

**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 Warren Police Department is focusing on all crimes occurring within a specific geographical area . These crimes initially may not fall under the definition of a violent crime but may be a direct contribution to the violent crime rate. This includes all violent crimes such as Homicide, felonious assault, and assault. Additionally, other crimes include rape, sexual assault, human trafficking, trafficking in drugs, and possession of drugs. The Warren Police Department will also address property crimes including breaking and entering, burglary, and theft, which can lead to a violent crime occurring. \*

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 2017 violent crime rate for the Warren was 674.6 per 100,000 people, compared to 279.9 for Ohio and 380.6 for the United States. Warren was also identified by Ohio ATF as a top ten area for firearm recovery in 2018. In the calendar year of 2020, the Warren Police Department investigated 16 homicides, the highest homicide rate in history recorded by the Warren Police Department. Additionally, the Warren Police Department's Emergency Services Division responded to 49 calls for Forcible Rape, 56 Calls for Robbery, and 913 calls for Aggravated Assault. In 2020 the City of Warren's Homicide rate per 100,000 was 39.25. The national average reported in 2017 for Homicide per 100,000 was 5.3. The following are rates per 100,000 in the calendar year of 2020: Forcible Rape was 120.19, Robbery was 137.36 and Aggravated Assault was 2,239.50. \*

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

Warren is home to an estimated 38,752 people. US Census reports Warren's population is 68.1% White, 26.8% Black or African American, 4.3% Two or More Races, 3.3% Hispanic or Latino, .4% Asian, and .2% American Indian and Alaskan Native. The percentage of people living in poverty that call Warren home is 35%. This is roughly double the rate for Trumbull County (15.4%) and the state of Ohio (13.1%) and TRIPLE the rate for the United States (11.4%). \*

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

Enhancing/expanding an existing violence strategy

If you checked "Enhancing/expanding an existing violence reduction strategy":

Describe the violence reduction strategy that the agency is currently implementing, and include information on how the strategy is evidence-based.

The Warren Police Department formed the Criminal Intelligence Unit in 2020. The mission of the Criminal Intelligence Unit is to support patrol operations and criminal investigations. Additionally, the Criminal Intelligence Unit currently uses Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP) strategies. This consists of collecting information from a variety of sources and analyzing this data in order to predict and understand threats in the community. This allows the Criminal Intelligence Unit to move this information through an analytical process to provide decision makers with actionable intelligence. This is also a well-researched, evidence-based model for policing recognized by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. \*

Provide relevant performance measures (data) that demonstrate success with the current strategy.

The Warren Police Department created the Criminal Intelligence Unit in 2020. In the calendar year of 2020 there was a 56.3% Homicide clearance rate. In the calendar year of 2019, there was a 12.1% Homicide clearance rate and a 0% clearance rate for Homicides that occurred in 2018. Officers, prior to the creation of the Criminal Intelligence Unit, were trained in multiple disciplines to include cell phone forensics, cell site and call detail record analysis in preparation for such a unit. Additionally, those officers

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were provided with the tools to implement this training and begin using this evidence in criminal investigations. Evidence from suspect's phones was accessed within days rather than months now that officers were trained forensic operators . Also, investigators could now rely on these officers to collect and analyze cell phone records without relying on an outside State or Federal Agencies. \*

Thoroughly explain how the proposed project will expand and improve upon current efforts . Part of this discussion should explain how the proposed project is promising or proven to reduce violence.

Currently the Criminal Intelligence Unit has access to multiple databases, video forensics, cell phone forensics, and analytical software to include crime mapping. Furthermore, multiple surveillance systems, on a preexisting network, will provide additional resources for the Criminal Intelligence Unit. These systems, strategically placed in a certain geographical area, will not only provide immediate remote access to critical evidence but help corroborate other intelligence products. Examples of this would include pairing video surveillance with cell site analysis to help show accuracy of the location records. Furthermore, having a network of cameras would also help investigators with obtaining multiple views of a target or target vehicle providing additional identifying information. Additionally, video forensic capabilities of the Criminal Intelligence Unit used alongside surveillance video may provide key evidence with solving an investigation. \*

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. CyclopsX360 Systems are designed to provide stand alone full HD video coverage where installed. Cyclops X360 Systems are packaged with full HD sensors designed to provide full 360 coverage and detailed views up to and beyond 1,500 feet, as well as, full resolution-full frame rate recording. Each Cyclops X360 system is network friendly for "bolt on" technology to enhance and customize capabilities to the end user. These specific systems will not only provide investigators with crucial evidence for their investigations but they will also act as a deterrent for criminals. With investigators closing cases in this area and with a successful conviction, criminals will know that a higher risk is involved when committing crimes they know may be captured on camera. Furthermore, these systems will assist Criminal Intelligence Unit with locating evidence when analyzing crime patterns within this network of systems. \*

Discuss how the agency works with allied criminal justice partners and other relevant partners that intersect the criminal justice system, such as mental health and related social service providers.

