

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution to Appropriate \$25,680 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services 2026 JAG Law Enforcement Equipment Grant (2nd reading)
Staff Contact(s):	Holly Bittle, Management Analyst III
Presenter:	Michael Kochis, Police Chief
Date of Proposed Action:	September 15, 2025

Issue

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services ("VDCJS") awarded the City of Charlottesville's Police Department \$73,799 as part of the FY 2026 Byrne/JAG Program Law Enforcement Equipment Grant Program. The Charlottesville Police Department ("CPD") recommends the appropriation of \$25,680.00 to purchase eight (8) new high-performance desktop computers for the General Investigation Bureau ("GIB") to be utilized for cell phone and other electronic extractions pursuant to search warrants and court orders for local criminal investigations.

Background / Rule

The digital data obtained for police investigations increasingly provides critical evidence for criminal prosecution. To efficiently search through the vast amounts of forensic data gathered over the course of each investigation, the Police Department's GIB detectives need higher-performance computers with more RAM and faster processors to reduce the number of work hours needed to review the ever-increasing amounts of digital evidence handled by the GIB. This will allow detectives to focus on solving crime and serving the community.

Analysis

Appropriation of these funds will provide the CPD's GIB detectives with better tools to review the ever-increasing amounts of digital evidence without using funds from its annual FY 2026 appropriated General Fund operating budget. The eight (8) high-performance desktop computers will replace current laptops for eight (8) detectives and will be added to the City's Information Technology's ("IT") standard computer replacement schedule. IT has been included in the planning process for this Project.

Financial Impact

This will not impact the Police Department's FY 2026 appropriated General Fund operating budget. The twenty-five percent (25%) match required by the Grant will come from existing funds from the Virginia Forfeited Asset Sharing Program, totaling \$6,420.00. The VDCJS Grant funds will provide the remaining \$19,260.00, resulting in a total appropriation of \$25,680.00.

The eight (8) high-performance desktop computers will be added to the City's IT standard computer replacement schedule.

Recommendation

City Staff recommends adoption of the attached Resolution approving and appropriating this VDCJS Grant funding.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

"I make a Motion to adopt the attached Resolution approving and appropriating this VDCJS Grant funding."

Attachments

1. Resolution - Virginia 2026 DCJS JAG LE Equipment Grant