

March 1, 2023

Illinois Attorney General's Office
Chicago Main Office

Re: Organized Retail Crime Grant Letter of Intent

This letter is to formally request organized retail crime grant funding to combat retail crime in the City of Burbank. Burbank is home to the Cicero Avenue retail corridor which consists of numerous retail establishments, with Best Buy, Kohls, Burlington Coat Factory and many others among them. The Cicero Avenue stores are a target for retail crimes due to number of stores in a concentrated area. The Burbank Police Department have initiated several pro-active policing strategies which includes adding extra patrol officers dedicated to our retail areas during the holidays. The Police Department has also strategically placed Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras near retail hubs and we are looking to expand the network, as well as replace thirty-six existing out-of-date cameras. With the current cameras being over ten years old, the cost to update the technology in a timely manner is a financial burden on this department. This has a direct impact on our ability to combat these serious crimes. The Police Department is frequently hired by anchor stores (Best Buy, Kohls) for additional security and we often do not have enough vehicles to staff these requests, which would assist in our prevention initiatives. The Police Department has also signed a proof of concept with FUSUS – Virtual Real Time Crime Center. FUSUS is a software system that pulls in disparate security cameras onto one platform. FUSUS has the ability to greatly increase the police department's ability to respond to in-progress retail crimes and will also assist in the investigative process. This grant request is for equipment and overtime to further the Burbank Police Department's mission of combating retail crime in our community.

The City would utilize grant funding for the following:

- FUSUS - \$250,000 (five years of funding, \$50,000 per year)
- Two marked and fully outfitted squad cars - \$120,000
- One unmarked and fully outfitted squad car - \$60,000
- Target overtime \$100,000
- License Plate Readers - \$50,000
- Replace out-of-date and add new video surveillance cameras \$200,000

I greatly appreciate consideration for these grant funds which would assist us to further organized retail theft policing efforts.

Sincerely,


Jack S. Garcia
Chief of Police