime.

13. V-17-21 - Elsmere PD - \$29,894.33

Elsmere PD would like to use the entire funds to continue to combat violent crimes within the Town of Elsmere and our surrounding borders. With the assistance of our Fund to Combat Violent Crimes overtime money last year their department has executed 73 search warrants, seized 11 firearms, numerous drugs, seized over 14,000 in USC and administered 9 Narcan deployments. All of this was still accomplished even being short one officers for half a year and FTO a new officer from July to October. If approved these funds will continue to allow the department to keep their community safer.

14. V-18-21 - Millsboro PD - \$35,310.44

Problem – Violent Crime/ Drug Usage Goal- Reduce Violent Crime

Results/ Benefits – Reduction in Violent Crime and improve the quality of life in the Millsboro community

Applicant is requesting to allocate funding from the FY-2021 Combat to Fight Violent Crime funds for the purpose of reducing violent crime. Within this statement it will outline the Millsboro Police Department requested allocation for FY-2021 Combat to Fight Violent Crime funding.

The first portion of this grant funds would be to allocate funds to purchase four new Cradle Point router modems. Due to recent issues regarding our connectivity within our patrol vehicles, our agency found the need to purchase this equipment to resolve this problem. This update to the cradle point system will allow Officers to utilize Delaware systems which are used to identify individuals who have committed violent crime. (See Subsection-7 of FCVC grant guidelines)

The second portion of the Millsboro Police Department Combat to Fight Violent Crime grant funding would be to purchase one WatchGuard In-car camera video system. This WatchGuard vehicle camera system also includes an intergraded body camera system. The purchase of this camera system will allow each patrol vehicle to have a vehicle camera and intergraded body camera system in each patrol vehicle. This system will allow Officers to record digital evidence of individuals who commit violent crime. (See Subsection-7 of FCVC grant guidelines)

The third allocation of funds would be to upgrade to new patrol rifles which will be carried in each police vehicle to enhance Officer safety. (See Subsection-8 of FCVC grant guidelines)

The fourth allocation of funds would be used to purchase one dash mounted Motorola 800 MHZ radio system. This mobile radio system would be a new technology update, which would also enhance Officer safety. (See Subsection-7 of FCVC grant guidelines)

The fifth allocation of funds would be used to purchase one aviation drone to initiate a new program to enhance police service. This new program would allow the Millsboro Police Department to collection

aerial pictures of crime scenes of incidents relating to violent crime. Furthermore, the use of this drone would be used during incidents of civil unrest, to document any incident which may escalate to a violent act.

(See Subsection-5 of FCVC grant guidelines)

The sixth portion of this funding would be allocated for the purpose of funding drug related overtime patrols. Additionally, these funds would be used for rental vehicles for the purpose of covert drug surveillance. The purpose of these overtime patrols will be for improving the quality of life for Millsboro residents, with the focus of reducing the potential of violent crime. Funds relating to over time and rental vehicles which exceed the allotted amount would be paid through the Town of Millsboro.

(See Subsection-6 &7 of FCVC grant guidelines)

15. V-19-21 - Smyrna PD - \$46,142.69

Smyrna Police Department is requesting \$20,000 to be used for violent-crime related overtime, \$11,192.13 to be used for the purchase and installation of a projector and projector screen for the training room, \$9,950.56 for community policing overtime, and the remaining \$5,000 for community policing supplies for a total of \$46,142.69. The violent-crime overtime would help directly prevent and combat crime in high-risk areas by having increased officer presence in those areas. The upgraded training room equipment would allow Smyrna to provide higher-quality training to our officers. And the community policing overtime and supplies would allow us to uphold our relationship with the community to prevent youth crime and crimes against police officers.

16. V-20-21 - Milford PD - \$62,391.05

\$10,967.50 will be used to purchase 3/X2 CEW Tasers and SPPM Batteries. Tasers purchased will be used to replace current Tasers that are either damaged or reaching end of service life. The SPPM Batteries are used with the departmental Tasers and currently 25 out of the 37 SPPM Batteries on hand will need to be replaced as they will be reaching end of service life by the end of 2020.

