

# United States Senate

May 10, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Chair  
Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related  
Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related  
Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chair Shaheen, and Ranking Member Moran,

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2023 Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, and Related Agencies, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sincerely,



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator

**Smith, Tina(D-MN) Commerce, Justice and Science  
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests**

Recipient Name	Project Purpose	Project Location	Amount Requested (\$000)
University of Minnesota	A goal of Cedar Creek's education mission is to increase access to outdoor learning opportunities for under-resourced communities, and to play a part in building a broad-based science and technology workforce that is inclusive of all Americans. The University of Minnesota's ecology program is #2 worldwide and continued support helps the program to leverage existing assets for future expansion while serving the ecological and educational needs of the state. The current program serves students from across the spectrum of educational philosophies including public, private, charter, religious, and home schooling programs. Students come from around the Twin Cities metro area as well as surrounding rural areas.	Bethel MN	\$2,450
Hennepin Technical College	<p>"Hennepin Technical College (HTC) would like to launch the region's first cross-functional public safety training destination for peace officers, firefighters and EMTs to foster next-level emergency responder education in a live scenario environment. This public safety training space would mimic a neighborhood setting, with multiple structures erected from Conex containers plus a Class A and Class B burn building. These structures would provide a unique opportunity for interdisciplinary training between agencies, as well as prepare professionals and current students to work within a neighborhood to best support the communities they serve.</p> <p>Within the training environment, Conex containers would be stacked to create multi-level structures, allowing participants the ability to practice the various techniques necessary in single-story vs. multi-story emergency response scenarios (i.e., climbing stairs and ladders and entering windows, all while wearing protective gear, carrying fire hoses, stretchers etc.). Participants would also hone skills in emergency vehicle operation (squad cars, fire trucks and ambulances) in approaching and securing the scene, setting up a command center, as well as effectively working alongside community members during crisis.</p> <p>The proposed cross-functional training program would close the gap on existing public safety academic infrastructure at the HTC Law Enforcement Center/Brooklyn Park campus location, creating a wrap-around educational experience for public safety professionals and students. Recent events have solidified the need for first responders to train together to respond to an ever-evolving range of complex emergency events. No call for service is completely handled by any one type of public safety agency anymore. Events such as active shooters, hazardous materials incidents, terrorist attacks, and civil unrest have highlighted the need for joint training in planning, communication, and response. Additionally, a growing focus on social welfare issues such as addiction and mental health emergencies has demonstrated the need for people outside of traditional first responder roles to be trained to assist in a crisis. A regional public safety training facility is needed to provide specialized and cost-effective scenario-based training for a multitude of real-world scenarios that responders encounter on the job. "</p>	Brooklyn Park MN	\$3,060
Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College	<p>"This Congressional Directed Spending request will allow ATCC and FDLTCC to apply resources to curriculum updates and to purchase technologically advanced equipment capable of maximizing instructional value through the use of real-time, scenario-based instructional review.</p> <p>Project Deliverables</p> <p>Curricular enhancements and training related to race interactions, bias training, and an emboldened emphasis on improved communication and de-escalation techniques.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Incorporating cultural competency into our curriculum</li> <li>b. Infusing law enforcement programming with anti-racist education</li> <li>c. Providing cultural competency training to our faculty and program advisory committee members</li> <li>d. Developing transformative policing practices with an emphasis of the role of law enforcement as public servants within communities</li> <li>e. Diversifying, attracting, and retaining people of color into the program, both teachers and students</li> <li>f. Designing and increasing anti-racist and cultural competency for current police officers</li> </ol>	Cloquet MN	\$1,090

g. Pre-Service training of culturally competent entry-level peace officers capable of properly handling situations of various stress- and threat-levels through the use of intentional, real-life, scenario-based training.

Expected outcome: 175 graduates 2023/2024

h. Continuous education through in-service training for experienced peace officers with the focus of being culturally competent in a variety of intentional, real-life scenarios.

