

Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental (CESF) Program FY 2020

Overview: On behalf of its Sheriff's Office (CCSO), Collin County, Texas, applies for \$58,002.59—its expected eligible allocation—in FY20 CESF formula grant funds to help the CCSO prevent, prepare for, and respond to the new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, which causes COVID-19. Consistent with the Funding Program Solicitation CFDA #16.034's list of available projects and purchases, the CCSO plans to use the funds to buy personal protective equipment (PPE), cleaning supplies, one or more CIMR or comparable air-filtration systems, one or more EPIX360 or comparable atomizers for disinfecting building areas and vehicles, and an Abbott ID NOW device and related consumables or test kits for use in the county jail to quickly test incoming inmates and others for COVID-19.

Background: As a Texas sheriff, the Collin County Sheriff supervises the operation of the county jail—the Collin County Detention Facility (CCDF)—and is responsible for the safekeeping of the inmates. *See* Texas Local Gov't Code, § 351.041. Under Texas SB 4 (2017) (codified, in part, at Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, art. 2.251), the Sheriff complies with all proper federal immigration-detainer requests. And Collin County is a unit of local government that was identified as eligible for funding under the FY19 State and Local Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program and is, thus, eligible to apply for FY20 CESF funding.

Program: The CCSO plans to use CESF funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by purchasing:

1. PPE, including NIOSH-approved N95 filtering facepiece respirators or higher and medical gloves,
2. Supplies, including hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, bleach, and hand soap, as well as test kits for an Abbott ID NOW device (below),
3. Equipment, including (a) six CIMR Air Purification Systems for up to 500 sq. feet (a control room in the CCDF) or comparable air-filtration systems, (b) two CIMR Systems for up to 2,000 square feet (Communications Center [Dispatch] and, subject to an evaluation, the Intake Area of the CCDF) or comparable air-filtration systems, (c) an EPIX360 Electrostatic Disinfectant Sprayer (small areas and vehicles) or comparable atomizer and sprayer, and (d) an EPIX360 Cordless Backpack (large areas) or comparable atomizer and sprayer, and
4. Medical Equipment, namely an Abbott ID NOW device to quickly diagnose inmates and persons coming to the county jail. Currently, the County has deployed its sole Abbott ID NOW device in the CCDF, with the understanding that County Health may find a greater need for the device and re-locate it. Thus, the CCSO plans to buy a device and dedicate it to the county jail.

To be clear, the County or CCSO currently purchases PPE and cleaning and related supplies as part of its routine operation of the CCDF. Under state law, a county jail must be prepared to take custody of, and properly care for, persons with various diseases, including communicable diseases. *See* 37 Texas Admin. Code, §§ 273.2–273.7. And the CCSO understands that FY20 CESF grant funds may not be used “to supplant state or local funds but must be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would be, in the absence of federal funds, be made available.” The CCSO, thus, plans to use CESF grant funds for enhanced measures to protect inmates and staff and to clean the county jail, including buying quantities of PPE and cleaning and related supplies over and above what the CCSO would buy in the pandemic's absence. *See* Funding Program Solicitation CFDA #16.034, at 5.

Consistent with the CDC's *Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Correctional and Detention Facilities*, the CCSO plans to use CESF grant funds to buy additional quantities of PPE as part of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, during the pandemic,

the Sheriff requires the staff in the CCDF's admissions and release area to use gloves and masks while on duty and wash their hands more frequently during their shift. As the area's minimum staffing is between four and six officers per shift (2 x 12-hour shifts per day), the relevant staff is using more PPE and washing supplies than in the absence of the pandemic. Also, the Sheriff requires all areas of the jail, including medical, admissions and release, housing, restroom, shower, eating, and recreational areas to be cleaned more frequently daily. These new, temporary, pandemic-related work rules are increasing the CCSO's use of PPE and cleaning supplies.

In addition to meeting the eligible uses of FY20 CESH grant funds, the CCSO's program for use of these funds is reasonably necessary and cost effective as well. As key examples, the CCSO has no air-filtration systems, and this poses a risk to the relatively closed environments of the Communications Center (dispatch) and the control rooms in the county jail. Also, the CCSO has no atomizer to sanitize patrol or other vehicles (and these carry arrested persons as well as deputy sheriffs and other law-enforcement officers) or areas of the Sheriff's Office or CCDF. To the extent that an atomizer, like one of the EPIX360 devices, can disinfect an area in which a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis worked or resided to applicable standards, then the device will save substantial local tax dollars. Working with the County's Purchasing Dept., the CCSO recently priced a biohazard team to clean the Communications Center, the CCDF, and patrol vehicles, at over \$15,000 for a single procedure. In any event, such a device will improve the CCSO's response time in at least starting to clean an area more economically.

In sum, the CCSO expects that it will be able to use \$58,002.59 in CESH grant funds over two years to help prepare for, protect against, and respond to the COVID-19 disaster within the meaning of the grant standards.