

Narrative

Problem Statement Applicants should clearly describe the violent crime problem that the community is experiencing . Grant reviewers will evaluate the Problem Statement section in terms of how effectively it addresses the following :

What is the specific violent crime problem that the agency plans to address? If there are multiple violent crimes that the agency plans to address, please list them.

The epidemic of gun violence in the City of Euclid has injured the public sense of peace, order and security in our community. As public fear increases there is a converse relationship that manifests as a decrease in the public's use of public spaces, neighborhoods and businesses as well as a decrease in city population. The work of Harvard researcher Thomas Abt indicates that most gun violence is occurring in "micro-locations" or hotspots that are difficult to address using traditional police patrol methods . Violent gun related crime in Euclid concentrates itself in several hotspots in the southeast and southwest sections of the city . These neighborhood micro-locations account for the majority of gun related violence. These hotspots also comprise the majority of shots fired calls within our community. Because these hotspots cause citizen avoidance of public spaces and public cynicism the number of shots fired call are predictably underreported. *

Provide recent and relevant statistics to demonstrate that the violent crime(s) the agency plans to address is indeed a problem in the community. If there has been a recent rise in violent crime, provide statistics to support this. If violent crime has been an ongoing problem, provide statistics to support this.

The Euclid Police Departments Crime Analysis Units examination of violent crimes in Euclid for the first 8 months of 2021 indicates a 562% increase in carjacking aggravated robberies, felonious assaults are up 36%, domestic violence offenses are up 16%, homicide offenses are up 7%, attempted homicides are up 15% and weapons related offenses are up 9%. Euclid residents reported 366 instances of shots fired in the first 8 months of 2021. The 5 year average for shots fired complaints within 12 months is 350 incidents. In the first 8 months of 2019, there were 107 guns seized. In the first 8 months of 2020 there were 106 guns seized. The first 8 months of 2021 resulted in 160 guns seized, a 51% increase. The predictive data for 2021 infers a significant increase in gun violence, illegal gun possession and criminal use of firearms primarily by persons prohibited from possessing them. *

Provide local statistics describing the community that the agency serves, including information on population size and geography and the demographics of the community.

Euclid is located on the south shore of Lake Erie in Cuyahoga County. The area of the city is 10.63 square miles comprising an inner ring suburb of Cleveland, Ohio extending east to the Lake County border. The city has an aging infrastructure with most homes and businesses constructed between 1940-1970. Our population is 49,692 persons of which 61.9% identify as African-American and 34.3% are Caucasian. Senior citizens comprise 17.1% and the youth population is 21.3%. Approximately 21.8% of the population are poverty stricken. Euclid contains 26,272 housing units and 34 apartment complexes most of which have multiple buildings. The transient worker population brings thousands of workers into the city daily servicing Cleveland Clinic, Lincoln Electric, Amazon and over 150 manufacturing and small businesses. Interstate 90 and CSX rail service forms an east/west corridor that divides the north and south of the city. Euclid City Schools educate approximately 5,400 children. *

Problem Description Applicants should clearly describe the agency's plan to address the violence its community is experiencing. Grant reviewers will evaluate the Project Description section in terms of how effectively it addresses the following :

Is the agency developing a new violence reduction strategy or enhancing/expanding an existing violence reduction strategy?

- ✓ Developing a new violence reduction strategy
- Enchancing/expanding an existing violence strategy

If you checked "Developing a new violence reduction strategy":

Thoroughly describe the violence reduction strategy the agency wishes to develop. Keep in mind that technology, personnel, training, and technical assistance are all components of a comprehensive strategy, but are not considered strategies in and of themselves. If these items are included as part of the budget, the application must explain how they fit in to a larger violence reduction strategy.

The Euclid Police Department proposes the implementation of a focused deterrence initiative to address micro-location driven gun violence. Our strategy is to use Crime Analysis data to identify "hotspots" of gun violence then to direct police resources to the micro-locations to develop information on impact offenders or "hot persons" frequenting the location. This involves engaging in dialog

Narrative

with citizens , businesses , crime victims and analysis of "cyberbanging" or on-line threats via firearm. The residents, schools, businesses, churches and night clubs in the micro-location will be informed of this focused deterrence strategy to build community support, communicate goals and provide for feedback from community members. Specifically directed enforcement actions will then focus on "hot habits" such as the illegal possession and use of guns by prohibited persons via foot patrol and focused traffic stops solely to stop gun violence. *

Identify the composition of the team tasked with developing and implementing the program.

