

**2009 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
Program Application Abstract
for the
Rolla Police Department
Supporting the Salary of the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator**

In keeping with the Justice Assistance Grant Program intentions for prevention and control of crime, the Rolla Police Department plans to use these funds to support funding for the Community Policy Officer/Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Assistant Coordinator. These activities and projects might not continue without this funding. Budgeting and funding for the Police Department is quite restricted, as it is for Municipal Government generally.

Abstract

APPLICANT NAME: City of Rolla, Rolla Police Department

PROJECT TITLE: The City of Rolla, Missouri Police Department Funding for the On-going Salary of the Community Police Officer/Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Assistant Coordinator

GOAL: Continue the development and successes of the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program by funding the salary and benefits package of the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator.

EFFECTIVENESS: The effectiveness of this project will be determined by the following criteria as required by the grant:

Increase the number of citizen contacts performed by volunteers, per yearly quarter, rather than uniformed patrol officers.

Performance Measure 1: Number of Vacation Checks performed

Performance Measure 2: Number of School patrol performed

Performance Measure 3: Number of Park and Bike patrols

Performance Measure 4: Number of After-hours animal calls

Performance Measure 5: Number of Noise Complaints calls

Performance Measure 6: Number of Leaving without paying calls

Performance Measure 7: Number of Speed Monitoring calls

Performance Measure 8: Number of Cold Case Investigations performed

SUMMARY:

Citizen volunteers, who after training have relieved patrol officers of routine tasks such as vacation security checks, morning and afternoon patrols around six schools within the City, and patrols of the City parks and bike trails. Providing just these tasks allow patrol officers to focus resources on more urgent law enforcement and community needs. This has freed patrol officer's time and increases work productivity, and allow officers to focus on tasks where their skills can be best utilized. Since January 22, 2009, VIPS Volunteers have performed 240 Vacation Security Checks, 288 School patrols, and 175 patrols around City parks and bike paths. All this activity (703 citizen contacts in Q1 2009), were formerly performed by uniformed officers. In the coming months, as more VIPS volunteers are brought on board, volunteers will begin to handle after-hours animal calls, noise complaints, leaving without paying calls, and radar speed monitoring in high violation areas. In addition, at some point in the future, we expect that VIPS volunteers will be assisting our criminal investigative bureau with cold case investigations and data entry.

The VIPS program needs on-going administrative support. Prospective volunteers need to be screened, interviewed, and have their backgrounds thoroughly checked. New volunteers need orientation, training, and supervision. Schedules need to be created, and revised when necessary. Policies, procedures need to be created and implemented. This administrative support has been, and is presently provided by the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator (the same person).

At the present time, the Rolla Police Department is totally funding the VIPS program by supplying patrol vehicles, radios, uniforms, office space, etc., plus a salary for the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator, out of its general operating budget. Paying the officer has strained the operating budget, and the Rolla Police Department may not be able to continue to fund this salary much longer. By requesting funding from this JAG grant for the salary of the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator, the Rolla Police Department desires to continue without interruption the administrative function of the Community Police Officer/VIPS Assistant Coordinator, and to reallocate present VIPS salary dollars back into the operating budget.

Public comment to the Rolla Police Department on the intended use of these grant funds is welcome. Please contact Officer Vince Giacolone at 364.1213, vgiacolone@rollacity.org, or Lt. James Macormic, 364.1213, jmacormic@rollacity.org with any comments or suggestions.