\$4,630.19 will be used to purchase Non-Ballistic Duty Helmets and Shields. With the increase of civil unrest happening more frequently and because law enforcement officers are continually being called upon to respond quickly to threats on their own, these helmets and shields are a substantial need of protection for officer safety in violent crime areas. This protective equipment might mean the difference between the police officer staying in the fight and eliminating the threat or becoming another casualty themselves.

\$4189.56 will be used to purchase Blackhawk Backpack Entry Kits. These rapid entry kits will be placed in police vehicles to use when immediate access to combat an active

shooter or any other violent threat. Entry kits have become the standard for law enforcement and military agencies throughout the world. This kit will provide operators in the field with mission specific tooling options to be meet their tactical entry needs.

\$42,603.80 Patrol Overtime. The Department has seen a decrease in violent crimes, including less shootings in known drug areas. With this year's allocation they want to continue the progress made with last years FCVC funding in these high crime areas by continuing these patrols. Statics have shown the best way to continue reducing violent crimes is to have more officers patrolling the streets.

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that applications 12 through 16 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members with the exception of Sergeant Calhoun being opposed to Smyrna PD's application (4:1).

17. V-21-21 - Delaware City PD - \$14,270.15

In Delaware City we continue to see an increase in reported assaults. While we have seen a recent decrease in the number of residential burglaries throughout the city, drug overdoses, domestic assaults and domestic violence cases appear to remain a serious issue within the jurisdiction of the Delaware City Police Department. The funds from this grant will be used to identify those individuals associated with, or involved in criminal behavior. The goal is to use the finds to target individuals responsible for the aforementioned criminal activity as well as to increase patrols in those areas where we constantly see criminal behavior occurring. The focus of the funds from this grant are directed to part 1 crimes such as (assaults, sexual assaults, robbery, burglary and illegal drug activity).

18. V-22-21 - Wilmington PD - \$413,084.82

Although the corporate limits of Wilmington are only 12 square miles in size, the Wilmington Police Department is tasked with combating an active crime rate in this compact area. In 2019, there were 89 shooting incidents, with 112 shooting victims resulting in 23 homicides. As of July 2020, there have been 75 shooting incidents, with 97 shooting victims resulting in 15 homicides.

Like many jurisdictions, the Wilmington Police Department has experienced a decrease in authorized strength. Currently, the authorized strength is 315, dropping from the high of 342. Today, 293 of these positions are staffed.

The Wilmington Police Department proposes to use funds received from the Fund to Combat Violent Crime for an overtime program. The program will focus on intelligence driven data of violent crimes, yielded from a weekly CompStat meeting. This will ensure that overtime assignments will target areas that are actively experiencing violent crime

trends. The program will encompass directed patrols, walking assignments, tactical response initiatives, and plain clothes operations, in the identified areas.

19. V-23-21 - Bridgeville PD - \$23,124.18

Bridgeville PD will use the funding to help support taskforce type operations such as crime reduction effects known as "Hot Spots". This will include foot and vehicle patrols, undercover operations to assist in drug, prostitution, theft, assault, and quality of life /violent crimes within their communities. Funds will be used for overtime activities when officers are called in or stay late for major/violent crime investigations and for assigned patrols to combat violent crimes in the Town of Bridgeville.

20. V-24-21 - New Castle City PD - \$38,018.50

The New Castle City Police Department is requesting funding to provide added police presence for an annual event known as Separation Day. Separation Day is one of the oldest celebrations in the state and is highly publicized. Separation Day has evolved into a two-day event that begins on Friday night and involves closing a portion of Delaware Street for food, live music and alcohol. It has become a very popular event and is heavily attended placing large crowds in a confined location. Saturday starts with an early morning parade that is attended by local, state and federal dignitaries. Immediately after the parade, Battery Park becomes the site of a barbecue contest with dozens of renowned contestants, food, activities for children, craft shows/sales, and more. Battery Park becomes an area with heavy crowds in a centralized location that ends with fireworks. The two-day event is a soft target that draws over several thousand people to the area.

