

Law Enforcement Advisory Board Meeting October 12, 2022

x denotes f2f presence

X	Paul Soptick
ZOOM	Scott Mackey
X	Reed Partridge
X	Irene Caudillo
X	Dan Soptic
ZOOM	Lynn Melton
	Casey Meyer
	Kent Anderson
ZOOM	Kimberly Weaver
	LaRon Thompson
	Abbie Dillard
X	Karl Oakman
ZOOM	Kendall McReynolds
	Raymond Nunez
	Gayle Townsend
	Nancy Chartrand
	David Patton
X	J'Hiesa (Nikki) Richardson
	Michael Armstrong
X	Rick Behrens
	Duane Beth
	George Simms
	Curtis Nicholson
ZOOM	William Barajas
	Brent Hardin
X	Tonda Hill
	Emmett Lockridge
X	Brian Perez
	Amber Adams

Rick Behrens opened the meeting at 4:05pm

Introductions for all

Rick Behrens asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting of September 14th, 2022.

Outreach team report.

It was decided the LEAB would meet in the community starting in January 2023 and at City hall in February alternating months.

Chief Oakman gave his report on the department.

Sheriff Soptic reported on his department. He also stated the LEAB needs an agenda and a direction when we talk to citizens.

A discussion of creating a Facebook page was held with no decision on who and when it would be created.

A lengthy discussion was held on the Roger Golubski issue.

Reed Partridge discussed the Victims of Crime Act Audit.

BACKGROUND

Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant

The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department (KCKPD) receives federal funding from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) passed through the Kansas Governor's Grants Program (KGGP). The grant funding supports the KCKPD Victim Services Unit. The purpose of this audit is to assess compliance with the requirement of the VOCA Grant awards during the audit period.

VOCA Grant Awards

The VOCA Grant awarded for fiscal year 2022 (FY2022) totaled \$364,025. The VOCA fiscal year spans October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. The awards typically require a 20% local match. However, federal legislation waived the FY2022 matching requirement and a portion of the FY2021 matching requirement due to the pandemic. For previous awards, the program used City General and Dedicated Sales Tax funds to meet the matching requirement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

VICTIMS OF CRIME GRANT COMPLIANCE AUDIT - VICTIM SERVICES UNIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Audit Objectives

The objective of this audit focused on the Police Department's compliance with the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant awards in place during the audit period of July 2021 through June 2022.

Audit Results

The audit focused on compliance in the following areas:

- Grant funded costs allowable per grant award agreements
- Grant funded costs adequately supported by invoices or timesheets
- Grant transactions were properly recorded
- Grant reporting completed as required
- Compliance with local matching requirement

Audit testing consisted of reviewing the timesheets and invoices supporting grant disbursements. Audit testing also included verifying required reports were completed.

In the areas tested, we found the Victim Services Unit complied with the VOCA Grant requirements. We did note the unit may not have claimed all eligible FY2022 cost.

Audit Results *Continued*

Finding #1: Historically the VOCA award requires a 20% local match. The matching requirement was waived for the FY2022 VOCA Grant award due to the pandemic. As a result, the Victim Services Unit may be able to increase its reimbursement of grant funded personnel costs.

Recommendation – The Victim Services Unit should review its personnel costs during the FY2022 grant period and claim all eligible costs resulting from the local match waiver.

See page 5

FY2022 VOCA Grant Award

Funding Source	FY2022	
Local Match	-	0%
Federal Funding	364,025	100%
Total Award	\$ 364,025	100%

Note: 20% Local matching waived for FY2022 grant period
See page 1

Management Response

A draft copy of the audit report was provided to the KCKPD. Their response to the finding is presented on page 6 of the report.

AUDIT RESULTS

The objective of this audit focused on the KCKPD's compliance with the requirements of the VOCA Grant awards in effect during the audit period. The audit period spanned July 2021 through June 2022. The areas tested included the following:

- Grant funded costs allowable per grant award agreements
- Grant funded costs adequately supported by invoices or timesheets
- Grant costs and reimbursements are properly posted
- Grant reporting completed as required
- Compliance with local matching requirement

In the areas tested, we found the Victim Services Unit complied with the VOCA Grant requirements. However, we did note the unit may not have claimed all eligible FY2022 cost.

Finding #1

Typically, the VOCA Grant award requires a 20% local match. To satisfy the matching requirement, 25% of the personnel costs for three Victim Services Unit employees are paid from the City General Fund and the Dedicated Sales Tax Fund. The matching requirement was waived for the FY2022 VOCA Grant award due to the pandemic. However, 25% of personnel costs for the three employees noted continue to be taken from the City General Fund and Dedicated Sales Tax Fund. A limited review of the of the unit's time studies during FY2022 showed the percentage taken from the City General Fund and the Dedicated Sales Tax Fund could be reduced saving approximately \$28,000 to the local funds.

Recommendation – If possible before the grant ends (September 30, 2022) and allowable by the KGGP, the Victim Services Unit should review its time studies and determine if additional personnel costs for FY2022 VOCA Grant could be claimed.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

A draft copy of this audit report was provided to the KCKPD. Their response to the finding is presented below:

The VOCA Fix legislation waived the 80-20 requirement, which provided relief to our unit in two significant areas: The required in-cash match funds provided by the Program Aid position that went unstaffed (not vacant) this fiscal year. Secondly, the pandemic hindered our volunteer use which was an essential source of in-kind match that was relieved through the waiver. The UG committed the entire 25% personnel cost for three positions during the FY22 application, as we have historically received towards our VOCA grant. During Fiscal Year 2022, the VSU dedicated increased amount of time to VOCA activities due to understaffing, for example, the Program Supervisor spent a significant amount of time in direct victim services versus non-VOCA activities. Under normal operations, the personnel costs for the three employees meets the 75/25 mark and is expected to do so in the coming fiscal year and future. Per the audit, we continue to be in compliance with VOCA despite not claiming all allowable costs. KGGP advised that to maintain VOCA's level of funding to all grantees during their time of shortage, no additional significant expenses were to be awarded. During the 2022 (and 2023) application, we were advised to keep the program the same, to avoid risking award amounts.

MEETING ADJOURNED 5:05