The Warren Police Department has been allowing the Criminal Intelligence Unit to assist other law enforcement agencies with their investigations. The Warren Police Department understands that tools utilized by the Criminal Intelligence Unit are expensive and that other agencies may not have access to such tools. The Warren Police Department has been open to other departments by assisting with cell site analysis, cell phone forensics, locating/recovering other forms of digital evidence, identifying suspects, and locating missing persons. The Warren Police Department also works with multiple social service providers to include , Compass, the Ohio Response Recovery and Intervention Network (ORRIN), and various other non profits, specifically when combatting human trafficking. The Warren Police Department also dedicates full time officers to various State and Federal Task Forces . \*

Descibe how the the agency works with local community members to provide education and seek feedback on community concerns regarding the violence reduction strategy.

The mission of the Warren Police Department and the Criminal Intelligence Unit is to locate areas suffering from high crime rates . The Criminal Intelligence Unit locates these areas, identifies the underlying factors, and presents short term and long term solutions to the Warren Police Department's Command Staff. After this process is complete, the Criminal Intelligence Unit works with elected members representing these areas to help the Warren Police Department communicate with these community members . This would be in the form of setting meetings with community members to discuss the Criminal Intelligence Unit's solutions and allow the community to provide their own feedback and ideas on how the problem could be solved. The Warren Police Department believes by working with the Community and allowing them to take part in the solution process, that trust and relationships will be created through this collaboration between the Warren Police Department and the community. \*

**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

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## Statement section.

The objective of the Criminal Intelligence Unit - Warren Safety Net Project is to provide officers with additional resources and to decrease crime by 20%. The CIU has access to multiple tools, but investigators still lack video evidence. This project expansion would fill that void and provide that much need evidence along with additional functions that would support the CIU initiative. \*

- Identify the performance indicator for this objective. Note: this is the data that will be used to show whether change is taking place. In 2020, 239 violent crimes were investigated, 16 being homicides. In 2021, 177 violent crimes were investigated, 5 being homicides. Currently, these violent crime statistics are taken from our RMS and imported into an Excel spreadsheet for analysis. \*

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

The Warren Police Department will be placing all of the records currently stored in our Report Management System, to include Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) records, into the Accurint Virtual Crime Center. This will allow officers with the Criminal Intelligence Unit the ability to analyze years of historical records within the targeted area to use as a baseline. \*

- 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.

This data is collected and stored in the Warren Police Department's Report Management System. Lexis Nexis is currently working with our RMS provider, ID Networks, with accessing our database. Once all of the historical records have been moved to AVCC, Lexis Nexis will "ping" our database multiple times a day to keep current with our records so their solution can depict current records, daily. \*

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

- Identify an objective of this project.

Within the first few months of this project, the CyclopsX360 systems would be installed and operable. This will allow officers with the Criminal Intelligence Unit immediate remote access to these systems. Monitors will be installed in the Criminal Intelligence Unit to allow these systems to be monitored in real time. These resources are expected to help increase clearance rates by 30%. \*

- Identify the performance measure for this objective.

The CIU will take statistics/data for the funded project and compare them with historical crime rates. The CIU will use analytical solutions to achieve this goal quicker. The CIU will need the statistics after the project is implemented to compare past crime rates. \*

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

In 2020, the WPD cleared approximately 18.8% of all violent crime, this includes 6.25% of homicide investigations. In 2021, the WPD cleared approximately 25.9% of all violent crime, this includes 60% of homicide investigations after establishing the CIU. \*

- 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.

This data is collected and stored in the Warren Police Department's Report Management System. Lexis Nexis is currently working with our RMS provider, ID Networks, with accessing our database. Once all of the historical records have been moved to AVCC, Lexis Nexis will "ping" our database multiple times a day to keep current with our records so their solution can depict current records, daily. \*

## 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****Activity****Staff Lead**

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January	Vendor begins preparing for project implementation with Detective Altieri.  First collaboration Board meeting.  Weekly meetings with Command Staff begin.*	Detective Altieri Collaboration Board Members*
February	Installation of CyclopsX360 Systems Continue.	Detective Altieri*
March	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* Installation completion of CyclopsX360 Systems.  CIU begins analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altieri*
April	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.  2nd Collaboration board meeting.  Weekly command staff meetings continue.	Detective Altieri Collaboration Board Members*
May	Reporting Period.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altieri*
June	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altieri*
July	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.  3rd Collaboration board meeting.  Weekly command staff meetings continue.	Detective Altieri Collaboration Board Members*
August	Reporting Period.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altieri*
September	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altieri*
October	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.  Final Collaboration board meeting.  Weekly command staff meetings continue.	Detective Altieri Collaboration Board Members*

