Program Narrative

Based on the 2014 United States Census Bureau, the City of Richmond’s estimated population is 217,853. The population is very diverse and includes as many as 50,000 undocumented Hispanics. It is generally accepted that the total population for Richmond and immediate jurisdictions is nearly 800,000. Richmond, Virginia’s capital city has major highway systems that flow directly through the city limits. Interstate 95, the main north-south artery of the east coast and Interstate 64, a primary east-west thoroughfare, are essential links to business and commerce, tourist attractions and various attractions within the city and surrounding jurisdictions. In fact, the City of Richmond will host the 2015 UCI Road World Championships in September 2015 which will bring national and international visitors to Virginia’s capital. More than 1000 athletes from 70 countries and thousands of spectators from around the world will be in attendance over a nine day period. The combination of these factors, as well as others, contributes to the daily public safety challenges and the increase in criminal activity.

In addition to the statistical data registered for the City of Richmond, VA, the RPD operates under its overarching mission and vision:

RPD Mission:
We make Richmond a safer city through community policing and engagement.

RPD Vision:
The City of Richmond is a thriving community offering safe neighborhoods and an enhanced quality of life through responsive, communication and public trust.

The City of Richmond Police Department is dedicated to providing a customer-service imprint that encompasses the following standards of excellence:

- Accountability
- Community Focus
City of Richmond, VA
2015 Major Crimes – A Major Priority

- Innovation
- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Shared Trust

**RPD Focus Areas:**

- Customer Care
- RPD Morale
- Safeguarding the Community
- Youth Engagement
- Technology

**Organizational Capacity**

The RPD is led by Chief Alfred Durham. The following report directly to the Chief of Police:

- Deputy Chief of Administration
- Deputy Chief of Operations
- Deputy Chief of Support Services
- Chief of Staff
- Office of Professional Responsibility
- Disciplinary Review
- Internal Affairs
- General Counsel

The Administrative Division includes the following units: Training, Financial Management, Records and Technology, Planning and Accreditation and Human Resources. Subunits include Property and Evidence, Payroll, Recruit Academy, Officer Training, and Warrants and Information.

The Operations Division consists of approximately 425...
officers assigned to this division. The officers are responsible for patrolling and providing first-class service to the citizens of Richmond. The city is divided into two areas consisting of four precincts and 12 sectors. First and second precincts comprise Area 1 and the third and fourth precincts comprise Area 2.

The Support Services Division which includes major crimes, special investigations and special operations conducts major case investigations against criminal organizations involving human trafficking, narcotics trafficking, prostitution, illegal gambling, sales and distribution of illegal liquors and pornography. The Special Operations Division includes the authorized strength of Special Investigations and Tactics (SWAT), Neighborhood Assistance Officers and Patrol K9 operations.

Often known to educate the community through its programs and services, the Community, Youth and Intervention Services Unit, housed in the Support Services Division, bridge the community and law enforcement by allowing citizens to engage and interact with police officers in the schools, community events and instructional programs such as the Young Adult Police Commissioners, MIRROR ME mentoring program for girls and boys, the Hispanic Community Academy and the Citizens Police Academy. This unit is designed to improve the quality of life in neighborhoods, along with placing a greater emphasis on youth and seniors.

In total, the RPD consists of 730 sworn personnel and 150 civilian staff.

While the City of Richmond will ultimately provide oversight of the program(s), the Richmond Police Department will be the lead agency. Coordination of all programs will be handled by the department’s Grants Manager who is responsible for ensuring the programmatic and fiscal compliance of all grant activities. The RPD Grants Management Unit will be responsible for all financial reports as well as any programmatic reports required by the Bureau
City of Richmond, VA
2015 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

of Justice Assistance (BJA). Each of the project updates will be reported through the designated Department of Justice reporting tools including the Grants Management System and Performance Measurement Tools databases in accordance with Department of Justice (DOJ) guidelines. The Grants Manager has attended the Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs’ biannual Financial Management Training Seminar and is knowledge of the reporting resources and tools.

The request for funding will be aligned within each of the three areas – **Operations.**

**Support Services and Special Operations** – and will include the following project identifiers:

1. Community Policing
2. Drug Courts
3. Equipment Forensics
4. Traffic Enforcement

**Operations**

*Overtime Initiatives – Fugitive and Firearms Initiative (FFI) & Crime Suppression*

The RPD will utilize overtime to support the Fugitive and Firearms Initiative (FFI) and Crime Suppression through seasonal and special initiatives within the City. FFI is a joint firearm inter-jurisdiction partnership between uniform Richmond Police Department and Virginia State Police staff supported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The initiative targets those individuals that choose to use a firearm in an illegal manner. The FFI generally has been implemented for an operation for 100 days from Memorial Day thru Labor Day. The department duplicated this effort by continuing to suppress crime throughout the year utilizing special teams to address crimes in high crime areas.

