

CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** May 17, 2023

SUBJECT: Consider Resolution No. 2023-042, authorizing submission of the grant application and acceptance of allocated funds if awarded for the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY2023 Bulletproof Vest Partnership.

PRESENTER: Jimmy Perdue, Director of Public Safety

SUMMARY:

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has announced the FY2023 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) application funding period under the FY2023 Bulletproof Vest Partnership solicitation created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 and reauthorized by the Bulletproof Act of 2000. The Police Department is seeking authorization to apply for grant funding to purchase protective armor vests for sworn personnel.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The U.S. Department of Justice is committed to improving officer safety. The BVP initiative was designed to provide a critical resource to state and local law enforcement for the sole purpose of purchasing bullet-resistant body armor for sworn law enforcement officers. The BJA has awarded more than 1.5 million bulletproof vests through the BVP Program.

The Police Department is seeking authorization to apply for grant funding up to \$12,000 for the FY2023 BVP funding to purchase ballistic armor vests for sworn personnel. To receive the BVP funds, every law enforcement agency must have a written body armor wear policy. A focus on safety is maintained at all levels within the Police Department and is reinforced through supervision, training, and policy. North Richland Hills Police Department General Order Number 704 - Protective Equipment fulfills the body armor wear policy requirement of the grant.

There is a 50% match requirement, which will be funded through the Police Department's general fund budget. Justice Assistance Grant funds or other federal funding sources may not be used to pay for the portion of the bulletproof vest that is not covered by BVP funds. The use period for the FY2023 BVP funds will expire August 31, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution No. 2023-042, authorizing submission of the grant application and acceptance of allocated funds if awarded for the Bureau of Justice Assistance FY2023 Bulletproof Vest Partnership.