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November	Reporting period.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altiere*
December	Weekly command staff meetings continue.* CIU continues analyzing crime trends in the targeted area for the project.	Detective Altiere*
	Weekly command staff meetings continue.	
	Closing of Grant Project.*	

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 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 Warren Police Department (WPD) possesses the demonstrated capacity to complete the activities required for successful utilization of grant funds and execution of grant related responsibilities. In 2018, WPD successfully managed grant awards totaling \$676,090.40 through its fiscal accountability and collaboration with the City of Warren Finance Department. Warren Police Department is led by Chief Eric Merkel. Chief Merkel is a 25-year veteran with the Warren Police Department and has served as chief since 2013. The 60 officer Department operates with a traditional "top down" management structure that includes a chief, 2 division commanders, 5 lieutenants, 13 detectives, 9 sergeants, and 30 officers.\*

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

This project will fall under the supervision and leadership of Michael Altiere, a detective with the Criminal Intelligence Unit specializing in the recovery and analysis of digital evidence, cell phone forensics, and overall assistance with all criminal investigations. During the 8 years that Detective Altiere has served WPD, he was assigned to the Emergency Service Division, Street Crimes Unit, Criminal Investigative Division, and the Criminal Intelligence Unit. Detective Altiere is also assigned with the Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission as an Agent with the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force.\*

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

The Warren Police Department currently partners with multiple State and Federal Task Forces to include the FBI, DEA, and the Mahoning Valley Human Trafficking Task Force. All allied criminal justice agencies have full access to the capabilities of the Criminal Intelligence Unit for their investigations. The addition of surveillance systems not only benefits the Warren Police Department but also provides that same quality of investigative leads and evidence for our partners. Even those agencies not partnered with the Warren Police Department have contacted the Criminal Intelligence Unit for assistance.\*

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.

Warren Police Department anticipates that the implementation of the Criminal Intelligence Unit - Warren Safety Project, will create efficiencies in the organizational system as well as demonstrated crime rate reductions over time. These results will serve as evidence of effectiveness and will empower the department to access additional resources in the community and through private foundations. The Warren Police Department is already collaborating with local businesses by adding surveillance and sharing access. Furthermore, it has always been the mission of the Criminal Intelligence Unit to work with the community when creating long term solutions for neighborhoods affected by high crime rates. The Criminal Intelligence Unit will continue seeking feedback from the community by working with elected officials, specifically council members, to facilitate community meetings to discuss these solutions.\*

**Narrative****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 :

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.

**City of Warren, Ohio Law Department**

The City of Warren, Ohio's Law Department has committed to representation on the Collaboration Board . The Law Department consists of Civil and Criminal Divisions managed by an elected Law Director. The Civil Division handles civil work such as claims and contracts. The Criminal Division handles criminal prosecutions in the Warren Municipal Court .

The City of Warren's Law Department was chosen as a key collaboration board participant to make sure that any data or intelligence obtained is done so legally. Additionally, new technology and techniques can go through substantive review prior to implementation to insure credibility.

\*

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.

**Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office**

A representative of the Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office will also join the Collaboration Board . The Prosecuting Attorney represents the State of Ohio by inquiring into and prosecuting felony crimes committed by adults and all offenses committed by juveniles. The Trumbull County Prosecuting Attorney is also legal counsel for county officials , county agencies, townships and assorted boards, representing them in various civil matters.

The office is divided into five different divisions: Administrative Division, Appellate Division, Civil Division, Criminal Division and Victim/Witness Division.

The Trumbull County Prosecutor's Office has collaborated numerous times with the City of Warren Police Department . For over thirty years they have worked with the City of Warren Police Department on the Trumbull County Homicide Investigation and Prosecution Unit.

\*

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

**Trumbull County Adult Probation**

Probation conditions for the Trumbull County Central Court jurisdiction are typical of most Ohio statewide standard probation terms . Offenders are given an opportunity to prove that they can modify behavior to become law -abiding citizens. It is the duty of Trumbull County Adult Probation to make sure that those released are living by the Conditions of Community Control .

Adult Probation was chosen as a key collaboration board participant because they are in a unique position for information gathering and therefore information sharing between agencies, as this is an important focus for this project.

\*