The New Castle City Police Department is requesting a portion of the funding be used for overtime. The overtime can be used for the following enforcement initiatives:

- To supplement patrol in troubled areas where the increase in police presence is required
- To provide additional officers to execute search warrants and arrest warrants on felony investigations
- To investigate or assist in the investigations of serious felony cases as outlined in DE 11/1204(c)

21. V-25-21 - Wyoming PD - \$8,854.03

The funds will be used to pay officers at \$60.00 and hours. It will be used for officers to track down wanted people/warrant roundup in the town of Wyoming. It will also be used to assist other police Departments like Clayton, Harrington and Dewey Beach Police Departments etc. when our assistance is requested (i.e. search warrants and locating fugitives and apprehending them or assistance to prevent any type of criminal activity. The funds will also be used to concentrate on areas of concerns/crime area in the town of Wyoming. It will pay the officers overtime for field day at W.B. Simpson Elementary. Wyoming is also going to use it to sponsor the 2-day field day event at W.B. Simpson Elementary School. With the increasing issues and bad publicity on the police departments

this will allow children/students their parent and the community, it will show the police in a different light and help improve interaction and community relations between the police and the community. The intent is to change their perception of the police department with the children, their parents and the community. The first 4 years have been a big success. Wyoming PD has been asked by the students, their parent, teachers, community and the school to keep sponsoring this event. They have received several thank you cards from the students referencing this event. They have also received a lot of positive feedback to this event. They will also use the money for officers to work the Wyoming Peach Festival in which there is approximately 8,000 to 12,000 people that attend this event each year. This will allow the officers to interact with the community closely to improve the relations between the police department and the community. With the presence of the officers at this event and being proactive, it deters any type of criminal activity. The funds will also be used for National Night Out. The officers will meet and talk to the residence and the children in the community. This is an event that is sponsored by the Wyoming Police Department each year. This event gets bigger each year and there is an increasing amount of people that attend. At the last event there was approximately 2,000 people from the community. They have received a lot of good feedback from the residence and they requested Wyoming PD to continue to do more with the community. The police department is becoming more and more proactive each year in the community, by doing these events. It will help reduce crime and build a better relationship with the community which allows us to solve crime and prevent them.

A motion was made by Colonel Melissa Zebley and seconded by Mr. A.J. Roop that application 17 through 21 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

22. V-26-21 - Lewes PD - \$31,248.36

The Lewes Police Department is a 13 person force which shares borders with the Delaware State Police, DRBA, Delaware Park Police and frequently interacts with Rehoboth and Milton Police Departments. Each of the items requested through the fund will help Lewes Police to be better equipped to fight violent crime and to better assist our neighboring agencies. This past year, we assisted our LE partners with numerous felony investigations and crimes in progress which were of the felony and violent nature. The equipment requested will help ensure that LPD officers will be at peak operational performance during violent and potentially violent encounters and have the communication resources necessary to protect ourselves and citizens. The violent crime overtime funds will enable extra police officers on the street in the areas where violent crime is most likely to occur and to assist our neighboring agencies.

23. V-27-21 - Blades PD - \$11,550.00

FCVC funding will be used to combat violent crime by using overtime patrols to increase their visibility, thus, providing a deterrent effect, in the town's problem areas. The overtime will also be used for overtime to investigate crimes that are violent in nature, or, may escalate into crimes of a violent nature. Being as the illicit drug trade is a large part of

violent crime in their area, the department will also use the overtime to investigate drug dealers and complete patrol, especially K-9, interdiction. Blades PD has had success with this philosophy in the past and they hope to expand upon this.

24. V-28-21 - Clayton PD - \$27,186.27

The Clayton Police Department would like to use the allocated money from the Fund to Combat Violent Crime to continue to expand its camera system that was started with last year's FCVC grant. The department would like to use these funds to purchase 14 outdoor cameras with motorized zoom/focus day/night, alarm, and audio capability. These cameras will be placed at various locations throughout town for surveillance purposes. They will be monitored 24/7 by the department and by a security company. The system has the capability to be used as an application on smart phones so each officer will have access as well. The equipment will be used for public protection in an effort to reduce violent crime in accordance with Chapter IV section 1 of The Fund to Combat Violent Crime Manual.