The micro-location driven gun violence reduction effort will involve active collaboration between the Crime Analysis Unit and the Community Policing Unit Supervisor who will work to identify micro-locations of gun violence and direct two man units in both marked and unmarked police vehicles. The two person gun violence reduction team will solely focus on "hot places", "hot persons" and "hot habits" there will be little or no focus on low level drug offenses or traffic offenses absent a pretextual reason for stopping persons and vehicles inside specific micro-locations. The Community Policing supervisor will monitor the activities of the two man teams to maintain the specific focus on gun violence reduction in specifically identified micro-locations and avoid wider forms of generalized enforcement or wholesale police occupation efforts that reduce police legitimacy and community support . We will also seek support from the courts and BATF agents for directed prosecution.*

Discuss why this strategy is best suited to respond to the violence problem the community is facing. Part of this discussion should explain how the strategy (and/or components of the strategy) is promising or proven to reduce violence.

This strategy is based on the work of Harvard researcher Thomas Abt and his book "Bleeding Out" (2019). Abt states that most gun violence is occurring micro-locations or hotspots that are difficult to address using traditional police patrol methods . Abt contends that "if these hotspots can be cooled, the temperature of the entire city will fall". The focused deterrence aspect of our strategy will specifically address micro-location driven gun violence combined with direct communication with all stakeholders to build community support. The strategy will specifically focus on "hot places", "hot persons" and "hot habits" which are the key proximate cause of gun violence in Euclid. Supplementing the directed enforcement of gun laws will be an outreach effort within the selected micro-locations to speak with churches, schools, businesses, groups and nightclubs about gun violence and enter into agreements for " no questions asked" gun turn-in events. *

Outline specifically what the agency is looking to purchase with the Violent Crime Reduction Grant Program funds and how these items play a role in the violence reduction strategy. The items described here should match up with what is listed in the budget. Snagit 2021 Government - screen capture and recording software for grabbing social media pages, chat messages and other text formats to assist in investigations of "hot persons" engaged in violence within micro-locations (\$169.95). Adobe Acrobat Pro - edit text and images, create, convert, review and share PDF crime bulletins on multiple devices for GVRT communication and information sharing (2 Pro DC licenses (\$366.00). ArcGIS Online - provides mapping and analysis. Converts spreadsheet data into maps and workable products to track hotspots of gun violence (\$3500). SIMSI Risk Terrain Modeling RTMDx software diagnoses problem areas, produces reports and maps identifying risky places and prioritizes responsive actions. Assists in planning and strategies that are location based actionable (\$24,000.00). *

Objectives

Objective #1 (Must be an outcome objective):

- Identify the primary objective of this project. Note: this objective should directly relate to the problem you identified in the Problem Statement section.

The primary objectives of this project include: an increase in gun seizures from prohibited persons inside identified micro-locations on the south side of the city. A concentrated effort to engage focused deterrence via active enforcement . A 10% reduction in firearm related homicides/ non-negligent manslaughter and shots fired calls within identified hotspot micro-locations. *

- Identify the performance indicator for this objective. Note: this is the data that will be used to show whether change is taking place.

A reduction in shots fired calls within micro-locations. An increase in gun seizures and arrests in hotspots. To engage in active collaboration with residents and businesses within micro-locations to reduce cynicism and increase police legitimacy via mailed surveys facilitating feedback. An increase in traffic stops, pedestrian stops, community engagements/ special attentions within hotspots.*

Narrative

- Identify a baseline measure. Note: this is data measuring the current state of the problem to be addressed.

BASELINE MEASURE: in 2021 there were 7 firearms related homicides/ non-negligent manslaughter, 53 firearm related aggravated assaults and 353 shots fired calls in micro-locations.

1. Officer engagements in C/D Beats (southside) identified micro-locations for a 41 week average -16 per week.
2. Special attentions in C/D Beat micro-locations for a 41 week average - 13 per week.

*

- Explain how the performance data will be collected. Note: describe how your agency collects/will collect the data that is being used to measure whether change occurs.

The Euclid Police Crime Analysis Unit will collect quarterly data regarding calls for service , shots fired calls, gun seizures, arrests, officer engagements, special attentions and traffic /pedestrian stops in C/D Beats. *

Objective #2 (Can be an outcome objective or a process objective):

- Identify an objective of this project.

To reduce gun violence by specifically targeting hot places , hot persons and hot habits in identified micro-locations on the south side of the city.

*

- Identify the performance measure for this objective.

A measurable reduction in gun violence , armed carjackings and shots fired calls within identified southside micro-locations. A measurable increase in gun seizures. This will be calculated via monthly counts of firearm related homicides/ non-negligent manslaughter/ armed carjackings/calls of shots fired in hot-spot micro-locations. *

- Identify a baseline measure. Note: this is data measuring the current state of the problem to be addressed.

