

**Item Title:** Amend 2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Memorandum of Understanding

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to amend the MOU between the County of Wake and the City of Raleigh for the 2019 Byrne JAG Program to repurpose the funds awarded to the Wake County Sheriff's Office per the 2019 JAG Subrecipient Grant Agreement.**

**Item Summary:**

**Purpose:** Having approved a prior MOU related to a Wake County Sheriff's Office grant, Commissioner approval is needed to authorize the County Manager to amend the MOU.

**Background:** The Wake County Sheriff's Office and the Raleigh Police Department apply annually for JAG funding. The City of Raleigh and Wake County have a Memorandum of Understanding for each grant outlining the parties' roles and responsibilities. The parties entered into the 2019 JAG Grant MOU on October 15, 2019. Pursuant to this agreement, the City of Raleigh, as the lead agency, will receive the proceeds of the grant. Wake County is a sub-recipient of the grant and will invoice the City for its portion of the grant as it is spent.

On March 16, 2020, the Board of Commissioners appropriated the WCSO portion of the 2019 grant, which totaled \$55,336. At that time, the WCSO planned to use the funds to purchase radar units, drones and ballistic shields for law enforcement officers. These uses are also included in the MOU.

The WCSO is now requesting to repurpose the funds for purchase of two personal watercraft, trailers, and associated law enforcement equipment. This item authorizes the County Manager to amend Section 3 of the MOU to reflect these uses. The WCSO will send a letter to the Bureau of Justice Assistance requesting approval of the revised spending plan. If approval is granted, the MOU will be amended as authorized by this item.

**Board Goal:** This action supports Public Safety Goal 3: Provide high-quality and sustainable public safety services to meet the community's current and future needs.

**Fiscal Impact:** No additional appropriation is required. The WCSO will request reimbursement from the City of Raleigh as expenses are incurred.

**Additional Information:**

The Wake County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) patrols Falls Lake and Harris Lake and enforces boating safety laws. The two major lakes in Wake County have many shallow areas that branch off from the main lake area. Deputies cannot reach all these areas by boat. WCSO plans to purchase two personal watercraft at \$15,253 each for a total of \$30,506. These watercraft will allow the Sheriff's Office to operate in shallow water where boats are not capable of maneuvering. The deputies will receive specialized training to operate these vehicles.

WCSO also plans to acquire two trailers to transport the watercraft, personal flotation devices, one equipment trailer, and other rescue equipment.

**Attachments:**

1. 2019 JAG Grant MOU