Expected outcome: 1,400 attendees 2023/2024

Budget

Curriculum Revisions

Faculty (avg. \$50 per hour xxx hours) \$30,000

Training \$75,000

Facility Updates (IT infrastructure) \$100,000

Standard Issue:

Patrol Vehicles (Recording System Equipped) \$370,000

Body Cameras \$40,000

Bodycam Data Storage Systems \$50,000

Fixed Facility Recording Systems \$75,000

De-escalation Technology:

Simulator Training Systems w/360 Degree View \$250,000

Communication/De-escalation Systems \$100,000

Total Project Request: \$1,090,000"

<p>Fond du Lac Tribal &amp; Community</p>	<p>"Alexandria College with its Minnesota State partner Fond du Lac Tribal &amp; Community College, stand ready to provide the citizens of Minnesota with licensed law enforcement professionals worthy of being entrusted as public servants. Our Minnesota State higher education system, Minnesota POST Board and state legislature recognize the urgency for change as the number of qualified peace officers continues to drop. As these entities are working on changes to help eliminate racism and ensure Minnesota is maximizing its efforts to best recruit and train our future generations of peace officers, we are dealing with the realization that there is significant work that needs to be done in our LE training programs - work that must be sustained in the long-term.</p> <p>Minnesota State graduates over 80% of all Minnesota licensed law enforcement officers. The recent tragic incidents involved decisions made by police officers using levels of force beyond those authorized by law. These incidents have been a driving catalyst for change in how law enforcement works in Minnesota. A Taskforce on Law Enforcement Education Reform advised the Minnesota State Chancellor and Board of Trustees on issues, initiatives, programming, and priorities relative to anti-racism and inequities in law enforcement and criminal justice education systemwide, as well as policing within our communities. The Taskforce made the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· All Minnesota State law enforcement and criminal justice programs will commit to the training of culturally competent peace officers for the State of Minnesota;</li> <li>· Recruit and retain black and indigenous persons of color law enforcement officers; and</li> <li>· Educate and train current officers.</li> </ul> <p>The Minnesota State higher education system and the Minnesota Peace Officers Standards and Training Board recognize the urgency for specialized training for law enforcement officers to enhance their conflict resolution, mediation, problem solving, service, and other skills needed</p> <p>to work in partnership with members of the community. Both entities are requiring training providers to implement quickly reforms that are responsive and applicable to pre-service and in-service Community Oriented Policing models. Academic instruction is combined with a high degree of hands-on training, but current theory and practice falls short of the desired reforms. These include curricular changes that provide essential skills including cultural competence and de-escalation. New technologies in support of updated curriculum are needed to train and re-orientate law enforcement officers of the future. Updated equipment will allow classroom learning to be applied in real-life settings by simulation, actors, communication systems, patrol</p>	<p>Cloquet MN</p>	<p>\$1,090</p>
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	vehicles, on-board computers, radios, and a variety of other tools most commonly associated with varied levels of force compliance. The Taskforce recommendations are highly relevant to ATCC and FDLTCC's law enforcement programs and require action now."		
Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College	Currently, there is a national and state shortage of peace officer candidates. State, County and local departments are understaffed and are in desperate need to hire the next generation of peace officers. Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College has one of the most successful law enforcement programs in the state and has trained thousands of peace officers. Students need to train with current industry standard equipment, that is reliable and performs safely.	Cloquet MN	\$20
Dakota County Sheriff's Office	We are requesting \$325,000 in funding for the project titled Use of Technology to Improve Public Safety. Preventing & Prosecuting Electronic Crimes - Funding will be used for a county-wide outreach campaign, including the nine school districts and the elder community, to determine the volume of the victimization; as well as maintain our relationships with domestic/sexual violence advocacy groups and coordinate with other law enforcement agencies in the 2nd District, and make sure we are meeting the needs of the various communities being affected by these crimes. We would hire a 1.0 FTE forensic technician responsible for the project, and leverage personnel in the electronic crimes unit in the Dakota County Sheriff's office. The forensic technician would investigate crimes such as revenge porn, cyberstalking, elder scams, cyberbullying, sexting, etc. This is a good use of tax dollars because it will increase the discovery/prosecution of these crimes which are underreported. Community education will help prevent these crimes, and law enforcement training will improve case outcomes. Personnel - \$150,000; Forensic computer equipment/software \$150,000, Marketing group for social media education campaign and print/radio/tv campaign \$25,000, Inkind operations including training investigators on best practices related to these crimes \$50,000.	Dakota County MN	\$375
City of Duluth	Over the past 4 years the city of Duluth has replaced all portable law enforcement radios. This was done because our current radios had reached end of life and were not AES encrypted. AES encryption is required by the Federal Bureau of investigation for all criminal justice information systems (CJIS) data. Radios are the primary way officers communicate in the field, often CJIS data is part of those transmissions. The Duluth Police Department needs to become compliant with this mandate which we have achieved with our portable radios. To become fully compliant the department needs to purchase 100 mobile in-car radios with AES encryption capabilities. Additionally these radios will be WI-FI compatible meaning they can be programmed remotely and updated when in a secure environment. This feature saves valuable time when radio code plugs need to be changed.	Duluth MN	\$625
City Of Hibbing	The City of Hibbing has a 24-hour Police/Fire/Ambulance/EMS amenity for the residents of Hibbing and the surrounding areas. The shared facility will include short-and-long-term cost savings and opportunities for operation synergy. Currently, the Police have clerical staff on hand, but the Fire Department does not. with combining the two, clerical staff can be shared between the two departments so there will always be someone to communicate with the public. The City of Hibbing doesn't have the land available to build separate facilities. By combining them, it maximizes a shared area while respecting the operational requirements of each department. This too, will be a cost-savings for the taxpayers. Currently, the Police Department does not have space to keep any of their fleet under cover With a new safety facility, vehicles will last longer and it won't be an added burden on the taxpayers. A combined safety building will unite the Police and Fire and improve coverage so they will function as a full first response crew. This will be a huge benefit to the community for the sense of combined open house for the community, the region, and the State of Minnesota. Because the departments work together, residents will only have to visit one building. The Government Safety Building will give the Police and Fire a Sense of community within their departments, and that is a win for the taxpayers of Hibbing. The State of Minnesota will be directly affected by the City of Hibbing building a Public Safety Center because the Police Department and the Fire Department work directly with the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Troopers on many levels.	Hibbing MN	\$2,200
Le Sueur Police Department	"The purpose of this project is to provide the citizens of Le Sueur with public safety technology and tools that will enhance the ability of the Le Sueur Police Department to protect and serve its citizens. This new communication technology will allow police officers and emergency personnel to communicate effectively and securely with each other, dispatch centers, and surrounding emergency service agencies. This new radio system is necessary for secure transmission of private public safety data. This radio system will allow the Le Sueur Police Department to communicate officer to officer, officer to dispatch, and officer to other emergency services including fire departments and	Le Sueur MN	\$180