25. V-29-21 - Ocean View PD - \$29,894.33

Funding will be utilized to address violent crime through equipment acquisition, upgrades and overtime patrols. Defibrillators will be purchased to treat overdose victims, victims of violent crimes, and persons suffering from medical emergencies. Technology purchases include the purchase of a Canon 6D camera for evidence and crime scene photos. Additionally, equipment will be purchased to upgrade our WatchGuard car and body worn cameras to a cloud-based storage solution. This technology will be used to assist in documenting and prosecuting violent crimes. Overtime will be used to cover salary costs associated with investigations and saturation patrols and programs designed to deter and combat violent crime.

26. V-30-21 - Newark PD - \$108,428.07

The Newark Police Department (NPD) is responsible for protecting the lives, homes, and properties of all Newark residents. With a population of over 32,000, the City of Newark is a diverse community. The NPD's duties include: apprehending offenders, conducting preventive patrol activities, enforcing state and local laws, performing criminal investigations, promoting traffic safety, and responding to a range of calls for service. The dedicated officers of the NPD put their lives on the line daily to ensure the safety of all Newark residents and visitors. The NPD is currently authorized for 72 sworn officers who work in various units throughout the Department.

The NPD has worked hard over the past several years to combat violent crime within the City, especially robberies. Overall, year over year, the City of Newark has achieved a reduction of over 11% in reported Part 1 crimes and robberies have remained low compared to previous years. The Department has worked closely with allied law enforcement partners including Federal, State, County and Local agencies to continue our effort to combat violent crimes within the City of Newark.

The NPD's goal is to reduce violent crime through an effective, targeted/data-driven, and multi-pronged approach that features a combination of valuable resources, including technology, enhanced officer safety equipment, professional training, and overtime. Specifically, support from the Fund to Combat Violent Crime Program will enable the Newark Police Department to improve law enforcement response to, and investigation of, violent crime by underwriting the following:

- (2) Fixed License Plate Readers: The acquisition of additional LPRs will expand the City's existing network which has proven to be a valuable and integral tool in combating violent crimes within the City of Newark. The technology may serve as a deterrent; however, the technology has unequivocally been valuable to investigate violent crimes and identify violent offenders. The NPD has many examples which could be used to illustrate the value of LPR deployments/inclusions; one such example was the use of the LPR in a shooting/robbery investigation in which the LPR was crucial in offender identification and arrest. (Chapter IV, 7)
- City Security/Surveillance Cameras: The acquisition of additional City controlled security/cameras will expand the City's network (currently 128 cameras) which has proven to be a valuable and integral tool in combating violent crimes within the City of Newark. The cameras likely serve as a significant deterrent; however, the existing cameras are unequivocally a valued tool to investigate violent crimes and identify offenders. The crucial collection of digital evidence, especially of violent offenses, is paramount to investigations and the reduction of violent crimes. For example, existing City cameras/assets were vital with an Armed Sexual Assault investigation. Disseminated images of the offender's vehicle was released and within hours, the offender was identified and arrested. (Chapter IV,7)
- Advanced Training: Newark Police Department will host a 40-hour advanced training for SWAT operators presented by the National Tactical Officers Association. SWAT teams are designed to respond to and apprehend violent offenders and resolve ongoing exigent circumstances. This training will allow for increased proficiency ultimately resulting in early de-escalation and suppression of violent crime. (Chap IV,2)
- Supplemental Overtime: Overtime for SWAT operators supporting high risk events, arrests and search/seizure warrants. Additionally, for Detectives/Officers supporting warrant/arrest services resulting from violent crime offenses or investigations. Foot/saturation patrols along with targeted surveillance to be deployed to strategic areas, such as the City's central business district, surrounding affected neighborhoods and along South College Corridor, which are crime hotspots. Deployment will be conducted based on peak times and current crime trends, as based on the Department's most accurate and up-to-date data. This will ensure the highest level of efficacy in targeting violent crime. Officers shall be required to complete an overtime activity form detailing their assignments and any activity (Chap IV, 4)

- Vehicle Rentals: (5) rental vehicles to be utilized by the department's Street Crime Unit (SCU). SCU uses a myriad of techniques and strategies to combat violent crimes within the City of Newark which requires the use of a non-traditional police vehicle. SCU conducts controlled purchases of controlled substances and surveillance of offenders engaged in violent crimes. Additionally, surveillance of known/suspected locations of offenders/crime. The rental benefit is the ability to periodically change vehicles in order to avoid offender familiarity with the vehicles and the maintenance of the vehicles are encumbered by the vendor (Chap IV, 6).