1. Traffic Stops in C/D Beat for a 41 week average -6 per week
2. Pedestrian stops in C/D Beat for a 41 week average- 2 per week
3. Firearm seizures for the City of Euclid for a 41 week average- 3.8 per week *

- Explain how the performance data will be collected. Note: describe how your agency collects/will collect the data that is being used to measure whether change occurs.

The Euclid Police Crime Analysis unit will collect the specific data monthly . Data sources include Homicides/ non-negligent manslaughter/ aggravated assaults, shots fired calls, calls for service, gun seizures , arrests , special attentions, traffic and pedestrian stops. Surveys will also be distributed in each micro-location to gather data on perceived performance expectations of the public. *

Timeline and Activities

Applicants should describe how the programmatic and grant administrative activities and the objectives will be reasonably achieved in the given project period. Grant reviewers will evaluate the Timeline and Activities section in terms of how comprehensive and clear the timeline is. Be sure to include grant reporting due dates and anticipated quarterly collaboration board meeting dates in addition to key dates for programmatic activities.

Time Period

January

Activity

micro-location surveys sent out
2-man Gun Violence Reduction Team (GVRT)
Approximately 128 hrs.(OT) operation hours.
Sat. Sun. Mon. Tue. *

Staff Lead

Organize and staff Gun Violence Reduction Team. Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress.
01-31-22 monthly stats.
compiled*

February

2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement.
GVRT meeting to examine survey results.*

Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress.
02-28-22 monthly stats.

Narrative

March	2-man GVRT 64hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement*	compiled. * Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 03-31-22 monthly stats.
April	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement*	compiled.* 1st Collaboration Board Meeting. Crime Analysis to track weekly progress. 04-30-22 monthly stats. compiled. QSR Report due April 30th. *
May	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement GVRT meeting to discuss feedback/performance.*	Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 05-31-22 Monthly stats. compiled.*
June	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement *	Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress 06-30-22 monthly stats. compiled.*
July	micro-location surveys sent out. 2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement *	2nd. Collaboration Board Meeting. Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 07-31-22 monthly stats. compiled. QSR Report due July 31st.*
August	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement. GVRT meeting to discuss feedback/performance/survey results and Collaboration Board direction.*	Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 08-31-22 monthly stats. compiled. *
September	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement /enforcement.*	Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 09-30-22 monthly stats. compiled.*
October	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement.*	3rd. Collaboration Board Meeting. Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 10-31-22 monthly stats compiled. QSR Report due October 31st. *
November	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement/enforcement. GVRT meeting to discuss Board Meeting direction/feedback.*	Crime Analysis Unit to track weekly progress. 11-30-22 monthly stats. compiled.*
December	2-man GVRT 64 hrs. (OT) of engagement / enforcement. micro-location surveys sent out. Surveys examined to determine program success. GVRT meeting to discuss survey and board conclusions as well as sustainability of the program. *	4th Collaboration Board Meeting. Future sustainability planning. Monthly and yearly stats. compiled and evaluated. QSR Report due January 31st 2023. *

Organization and Staff Capacity Applicants should provide an overview of the law enforcement agency responsible for implementing the project. Identify key staff that will be involved in the project, including the individual overseeing the project and those responsible

Narrative

for administering the grant and implementing the program. Discuss partnerships with allied criminal justice agencies and with the local community. Grant reviewers will evaluate the Organization and Staff Capacity section in terms of how effectively it addresses the following:

Provide an overview of the agency that will serve as the subrecipient and/or implementing agency.

The implementation of the focused deterrence initiative to address micro-location driven gun violence will include a collaboration between Captain Jeff Cutwright, Community Policing Specialist Kate McLaughlin and Community Policing Unit supervisor Sergeant Vashon Williams. Captain Jeff Cutwright and Kate McLaughlin will administer the grant and oversee the project. The aforementioned team will reach out to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, The Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office, The Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court and the Euclid Municipal Court to foster a cooperative partnership for the local, state and federal prosecution of violations concerning gun related crimes, gun violence and possession of guns by prohibited persons. We will also partner with local schools, churches, parents, groups and businesses to communicate the purpose of our effort and gain community support. *

Identify the key staff involved in administering the grant, including their qualifications and experience.

