



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

April 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

You are receiving this message because you have an active Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) or STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant from the Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) that includes a federally required cash/in-kind match contribution. In the wake of the national COVID-19 response efforts, our office, other state administrative agencies as well as numerous state and national victim service coalitions having been advocating for a streamlined match waiver approval process from the United States Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in an effort to pass down some financial relief to our grantee agencies and jurisdictions providing critical services to victims of crime.

In recent communications with our federal partners, both OVC and OVW have now initiated an unprecedented match waiver process for states. In turn we are making this one-time emergency match waiver available to your grant program(s).

If you are unable to meet your current matching funds requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic and need to reduce or remove cash/in-kind match from your budget, please submit a budget adjustment request through eGrants. In an effort to afford each agency maximum flexibility, and understanding you are juggling many competing priorities, budget adjustment requests to reduce or remove matching funds may be submitted now or any time prior to preparation of your Final FSR in eGrants. Please refer to the attached instructions for additional guidance on submitting match removal budget adjustments in eGrants.

Thank you for your patience, as we strive to provide our grantees with the flexibility and relief needed to navigate these uncharted waters.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Aimee Snoddy".

Aimee Snoddy
Executive Director
Public Safety Office
Office of the Governor