ambulance services, and officer to any law enforcement agency in the state. With the proposed purchase of a new fleet of Motorola radios, all these communications would be secure, keeping private data secure, and increase safety for all citizens and officers by keeping sensitive information private. The entire annual operating budget of the Le Sueur Police Department in 2022 was approximately 1.2 million dollars. This includes employee salaries, health benefits, all department training, equipment and necessary expenses to fund a small town police department. A necessary project with a price tag of \$180,000 would put a serious strain on an already stretched annual budget. By utilizing this congressionally directed spending request to fund this project, it will help relieve financial burdens from a small community with a small tax base and limited resources while providing cutting edge law enforcement technology to constituents.

Many public safety entities were able to utilize CARES Act funds to fund their radio fleet purchases. The City of Le Sueur was hit hard by COVID-19 which caused great hardship within the city owned and run Community Center. The City of Le Sueur choose to utilize the Cares Act funds to support our Community Center to keep that facility open to the public to support physical and mental health of the community.

In 2022 the City of Le Sueur increased its tax levy 17%. This caused a significant financial burden to every citizen within the Le Sueur Community. This levy was necessary to fund several large street improvement projects, and the Community Center which was continuing to operate at a deficit. Due to these significant financial constraints on a small tax base of a community of only approximately 4,200, we were not able to fund this necessary emergency communications radio improvement project with local tax dollars.

