PROGRAM NARRATIVE

Part 1 – Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) – School Safety and Forensic Enhancement Initiative:

One of the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) goals is to aid in the safety and security of students and staff in and around schools, colleges, and universities in Charlotte County. Another agency goal is to make the roadways of Charlotte County safe for those who use them. By outfitting five of our School Resource Officers (SRO) with radars, CCSO will be able to make the roadway safer along with helping deter speeding within school zones or bus stops.

In order to continue the School Safety goals and initiative, the Sheriff's Office intends to purchase five Kustom Talon II handheld radars units to be used by SRO members who will share the equipment to monitor speed on area roadways. The SRO's are responsible for two high schools, three middle schools and eleven elementary schools. The radars will also be used at school bus stops and areas that are reported to have speeders are children.

The Forensics Unit is in need of a new fume hood to make process larger items safer for the members of the unit. The ductless fume hood will allow members of the Forensics Unit to process larger items in a much safer manner. The unit will be more efficient due to the fact they will be able to process more items at a time. With its features, they will also be able to safely process items potentially containing residue from harmful substances, such as fentanyl.

The Gravity Convection Oven will allow the Forensics Unit to effectively heat items to the necessary temperature to complete processing after the items have been treated with chemicals. The unit currently does not have a heating chamber that will heat to this temperature range, therefore limiting the types of chemical processing they can complete.

Therefore, in keeping with the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program identifiers of Crime Laboratory and Traffic Enforcement, equipment purchased with this allocation will support the Sheriff’s School Safety goal along with improving the safety and efficiently within the crime lab. These philosophies should improve the quality of life for citizens of and visitors to Charlotte County, along with keeping members of CCSO safer and working more efficiently.
For comments or suggestions concerning this grant proposal please email Jim Darden at Jim.Darden@CharlotteCountyFL.gov, call 941-764-5532, or send a letter to Jim Darden, Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners, Budget and Administrative Services Department, Suite B-109, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1068

**Part 2 – Punta Gorda Police Department (PGPD) – Training Lab Simulator Project:**

The Punta Gorda Police Department increasingly faces challenges in maintaining proficiency in the area of force on force - scenario based decision making training. One of the reasons for this is limited access to the local pistol range. The agency purchased the simulator last year and needs additional lab accessories to provide the complete use and experience of the simulator. The agency would pay for any costs above the grant allocation. This project will provide the Punta Gorda Police Department the funds to purchase the use of force firearms training simulator options. The necessary equipment is a preferred method of training for real life scenarios that an officer would encounter during a typical shift. The training simulator is currently equipped to train the officer with his primary lethal weapon. The goal is to purchase less-lethal weapon accessories, alternate lethal weapon accessories and a secure media center cart to store the simulator components. Due to current fiscal restraints in our training budget, the equipment will act as an ideal supplement to our training component.

The City of Punta Gorda has no funds available from the general revenue or operating budget to cover the cost of the use of force firearms training simulator options. Without this grant, the Punta Gorda Police Department would not be able to make this purchase. Documentation of the equipment will be provided by requisition, invoice and cancelled check.