Applicant Name:County of DurhamSub-award:City of Durham

Both the County and City of Durham have executed an Inter-local agreement detailing the allocation of these funds. The Comptroller of the Durham County Sheriff's Office will serve as the Fiscal Agent for the 2023 JAG Award and is prepared to track and report all JAG drawdowns and grant expenditures to ensure accurate financial and programmatic reporting on a timely basis. Financial internal controls include adherence to recognized accounting practices and use of the Durham County integrated financial reporting software. The funding for this grant will be maintained in separate accounting lines that are independent from the Sheriff's Office operating budget within the Grant Module portion of the Durham County SAP Financial System. This enables the funds to be monitored and tracked individually from all other funds. The Durham County Compliance Manager confirms proper set up of all grant funding. The 2023 JAG Award will be reviewed monthly to ensure all drawdowns are accurate and consistent with expenditures in the grant module.

The County of Durham desires to improve the quality of life for its residents through support of law enforcement programs and specialized teams who strive to respond to the community's needs and combats crime through the acquisition of critical equipment. Durham County endeavor to accomplish these objectives in the following ways:

- Build positive relationships with law enforcement through safe, timely, and appropriate responses that includes understanding, education and prevention.
- Continue to build progressive relationships with local law enforcement agencies to better serve the community.

 Obtain critical incident and specialized equipment to better service the community during life-threatening events.

#### **Durham County**

# Special Teams

# Programs Area: Law Enforcement Programs

# Area of Emphasis: Reducing Violent Crime

The Durham County Sheriff's Office is comprised of seven (7) separate specialized teams who are tasked with responding to all unusual occurrences in Durham County. Some of these teams are responsible for additional jurisdictions with this region. The following teams are under the Sheriff's authority and require either additional or replacement equipment:

**Emergency Response Team (ERT)** – is a unit comprised of 16 part-time members from a variety of divisions throughout the agency who are responsible for barricaded subjects and hostage situations, sniper, counter-sniper, urban and rural surveillance ops and high-risk warrant search warrants including drug raids and vehicle take-downs. These members are on call 24/7, 365 days a year. These members are currently seeking (2) additional low level spectrum lighting devices (LLSLD). This modern technology allows officers to quickly locate, assess and rescue individuals involved in missing person callouts during low light conditions. This technology will significantly decrease the amount of time required to search certain landscapes for individuals who go missing and suffer from cognitive impairment and are prone to the life-threatening behavior of wandering. This will also expand the amount of time that officers can actively search throughout the night. In our region of the country, we experience extremely hot temperatures during the

## 2023 JAG COUNTY OF DURHAM PROGRAM NARRATIVE

summer months and below freezing temperatures in the winter. Exposure to these types of conditions for any amount of time jeopardizes our ability to save lives. Hypothermia, heat exhaustion and dehydration are the most common causes of death during these extended searches. Additional uses for this technology would include render-safe procedures while mitigating improvised explosive devices IED's that require low or no-light environments. It will also improve officers' ability to locate suspects during barricades, hostage situations, high risk search warrants and vehicle take-downs. By utilizing this technology, commanders can quickly size up the scene, contain the threat and administer the least amount of force necessary to effect an arrest, ultimately saving more lives. Multiple special teams within the agency have benefited from this technology; several LLSLD's were obtained through previous JAG Awards and have proven to be a vital tool in mitigating and de-escalating emergency situations.

This unit is also looking to replace (10) gun mounted lighting systems or OGLs. This platform allows officers to activate and deactivate weapon mounted lights with one hand, freeing the other hand to complete additional tasks simultaneously like using handheld radios, opening doors or transitioning to other tools and equipment. Lastly, ERT will be requesting (20) Glock Gen 5 Model 17s to replace their aging duty weapons. This replacement includes (20) holsters and rear-mounted reticles (RMR). RMR is a platform designed to keep pace with modern technology and rapid deployment techniques. These sights will improve target acquisition, allowing officers to do so with both eyes open.

**Hazardous Devices Unit (HDU)** – this team is comprised of 7 part-time members who are certified through the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATFE) as Hazardous Device Technicians. They respond to all calls for service for unknown or suspicious packages, improvised explosives

# 2023 JAG COUNTY OF DURHAM PROGRAM NARRATIVE

(IEDs) and any other items or situations deemed as potentially hazardous. HDU is a regional team that provides these services to all surrounding counties and several others, for a total of 14. If called upon, this unit can deploy under mutual aid agreements to respond to any county within NC during a major incident. However, Durham County has priority. Funding will be utilized to upgrade and replace a failing x-ray source that is beyond repair. This piece of equipment is used to remotely and visually assess items that have been deemed suspicious. HDU will also be asking for (2) initiator kits that can be transported by a technician during extended time periods and distances, preventing fatigue. A radiation detector is needed to identify life-threatening levels of radiation during bomb sweeps and post blast procedures.