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Madison Lake Police Department	This would add one full-time officer with the Madison Lake Police Department and expand coverage/protection to the citizens of Madison Lake from an average of 10 hours a day to most days having 20 hours of city coverage/protection. This would hopefully ease having to find people willing to work in law enforcement by being able to offer a full-time job versus trying to always hire, train and retain people for part-time positions.	Madison Lake MN	\$164
Hennepin County	<p>"The Hennepin County Adult Representation Services (ARS) Health Equity Legal Project will provide a full scope of legal and health supportive services to clients before they enter the court system. Current ARS clients include parents and custodians in child protection cases, tenants facing eviction, individuals subject to a guardianship action, and non-custodial parents in child support contempt matters. ARS is largely funded through county property tax dollars. This project is designed to empower and support families and individuals by providing early and culturally-responsive services as well as legal advice in order divert residents from the court system. Specifically, ARS will assist clients in addressing health, social, economic, and legal challenges that are barriers to stability and family preservation</p> <p>Most current ARS clients are assigned a lawyer and legal support services after initial court engagement, yet many clients enter the system because of untreated substance use disorders and mental health conditions. Tight court timelines coupled with the trauma and shame of being involved in a court process often creates insurmountable hurdles for clients who seek to achieve stability. This in turn leads to unnecessary and devastating family separation. Providing an array of services and a skilled legal team will divert clients from the court system.</p> <p>The project addresses the well-being of families in Hennepin County by proving legal assistance, support and resources to individuals and families who need early interdisciplinary care the most. Black, Indigenous and people of color are overrepresented in the Hennepin County justice system. Along the same lines, a majority of parents and legal custodians in the child protection system are identified as having a substance use disorder or struggle from mental health conditions. Providing prompt, deep-end and culturally-responsive services will reduce disparities by improving the likelihood that families will avoid justice system engagement and remain stable and intact."</p>	Minneapolis MN	\$500
City of Minneapolis	This project is the continuation of additional research, analysis, and evaluation of problem nature codes in the City of Minneapolis. The purpose of the work is to ensure that we can continue a comprehensive and holistic approach to public safety and not depend on police to respond to every call that comes to our 911 dispatch center. Problem nature codes are the categories used to determine what type of response a caller receives. The project is meant to stop the overreliance on police and develop alternatives that produce better outcomes, and free police up to handle more serious crimes. We take the time to use our human centered approach to work with residents, internal city staff, external partners, and jurisdictions to ensure that we co-build	Minneapolis MN	\$7,000

	<p>alternatives that meet the needs of the end user. We use this model to ensure maximum participation and to build a model that recognizes the unique perspective of all involved in developing an emergency response. During the process we do rapid prototyping to test ideas and rule out what isn't feasible to land on a model that we can pilot and evaluate by using the metrics that we chose as part of the development phase of our work. We have already created three alternative response models using this process; one for mental health response, overnight parking response, and the transfer of theft and report only calls. This has freed up our police officers to spend time on more serious crimes and resulted in better outcomes for residents.</p>		
City of Minneapolis	\$1.5m from the Law Enforcement Technology funds is expected to meet the needs for police mobile radio upgrades in the City.	Minneapolis MN	\$1,500
City of Minneapolis	<p>"The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan works in partnership with the Step-Up program. Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan provides Step Up program participants paid part-time employment, while extending paid internships to learn about public safety and the value of serving their community. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan has a public safety-based curriculum that offers hands on training and learning experiences, through the many pathways to becoming a police officer. The instructors' pedagogy blends public safety experiences and opportunities with community service. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan's partnership with Step Up provides career experiences and multiple pathways for residents of communities who have been historically overlooked by law enforcement recruitment initiatives. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan is intended to focus on communities experiencing racial disparities, with respect to offering law enforcement career pathways. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan also focuses on providing inclusion, and equity, and equal opportunities for paid internships, paid law enforcement training and college tuition, through paid pathways to becoming a licensed peace officer for the City of Minneapolis. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan also offers individuals an opportunity to give back to the communities in which they have played, worked, and attended school. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan's pathways are in partnership with Step Up participants and provide:</p> <p>Paid Internships: These internships paid and provide the employee with the unique experience of working, as an intern, within police facilities. The interns can engage with community members through attending city events such as parades, job fairs, and much more. These interns also can interact with licensed police officers and learn the daily function of recruitment, investigations, serving their community, and the importance of all departments working together as an enterprise to provide equitable service to all who live, work, and visit Minneapolis. These interns may then be hired as a Community Service Officer. While serving in this capacity, the Community Service Officer will receive pay for their service and attend a local college, with tuition paid for by the Minneapolis Police Department. Once the Community Service Officer has completed the approved law enforcement program and met the Minnesota Peace Officers Standards and Training licensing requirements, the Community Service Officer will be eligible for a promotion to Minneapolis Police Recruit. The position of a Minneapolis Police Recruit is another paid position, with the Minneapolis Police Department. As a Minneapolis Police Recruit, one will enhance community relations, procedural justice, and health and wellness knowledge, while learning to apply those skills in serving all communities within Minneapolis. After completing the 16-week training as a Minneapolis Recruit Officer, one is promoted to Minneapolis Police Officer. As a licensed peace officer, one will have the honor of applying the pillars of procedural justice such as, voice, neutrality, respect, and trust. One will also engage with community with an understanding of trust, accountability, and professional service. As a police officer one may also contribute to the community and profession, through reforming, transforming, and advancing the way service is rendered to all communities within Minneapolis. Once assigned to a community within Minneapolis, as a police officer, the Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan will have brought the participant full circle. The participant will now have equity of high self-esteem, pride, self-fulfillment, and an understanding of returning equity to the neighborhoods from which they have grown. The process of the Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan, in partnership with Step Up, will continue to provide a mechanism of recruitment by those who are from our communities. Those individuals will then model their great character while serving their communities and recruiting others to follow the same pathways through recruitment, internship, higher education, and service through law enforcement. The Minneapolis PEACE Recruitment Plan is a cycle that continues to give, and those who benefit will then give back to their community. This cycle is one that will continue to positively impact diverse communities and affords growth socially, economically, and educationally."</p>	Minneapolis MN	\$1,895