Captain Jeff Cutwright, a 2019 graduate of the FBI National Academy (NA275), is the leader of the Patrol Division with 25 years law enforcement experience. As a patrol officer prior to being a supervisor he led the department in gun interdiction seizures. Community Policing Specialist Kate McLaughlin has 15 years experience providing community outreach, engagement and crime prevention initiative to residents. She also conducts strategic and administrative crime analysis for the department. Sergeant Vashon Williams has 11 years of law enforcement experience and specializes in community policing as well as gun /drug interdiction. Sgt. Williams is responsible for community outreach events especially geared toward the youth population. *

Describe partnerships with allied criminal justice agencies likely to be impacted by/involved in the violence reduction strategy.

Collaboration with local, state, and federal law enforcement and judicial authorities is a crucial element for the success of focused deterrence initiative to address micro-location driven gun violence in the City of Euclid. Convicted felons charged with Having Weapons While Under Disability or crimes involving firearms are best prosecuted and adjudicated in the Federal system by the BATF and federal courts. Those felony gun crimes not qualifying for federal prosecution are best prosecuted by the Cuyahoga County judicial system. Misdemeanor crimes involving firearms rely on the Euclid Municipal Court for adjudication. Juveniles possessing and using guns in criminal acts require partnering with the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court for prosecution. *

Describe partnerships with members of the local community to provide education and seek feedback on community needs and concerns regarding the development and/or implementation of the agency's violence reduction strategy.

The initiative supported by this grant is narrow in scope and emphasizes focused deterrence of illegal gun possession and use of guns in criminal activity in specifically identified micro-locations that drive most of the gun violence in our community. Prior initiatives cast a wider net engulfing entire neighborhoods with zero tolerance policing initiatives that address a wide variety of minor criminal activity while failing to hit productivity goals regarding illegally possessed guns or gun crimes; these initiatives generated public mistrust and police cynicism. This grant supported initiative and its specific nature will be communicated to the residents through notices, council meetings and social media. Public surveys distributed at the beginning, middle and end of the project will actively engage the public and provide a feedback mechanism crucial to project success. The Collaboration Board will also provide feedback, direction and serve as ambassadors to the community. *

Collaboration Board

Collaboration Boards are essential to the funding process. The leadership, oversight and direction they provide help projects achieve their goals and objectives through a shared community vision. Collaboration Boards should be comprised of agency representatives as well as relevant stakeholders from the community, including but not limited to representatives from: child and family services, community organizations, schools, hospitals, mental health and/or substance abuse agencies, local law enforcement, court systems, including victim advocates, probation officers, the prosecutor's office, etc. The Collaboration Board is not an agency's Board of Trustees or Advisory Board. The applicant may, however, use an existing community board or group to provide oversight to the project and act in the capacity of the Collaboration Board.

Grant reviewers will evaluate the Collaboration Board section in terms of how effectively it addresses the following :

Narrative

Identify the organizations that will participate in the Collaboration Board that will be responsible for overseeing the project. Note that signed commitment letters will be required from all representatives of the Collaboration Board.

The four members of the Collaborative Board consist of the following personnel and community members:

Bishop Thomas Owens of Living Waters Church of God 24951 N. Lakeland Blvd. Euclid, Ohio.

Kate McLaughlin Euclid Police Crime Analyst 545 E. 222nd street Euclid, Ohio

Sergeant Vashon Williams Euclid Police CPU Supervisor 545 E. 222nd Street Euclid, Ohio.

Shaunte Gardner Property Manager Euclid Apartments 27181 Euclid Ave. Euclid Ohio. *

Describe how each organization supports the overall goal of the project. Applicants should clearly link partner agencies with their roles and functions within the collaborative group.

Bishop Thomas Owens is the longtime pastor of Living Waters Church and is an expert community organizer who has many outreach efforts that are successful in improving the lives of city residents . He is in frequent contact with all the religious organizations active in Euclid. Shaunte Gardner is the Property Manager of Euclid Apartments which is a large apartment community spanning several city streets some of which are identified micro-locations of gun violence. Kate McLaughlin is a crime prevention specialist, crime analyst, community support and outreach expert. Vashon Williams is the supervisor of the Euclid Police Community Policing Unit, he will be the direct supervisor in the grant funded Gun Violence Reduction Team . The members of the Collaboration Board are uniquely positioned to provide input, guidance, direction and feedback regarding the performance of this grant funded effort. They are also experts at building community support. *

Provide details describing the management of the collaborative group. Include anticipated meetings and the process for distributing and maintaining meeting minutes.

The overall management of the Collaborative Board will be conducted by Jeff Cutwright Captain of the Euclid Police Patrol Division who is also the point of contact with the grantor. Collaborative Board meetings will occur in April, July, October and December of 2022. Daily staffing and operational control will be the responsibility of Sgt . Williams who will address such concerns during board meetings. Specialist Kate McLaughlin will keep the meeting minutes and distribute the same to all board members and Captain Cutwright. *