**Search and Recovery (SAR)** – This team is also comprised of 12 part-time members who respond to all incidences on all waterways within Durham County. On occasion they are called upon to lead land search efforts for missing persons due to their specialized training and skill sets. Funding will be used to purchase a generator is maintain power during long-term or remote callouts in rural areas.

**Uniformed Patrol Division** – This division is comprised of 46 officers that are divided into (4) rotating shifts that provide public safety services 24/7, 365 days a year to the unincorporated areas of Durham. The agency will be expanding less-lethal capabilities across these shifts by assigning pepper ball guns to deputies working throughout the County. The goal is to have effective, life-saving tools readily available during emergency situations such as; barricaded subjects, hostage situations, and while dealing with aggressive animals.

Sub-Award

City of Durham

Training Division

# Program Area: Law Enforcement Programs

Durham Police Department's (DPD) trainees attend a second in-house academy after the State mandated Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) academy ends. DPD calls this the ALET Academy, which stands for Advanced Law Enforcement Training and it last approximately 10 weeks. Throughout this academy the trainees are exposed to high level training that far exceeds the state level of training they have completed. During ALET they have two weeks of Reality Based Training which includes handson ground fighting, subject control arrest techniques and simulator training. The goal of this training is to expose them to the most realistic scenarios possible they will encounter on the street.

To ensure this training is safe but as realistic as possible we would like to purchase "soft furniture" to further create the actual physical environments they will be in. This helps them as they learn how to actually maneuver in and around physical obstacles instead of trying to "imagine" them. The soft furniture will also be utilized in our simulator room. The simulator room is used to project real video simulations onto a screen and the officer will react and utilize their verbal stills to deescalate or issued equipment to neutralize threats in the appropriate manner. As mentioned above the soft furniture will ensure they are immersed into the most realistic environment while maintaining the safety of the officers.

During this two-week period the trainees and role-players are involved in intense violent physical contact. They need to be protected from actual damage by wearing quality protective gear. The requested gear is needed, so they will not sustain any injuries while this training is occurring.

# **Community Services Division**

# Program Area: Prevention and Education Programs

# Emphasis Area: Community Based Violence Intervention Approaches

The Community Services Division is focused on providing community-oriented police services to Durham's neighborhoods, businesses, or constituency populations. It is comprised of the Community Resource Unit (CRU), Police Athletic League Unit (PAL), Explorer, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Honor Guard, and Community Liaison Officers. Throughout the year, each unit hosts multiple community outreach initiatives and programs that help to build trust, educate the community on crime prevention, and engage youth and at-risk populations.

The Police Athletic League (PAL): This unit engages youth and young adults through competitive and leisure sports, that are supported by volunteer coaches, mentors and sponsors including police officers, non-sworn police employees, businesses, Durham Public schools and Durham Parks and Recreation. The Durham Police Department would like to expand its mentoring and engagement beyond sports to include a mobile after-school tutoring program. The idea is to meet the youth where they are, by setting up in at-risk communities and provide after-school tutoring to them where they live. This will allow the youth to receive tutoring in a safe environment, from volunteers in the PAL program and the family

would not have to drive them to a different location for these services. Funding would be used to purchase a mobile trailer or vehicle that is up-fitted with televisions, laptops, workstations, decals, and other needed accessories.

#### Patrol Services Bureau

#### Program Area: Law Enforcement Programs

#### Emphasis Area: Crime and Violence Reduction Strategies

The City of Durham's Police Department Patrol Services Bureau is responsible for providing patrol services to all of Durham's five districts. The officers assigned to each district are the first responders to events that happen in their assigned districts. They normally arrive to crime scenes before specialized Units like our Selective Enforcement Team (SET) that are highly trained and is specially equipped to handle hostage and barricaded-subject situations, sniper, counter-sniper, and terrorist activities. Due to the Patrol officers being the first on scene, it may sometimes be necessary to equip them with ballistic shields to protect the patrol officers against forced entry, riots, active shooters, and other dangerous threats. Funding will be used to purchase five ballistic shields, one for each district to be used in highly dangerous crime scenes, where the Patrol Unit is the first to respond.

The Patrol Services Bureau also has multiple patrol cars assigned to all five districts. The equipment that each car is equipped with, can cause a drain on the battery and at times vehicles will not start due to the battery not being charged. Funding is being requested to purchase twenty (20) jump starters, which will be distributed to each district and the supervisor's vehicle assigned to uniform patrol. It is essential to have these jump starters in place to ensure timely service to the citizens of Durham.