St. Olaf College	<p>"Home to the Mayo Clinic, Medtronic, UnitedHealth Group, and many other esteemed and inventive organizations, Minnesota is a leader in both the healthcare and medical device industries. Minnesota's prosperity and health depends on their success. In turn, these Minnesota organizations rely on a healthcare and STEM workforce capable of designing, testing, and deploying innovative healthcare technology that empowers patients to live their best lives. However, a chronic healthcare worker shortage exists in Minnesota and threatens to worsen due to the state's aging demographics. The demand for healthcare will increase at the same time that a large share of current healthcare workers retire and generate vacancies in the field. For example, the state projects that between 2020 and 2030, double-digit growth will occur in job openings for both physical and occupational therapists; job openings are projected to grow by almost 50% for nurse practitioners. More than 45,000 job openings will exist for registered nurses.</p> <p>St. Olaf's proposed renovations directly address this growing need in Minnesota by dramatically enhancing the training of nurses, rehabilitation therapists, and biomedical engineers. It will produce healthcare workers positioned to become leaders and innovators in their fields. For example, Minnesota is already home to the United States' largest 3D printing facility within a medical center, located at the Mayo Clinic. The clinical and surgical future of this facility needs healthcare workers familiar with the possibilities the technology provides to fulfill its promise. Moreover, Minnesota faces a critical shortage of healthcare educators. The proposed renovations will help St. Olaf recruit and retain faculty, as well as attract students interested in pursuing healthcare careers. St. Olaf has an established track record of preparing students well for work in Minnesota's healthcare and medical device industries.</p> <p>Finally, a thoughtfully designed new space will allow St. Olaf to host inspiring outreach activities and events aimed at helping SE MN elementary and secondary school students explore careers in healthcare and engineering. One example of current community outreach is an NSF-funded "community engineering" program at St. Olaf, in which engineering students engage in STEM outreach as part of their curriculum. If the renovations are funded, these community engineers will use the fabrication laboratory to construct materials for outreach activities and will introduce community members to rapid prototyping technology."</p>	Northfield MN	\$590
Ramsey County	<p>Ramsey County's data shows that only 40% of those served in the county's homeless shelters are actual residents of Ramsey County. This proves that that problem is regional, yet the biggest financial burden of caring for these individuals has largely fallen on the urban core counties of Ramsey and Hennepin. Funding this demonstration project will help those who are cycling through the public safety and health care systems the most frequently with the goal of finding stability for them and taking them out of the shelter system permanently.</p>	Saint Paul MN	\$2,000
Saint Peter Police Department	<p>This split is required by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. This is a new requirement and no funding was budgeted for this work. Within this project, the City and the Police Department will be in violation of the new BCA rules and may be prohibited from accessing state criminal databases.</p>	Saint Peter MN	\$33
Scott County Sheriff's Office	<p>Funding would be used to purchase a non-military, armored, multipurpose response and rescue vehicle for the recovery and/or evacuation of person(s) who are injured or stranded in high-risk areas, natural or other disasters, assist with barricaded subjects, serve high risk search warrants or arrest warrants, or the movement of personnel into hostile or unsafe areas to effect an arrest or render aid, crisis intervention, with primary emphasis on the safety of all persons involved, civilian and police. The vehicle is designed to carry emergency responders, medical personnel, negotiators, rescued civilians, and life-saving equipment. In addition, the vehicle's rescue and response capability will also increase our cooperative efforts with other area first responders. It would be deployed throughout Scott County, aiding our local police departments and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. It would also be a regional asset available in the event a mutual aid request was made by law enforcement agencies in neighboring counties (Dakota, Rice, LeSueur, Sibley, Carver, Hennepin) and statewide. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would undoubtedly help make our responses to the most serious and critical incidents safer for our residents, visitors, and deputies for years to come.</p>	Scott County MN	\$350