FFI uses predictive analysis to determine target locations that had a high propensity for random gunfire and violent crimes involving firearms during the spring months. Target locations
are fluid based upon analysis, weather and operational success in certain areas. In addition to geographic locations, analytical research and social analysis assist in determining individuals with a high potential for firearm violence.

FFI has proven to be an important proactive strategy to address violence and gun crime within the City. The initiative will continue to assist law enforcement partners in increasing public safety.

In addition to FFI, as presented, the RPD proactively seeks to quell any rise in crime during the summer months by deploying officers at area parks that are traditionally extremely busy during that time. Past efforts to police the areas with bike and foot patrols have proved beneficial. Within the City, Belle’s Island, Brown’s Island and Shockoe Bottom continue to be problematic, particularly during the weekends. Added overtime patrol and visibility tends to minimize the criminal activity. With these continued efforts, crime is expected to decrease.

RPD will also employ special initiatives directly related to bike and foot patrol in targeted neighborhoods. During various times of the year, certain areas of the city experience a crime spike such as car theft or burglaries, for an example. To address this type of crime, bicycle and foot patrol has proven to be an effective way of addressing the issue and also meeting the needs of the citizens. Various areas have requested more bicycle patrol and it provides visibility to the specified areas, but also allows better patrols in alleys and areas not easily accessible. The concept is to saturate an area that experiences these spikes of criminal activity with two to four bicycle officers patrolling an area a few times a week for a 4 hour time frame. The purpose would be to prevent any further crimes and arrest any individual(s) that may be committing these offenses.
360 Degree Laser Scanner
The 360 Degree Laser Scanner is a tool used to assist forensics and traffic accident investigators to document crime scenes and major traffic accidents. The scanner takes laser measurements of an area and then develops a picture that is measured to scale. The maps generated can be used as evidence for court proceedings. A 360 Laser Scanner is fast and more precise than a detective using a tape measure. The files from a scanner can be cataloged and retrieved at much later time. Traffic accident investigators and forensics personnel benefit by documenting scenes faster and more precise than other methods. Further, scanners produce professional image that may be used in trials.

This software will be shared by Major Crimes- forensics and Special Operations- Traffic reconstruction. The software will be managed by our computer services unit.

Support Services - Community Outreach/Partnerships
Commonwealth Attorney’s Office
The implementation of body worn cameras by officers in the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department (VCUPD) and the coming adoption of such cameras for the Richmond Police Department will bring additional responsibilities for the City of Richmond Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office in criminal prosecutions. Prosecutors and staff will need to download, store and review relevant video footage in certain cases, process videos into usable formats suitable for court presentation, and provide copies of all or some portions of the footage to defense counsel in some instances, in order to fulfill their duties under the Virginia Rules of Discovery and obligations under United States Constitution. To assist in these efforts, we request funding for the hardware and software itemized in the Budget Narrative below.
Adult Drug Court

The Richmond Adult Drug Treatment Court program is a voluntary substance abuse treatment program for nonviolent felony offenders. The program includes regular appearances before a Circuit Court Judge, drug testing, individual and group counseling, and 12-step meetings. Utilizing a team approach, on-site clinicians provide assessment and treatment, and probation officers provide supervision and ancillary services. During the program, participants seek to: obtain a drug free-lifestyle; maintain a law-abiding lifestyle; enhance employment skills; be involved in the recovery community; identify relapse warning signs and plan for prevention; and identify specific needs and develop a treatment plan designed for recovery. Participants are actively engaged in RADTC for a minimum of 16 months. The program is flexible to meet the needs of various participants, and thus individual progress determines the length of time in RADTC. The program consists of five distinct phases, including: 30-day Probationary Period, Phase I, Phase II, Phase III, and Aftercare.

The Richmond Adult Drug Treatment Court is requesting funding to assist with residential treatment of participants who present with co-occurring mental health problems that have gone untreated. Finding treatment conducive environments for participants who are in recovery, is considered an evidence based practice in drug courts, and a crucial need for all substance abusers seeking treatment, especially those in the criminal justice system and those with Co-Occurring disorders (CODs). For many offenders who are homeless, survival is more important, and finding food and shelter take a higher priority than drug counseling. Without a drug-free environment and social support network, recovering from a substance addiction is very difficult. Offenders may have difficulty remaining sober while living on the streets where substances are so widely used. This is why a residential treatment facility is crucial to our treatment efforts.