

Edward Byrne Memorial
Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) 2016
Local Solicitation CFDA#16.738
Delray Beach Police Department
Program Narrative
Attachment #2

The **Delray Beach Police Department's Holiday Robbery Task Force** has been operational since 1997. This Task Force runs annually from Thanksgiving through December 26 and provides a saturation of patrol units in all shopping centers within the City of Delray Beach for *crime prevention purposes*. The Police Department provides high profile visibility, utilizing over 100 different officers in marked patrol vehicles throughout the holiday season. During the course of the program in 2015, over six hundred and thirty-five hours were dedicated to this project.

The Holiday Robbery Task Force serves as an important deterrent, reducing the number of serious crimes during the Holiday Season when crimes of opportunity tend to increase. In addition, the presence of officers, employing *community policing* techniques, is expected to make citizens and visitors feel more secure. If a crime should occur, officers are on site and available to intervene. During the 2016 holiday season, we expect the Holiday Robbery Task Force to be deployed in the following commercial areas: Delray Crossings Plaza (with the anchor stores of Target, Outback, and Steak-n-Shake restaurants), Super Walmart, Delray Square, Boca/Delray Plaza, Delray West Plaza, Pines West Plaza, and Plaza Delray (with the anchor stores of Publix Supermarket, LA Fitness, Marshalls, TJ Maxx, and Alta Beauty Salon).

In recent years, the City of Delray Beach has faced economic hardships, similar to other municipalities nationwide. Each year, the City faces increasing costs and funding restrictions. Funding through this JAG award is necessary to continue operating the Holiday Robbery Task Force at its current level. The projected cost to continue the Holiday Robbery Task Force for 2016 is anticipated to remain on par with the prior year, and the number of officers needed for this project will remain approximately the same. Last year's total cost was \$35,142, with \$34,516 funded through the FY 2015 JAG and the remainder being funded by the City. For the upcoming FY 16/17, we are requesting that the full JAG allocation of \$35,468 go towards funding this important program. All additional program costs, including other benefits, will be funded by the City.

The accountability measures that will be implemented by the Delray Beach Police Department to gather data during the deployment of the Holiday Robbery Task Force will be as follows:

The Delray Beach Police Department is a strong advocate of social media and electronic forms of communication. We currently utilize Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, to reach our citizens and keep them informed on the latest crime trends and preventive tips; educating our citizenry on how to avoid becoming a victim of a crime. The initiative will continue to be used during the holiday season along with disseminating information across media outlets and the Departments website.

The Delray Beach Police Department prides itself on creating a clean and safe environment for its citizens to live, work and play within our city. Community policing is the forefront of our mission and vision for our agency. Community involvement is our

forte; remaining visible, approachable, and helpful to our citizens is paramount. During the holiday season, our pedestrian traffic increases in and around our Downtown area and within our shopping centers. These core values are essential to address the fear of crime in providing a clean and safe environment for our citizens and visitors to enjoy.

The following are the performance measures that we will implement during the Holiday Robbery Task Force deployment:

- Document the number of Part I crimes committed within the Holiday Robbery Task Force deployment area
- Document the number of Part I crimes committed outside the Holiday Robbery Task Force deployment area.
- Document the number of social media followers to include; Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- Document the number of public service documents disseminated through local media outlets.
- We will also track the number of business contacts the Officers have with retail merchants, HOA and Civic meetings attended by our Officers educating the public on crime trends occurring and informing them of preventive measures they can implement to avoid them.