Minnesota Department of Corrections	<p>"Individuals returning from incarceration face barriers to accessing vital community-based supports. This project will provide evidence-based reentry programming that supports successful outcomes for individuals and communities. Siloed programs result in inefficient service delivery to these communities as staff across programs do not routinely collaborate to support clients. The aim of the Digital Coordination Platform (DCP) is to allow multiple agencies serving the needs of reentering individuals to collaborate and coordinate service delivery. The enabling technology that will allow this real time data sharing is called Pathfinder. Pathfinder's technology allows users to coordinate care in real time to better understand the emotional and physical wellbeing for program participants. A key component of this project will allow DOC to receive a customized platform tailored to the needs of the reentering population.</p> <p>A web dashboard, Pathfinder Bridge, allows support staff to communicate directly with clients, and observe asynchronous engagement by the client on their mobile device through the mobile app, Pathfinder Companion. Check-ins and habit managing by the client give the entire network of support visibility to the progress of the client without the demand for constant synchronous communication with various entities. Program goals for this one-year pilot include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced recidivism</li> <li>Improved health and quality of life outcomes</li> <li>Increased public safety</li> <li>Reduction of emergency department visits</li> <li>Increased retention in probation specialty court programming</li> <li>Reduced incarceration costs"</li> </ul>	St. Paul MN	\$1,800
MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	<p>"In the early 2000s, Minnesota public safety leaders worked together to create a governance structure for the buildout of statewide radio network, ARMER (Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response). At that time, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) forced a change to radio frequency that nearly all MN public safety agencies were operating on. This included both law enforcement agencies and other emergency response agencies that stretched budgets and prudently leveraged available grant funds to transition to the ARMER network by the required deadline of 2012. With nearly all public safety entities on ARMER, Minnesota has become a national leader in communication interoperability.</p> <p>With the adoption of this new security requirement by the FBI to encrypt any radio traffic transmitting Criminal Justice Information, local law enforcement and other emergency response agencies are faced with not only with the challenge of protecting sensitive data from security breaches while also maintaining a level of interoperability but also a significant financial burden in order to achieve compliance. Total costs are still being determined; however, initial estimates are that it will cost more than \$300 million to replace or upgrade all radio equipment in MN. This request would specifically address law enforcement agencies as the target of the Congressionally-Directed Spending funds and would serve as an initial investment to secure funding from multiple sources over a longer period of time.</p> <p>ECN is hosting an Encryption Summit in May to develop a roadmap for this migration statewide and to ensure that careful planning and change management is deployed to make such a significant change. The BCA and ECN view this as a critical opportunity for the state to work in partnership with local law enforcement agencies throughout MN."</p>	St. Paul MN	\$10,000
Washington County	<p>The project has two components. The first is to purchase 10 Ford Interceptor Hybrid Squad Cars. The second component of the project is to purchase a new River Patrol Boat and Motor.</p>	Washington County MN	\$800