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that applications 22 through 26 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

27. V-31-21 - Delmar PD - \$28,947.09

The Town of Delmar situated on the South Western end of Sussex County has a sizeable population of drug users. As with most small agencies Delmar PD is currently understaffed and looking for ways to increase their presence, while staying within budget. Their goal is to provide an environment more conducive to treatment by reducing quick and easy access to the drug, i.e. street level dealers, who also draw violent offenders to the community. Delmar PD requests to use \$18,000.00 of granted funds for additional overtime enforcement efforts such as investigation, surveillance, search warrant execution, warrant roundups and added proactive foot and bicycle patrols.

In addition to the above request we are also seeking \$9,447.09 to replace a video server for our in-car camera system, to aid in the documentation of traffic stops and other public contact.

The Delmar Police Department would also like to use funding of \$1,500.00 to purchase 'give-a-way' items to improve and promote community interaction and public education.

28. V-32-21 - Greenwood PD - \$11,562.09

The Greenwood Police Department will use our funding towards overtime for combating violent crime in the Town of Greenwood. Officers will focus on identified drug areas to prevent crimes against properties and persons; and to work investigations of a violent nature as described in Del. code Title 11 and 16. This request complies with Chapter IV, Section 4 of the FCVC Manual.

29. V-33-21 - Seaford PD - \$50,204.78

The Seaford Police Department does not have a thermal monocular that is able to take still pictures, video record, stream images, estimate height and/or distance. This equipment would improve officer safety while conducting surveillance or searching for suspects of violent crimes. Through the thermal imaging, the operator could identify the location of suspects hiding during the day or night and provide guidance to officers to reduce the chance of officers being attacked. In addition, the thermal monocular could assist officers with identifying recently disturbed soil and/or evidence recently discarded. This device provides the ability to store the video/photographs internally, stream the images and/or download the video evidence to a PC/laptop or other device for evidentiary purposes.

Seaford PD continues to handle violent crime investigations consisting of attempted murders, domestic assaults, aggravated assaults and sexual assaults. The department currently does not have a 1:1 camera lens for crime scene processing. A new camera lens would greatly assist the evidence detection unit with the crime scene preservation photographs related to violent crimes such as the ones listed.

Seaford PD continues to handle violent crime investigations consisting of attempted murders, domestic assaults, aggravated assaults and sexual assaults to name a few. The department currently does not have a forensic drying chamber for blood or other fluid-soaked items. This equipment is critical to our evidence collection and preservation and it is directly related to violent crimes in our city. Additionally, the lack of a proper drying chamber poses an officer safety issue for detectives when these items are not properly contained/dried and ventilated.

30. V-34-21 - Dewey Beach PD - \$14,795.00

The Dewey Beach Police Department would like to use their 2021 funds to combat violent crime towards the purchase and installation of six fixed wireless crime cameras including antennas, mounting equipment and related hardware.

The Dewey Beach Police Department is continually seeking new technologies that hold promise for enhancing their public safety efforts. Among the latest generation of such public safety tools is the use of public surveillance cameras. The theory behind the utility of public surveillance systems for crime prevention purposes is that potential offenders will refrain from criminal activity if they know they are being watched and believe they are at greater risk of apprehension. Cameras may also increase perceptions of safety among law abiding citizens, encouraging them to use public spaces and serve as informal guardians and potential witnesses. Advocates of cameras also theorize that their surveillance capabilities can enhance criminal justice system efficiency by alerting police of crimes and potentially dangerous situations as they occur and providing crucial information that can help police determine the safest way in which to respond. Video footage documenting criminal activity and identifying perpetrators and witnesses may also aid in investigations and prosecutions, increasing police and prosecutorial efficiency,

benefiting crime victims whose cases are able to be closed through the use of video evidence, and incapacitating a greater number of offenders from committing future crimes.

The contributions to policing and public safety that surveillance cameras may yield perhaps explain why their use has expanded in recent years. These investments of scarce public safety resources, however, are being made despite the fact that very few rigorous evaluations of public surveillance cameras have been conducted in the United States.

