



Humboldt County Sheriff's Office

Public Comment on U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, FY23 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program – Local Solicitation

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office is seeking public comments on their proposal for the FY23 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) grant program. According to state requirements, public comments can be submitted for 30 consecutive days after posting of this notice.

The Sheriff's Office is soliciting public input specific to the FY23 application narrative and budget. This grant funding will not be used as program match but will be used in combination with other grant funding sources to supplement the purchase of a new patrol boat. This vessel will be used for law enforcement activities along our waterways including, but not limited to, search and rescue capabilities, routine patrols, disruption of potential threats and illegal activities along our coastline, and will provide operational coordination.

To review the application narrative and budget, click on the link below. After review, should you have any grant related questions, please contact Julie Martin, Administrative Analyst II at (707) 268-3662 or jmartin2@co.humboldt.ca.us.

**BJA FY23 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM
LOCAL SOLICITATION O BJA 2023 171790
HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEW PATROL BOAT COMPLIMENTARY FUNDING**

Located in the Northwestern portion of California, Humboldt County is a rugged and beautiful tourist destination of approximately 3,600 square miles. It's an outdoor recreational paradise and contains 180 miles of coastline, 40 miles of which are easily accessible, with approximately half a million visitors coming through each year to witness its beauty. Humboldt Bay has a deep-water port and other accessible bays, coves, and coastline areas that are potential targets for use in smuggling operations. Although, smuggling attempts this far north via ocean access are not common, in our area, limited law enforcement presence along our coastline draw interest for marijuana smuggling activities. Humboldt County, located within the Emerald Triangle, is well known for its marijuana production but, methamphetamine, heroin, and fentanyl are also prevalent. The level of narcotics activity has resulted in Humboldt County being named a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA).

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) has secured a grant through the Department of Homeland Security, Port Security Grant Program to procure a new patrol boat to replace its current vessel which is at the end of its useful lifespan. At almost 20 years old, the onboard equipment and single motor lack ability to safely navigate waterways to keep up with emergent situations that require fast deployment. The purchase of this new, rapid response, rigid hull patrol boat with trailer and accessories, will be used by HCSO for law and drug enforcement programs, routine patrols, search, rescue, and recovery, situational assessments, interdiction and disruption of potential threats and illegal activities, operational coordination, crime prevention and enforcement programs, and will provide a rapid response to critical incidents throughout our

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waterways. This vessel will be suited for both law enforcement and first responders. Ultimately, this vessel will aid in community violence intervention, reducing crime and violence, reducing long term port vulnerability, and strengthening our preparedness and overall resilience.

In 2021-2022 Humboldt County was hit hard with an economic downturn much like the rest of the country. That has continued into 2023. Sales tax receipts were down 25% for fiscal year 2022-2023. In the southern part of our county, sale tax receipts were down as much as 36.2%. For 2023-2024 expenditure growth is expected to continue to outpace revenue growth. The decrease in tax revenue strains operational budgets and labor costs continue to increase. Humboldt County currently has a 17 million dollar budget deficit due to the decrease in tax revenue. HCSO will be expected to reduce funds due to this deficit however, any reduction to an already depleted HCSO budget threatens efforts to reduce crime, violence, and its ability to strengthen community safety.

The new patrol boat is currently being constructed with a vendor under contract for a total purchase price of \$447,194.00. Funds received through the Port Security Grant total \$315,000 which includes \$236,250 from the grant program and \$78,750 as a match. This leaves HCSO with a \$132,194 remaining balance due upon delivery scheduled for June 2024. HCSO plans to use JAG awarded funds towards the remaining balance due to compliment funds received via the Port Security grant program. JAG funds will not be used as a match.

I. Other Costs									
Description <i>List and describe items that will be paid with grants funds (e.g. rent, reproduction, telephone, janitorial, or security services, and investigative or confidential funds)</i>		Computation <i>Show the basis for computation</i>							
Add Item	Delete Selected	Quantity	Basis	Cost	Length of Time	Total Cost	Non-Federal Contribution	Federal Request	
Complimentary funds to Port Security grant purchase of a new Patrol Boat.		1	Total	\$23,071.00	1	\$23,071	\$0	\$23,071	
						Total(s)	\$23,071	\$0	\$23,071

Narrative Add Additional Narrative

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\$447,194.00	Total Patrol Boat Cost
\$236,250.00	Port Security Grant award funds
\$ 78,750.00	25% Payable by Humboldt County as matching funds to the Port Security Grant award

\$132,194.00	Remaining balance due upon boat delivery
\$ 23,071.00	JAG funds to compliment Port Security Program (not used as match)

\$109,123.00	Balance remaining after grant funds