Many U.S. cities, including New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, began installing the police surveillance cameras in the early 1990s. These systems transmit live signals to television monitors at police stations. The cameras are similar to the ones commonly found in convenience stores and banks, which police and security departments have used for decades to solve crimes. Law enforcement officials generally support them, citing significant drops in violent crime.

Measuring how well police surveillance cameras prevent crime is a tricky process since you're dealing with a vague set of variables. You can't be entirely sure if someone planning to commit a crime decided against it because of a police camera. Additional factors, such as the season, economy or other law enforcement tactics can also have influence.

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that applications 27 through 30 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

31. V-35-21 - Georgetown PD - \$43,434.63

The Town of Georgetown Police Department recognizes the importance of transparency and how this transparency bolsters the community's trust of the agency. This trust contributes to a collaborative effort between the community and the police department to address crime, to include violent crime.

Georgetown Police Department requests to use funds to purchase body-worn cameras and supplemental equipment (\$23,434.63) required to provide cloud-based storage for sharing footage with State Agencies to include the Attorney General's office. Body-worn cameras have shown to reduce violent encounters between officers and suspects. In the event of a violent encounter, video footage of the incident may contribute to the reduction of civil unrest that could lead to extensive property damage and violent acts against law enforcement officers. Additionally, Georgetown Police request to use funds to purchase an updated video camera security system (\$20,000.00, partial payment to full upgrade) for the Georgetown Police Department. Coverage provided by this camera system contributes to our ability to be transparent and accountable to the community for incidents within our department, while the external cameras serve monitor public safety and police security around the building as well as capturing evidence of crimes occurring within the view of the external system.

The purchase of both video recording platforms is permitted as delineated in the Internal Operating Guidelines for the Fund to Combat Violent Crimes Local Law Enforcement Program, Chapter IV, Subsection 7. Technology.

A motion was made by Mr. A.J. Roop and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that Georgetown PD's application be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members. Chief Hughes refrained from voting as there was a conflict of interest.

32. V-36-21 - Fenwick Island PD - \$23,124.18

The purpose of this project is upgrade vehicle camera systems to Watch Guard HD wifi 4RE Camera systems that work together with watch guard body cams to document and prevent violent crime assaults on police officers. Item list : 4RE and vista body cams Bundle Two in car systems with 2 body cams included 10,300.00 Two additional body cams 1,810.00. Body cam docking station and cables 1,431.00 Evidence Library 4 software and licensing 1,575.00 Two panoramic HD cameras for vehicles 390.00 Three wireless kits and access points 765.00 for a total of 16,271.00 Server ,EL5Tower 16 TB 5,725.00 5,725.00 watch guard services and installation 1,250.00 total cost requested 23,124.18 The total cost of entire project 23246.00.

33. V-37-21 - Selbyville PD - \$24,478.20

The Selbyville Police Department is requesting to use our FCVC funds for overtime and to purchase equipment. The overtime patrols will focus on those areas which have an elevated history of Robbery, Assault, Carry and Unlawfully dealing with deadly and dangerous weapons, as well as those locations which we routinely investigate for Possession, Distribution and Delivery of Controlled and Non-Controlled Substances. They will continue to use the funds when working with regional multi-agency task forces, to coordinate efforts to combat violent crimes which are directly associated with violent crimes.

The Department would also like to use the grant funds to purchase 9 Watchguard Body Cameras, to equip each officer in the Department.

34. V-38-21 - Milton PD - \$21,770.15

BWC Video/ Audio Storage \$4,326. These funds will be utilized for 1 year of maintenance and storage to preserve video and audio evidence of crimes in 'the Cloud' as per the Attorney General's Office. This evidence will also aid the AG's Office in Successful prosecution of offenders.

Optic and Mounts \$2650. Optic and Mounts for the rifles purchased with last years grant to place in service with upgraded sights from just iron sight included from factory. We look to purchase 8 red dot optics and mounts.

Mobile 800Mhz radios \$10,318. We will upgrade 2 of our current 800Mhz radios.

Overtime \$4,476. Milton PD will utilize these funds for proactive violent crime/prevention patrols, investigations of violent crimes, for security at large events within town and assisting allied agencies with security. Staff is paid \$50 per hour with employee workers comp and insurance deductions.

35. V-39-21 - Felton PD - \$20,416.12

These funds will be utilized to provide focus on high crime areas along with conducting investigations which fall under the Violent Crimes criteria. This request complies with Chapter IV, Section 4 of the FCVC Manual.

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that applications 32 through 35 be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was unanimously approved by the Committee members.

III. Consideration of Requests for Amendment

1. V-21-20 - Dover PD - \$147,749.35

Violent crime within the City of Dover is at its highest point in the department's history. Adhering to social interaction restrictions imposed by the pandemic mixed with the additional dangers in controlling situations involving public demonstrations are making police work more complex as these situations are becoming more common and our citizens are not always conducting themselves peacefully. Unfortunately, funding is not always available from local sources to keep up with all the enforcement measures needed. As always, the funds from this grant are greatly appreciated since they will be used to promote safety within our community as well as provide additional measures to provide for the safety of the officers in our department. This request reallocates funds to be used for advanced training requirements and technology support for department training program personnel. Advanced Training Equipment: additional advanced level defensive tactics training will be provided to all our officers to give them more options in responding to situations involving violent crimes and activities. The equipment needed for this training includes, boxing gloves, training mitts, blue training guns, knife fighting training kit as well as mats and pads for the training area that will be used. Dover currently conduct limited amounts of training in this area because they don't have sufficient equipment available. The additional equipment will allow instructors the ability to train more officers and get more in depth with the training to optimize the safety of officers on the street.

Microsoft Surface Pro Tablets: Dover is expanding training unit to enhance department capabilities for all levels of training with the addition of three officers to the unit. These officers will need to coordinate requirements, track progress, update training records on the go, as well as update the training systems and programs resident on the department's

servers located in the police station. They are requesting to purchase three Surface Pro tablets, since they are the best option for this type of interaction. Although the tablets may be comparable to laptops, these provide officers more mobility in their use and the ability to sync data between the three units will allow all the officers to have the same information available at virtually any point in time. Dover has no other funds to use for this purchase and their use will be dedicated to all department training, including advanced training as well as special training and demonstration sessions provided to citizens and youth in the community.

External Vest Carriers - This line is being reduced because the original cost estimate for the vest carriers and molle pouches was high. Dover found less expensive vest carriers that our officers liked better. In addition, we were not able to equip all officers with the new vest carriers due to the significant amount of officer attrition in our department. They will have to find funds at a later date to purchase vests for these new officers when they are able to hire replacements.

A motion was made by Chief Randall Hughes and seconded by Colonel Melissa Zebley that the Amendment be approved as submitted. Hearing no further discussion, the application was approved by the all Committee members with the exception of Sergeant Calhoun being opposed (4:1).

IV. New Business

1. FCVC Manual Updates

The recent updates in the manual include the addition of the following committee members:

Secretary Nathaniel McQueen, Colonel Melissa Zebley, Chief Randall Hughes, and Grant Administrator Lacey Hutchison.

2. Buy/Informant Money

Christopher Klein reminded the committee and agencies that once money is put into the buy/informant section it should not be taken out. Since the funds are considered “spent” once they enter this category, he suggested using a smaller allocation first and amending it throughout the year when needed. Amendment requests requesting to transfer funds out of this category will not be approved.

3. FCVC Travel Policy

Christopher Klein talked to the committee about the State Travel policy vs. the FCVC travel policy. Since the previous year the FCVC Committee chose to remain with the current policy instead of adapting to the state policies. This means that acceptable purchases may be different depending on which grant the agency is using. When it comes to the GSA rate, the per diem rate should not exceed the daily limit while using an FCVC grant. On the other

hand, while using a SALLE/EIDE grant, the officer may spend the weekly GSA rate however they wish if it is within the guidelines and under budget. Seeing many confusions come for law enforcement agencies, Mr. Klein suggested looking into updating the policy or making the current guidelines for this grant more transparent.

V. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chief Hughes and seconded by Mr. A.J. Roop that the meeting be adjourned. Hearing no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m. by Committee Chairman, Nathaniel McQueen.

tn/LH