



## Office of the Mayor

5520 Lacy Road  
Fitchburg, WI 53711-5318  
Phone: (608) 270-4200  
Fax: (608) 270-4212  
[www.fitchburgwi.gov](http://www.fitchburgwi.gov)

January 9, 2024

Wisconsin Department of Administration  
P. O. Box 7864  
Madison, WI 53707-7864

I am writing today to express my support of the City of Fitchburg's application for grant funding under the Department of Administration's "Grants for Local Projects" program. I am pleased to see grant opportunities such as this that can positively impact not only our Fitchburg community but the broader Madison metropolitan region.

Fitchburg has been planning to construct a police services facility for several years to address space needs in our police department and city hall. Fitchburg has experienced considerable growth in our geographically and socio-economically diverse community since our current police department and city hall were constructed in 1999. Our population has increased nearly 66% during this time, from 20,501 (2000 US Census data) to 34,019 (2023 Wisconsin Department of Administration estimate). Staffing within both the police department and city hall has increased, although not necessarily in direct correlation with our population growth, during this time as well. This past growth and predicted future growth clearly demonstrated the need to address our space needs through a new police services facility.

The construction of a police services facility has been a project in our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for many years. The Fitchburg Common Council annually reviews and approves the CIP and most recently approved the current CIP containing the police services facility project in July of 2023 with a budget of \$35 million. This project is anticipated to break ground in late 2024 with completion in 2026. Inflationary and other pressures on the design and construction of a police services facility are significant and completion of the project, as currently designed, cannot be accomplished within the approved budget. The city sees a potential opportunity in the construction of a new police services facility that could benefit public safety regionally.

As currently designed, the new police services facility is proposed to have a training scenario bay with live-fire capabilities as well as space for classroom instruction and other scenario-based training. With the growth in the population of the broader Madison-metropolitan region, as evidenced by the growth of Fitchburg, the two police training facilities operated by Dane County and Madison struggle to meet the current need for police training facilities in the region and the need is anticipated to grow in the coming years. Currently, there are situations where our police department has a difficult time identifying dates at these facilities for our required annual training and there are instances where our officers need to travel out of Dane County to locate training space.

The funding that this grant provides will allow the city to include the training scenario bay with live-fire capabilities in the construction of the new police services facility. If this training scenario bay were to be included with this facility, it is our intent to make this training scenario bay and classroom available for other police agencies in the region. Opening this training facility to other agencies in the region creates the opportunity to benefit the safety of the broader public and aligns quite well with the public purpose category of public safety in this grant program. Public

safety officers who utilize this training facility may positively impact the regional community through training opportunities that may enhance the prevention and investigation of crime and improve emergency response.

This training facility can provide a needed resource in our region. This is a unique opportunity for our community to partner with other agencies in our region to enhance our collective efforts to provide quality police services and emergency response to our respective communities. I want to thank you for considering our application and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Arata-Fratta". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Julia Arata-Fratta

January 25, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

The City of Fitchburg is in the process of designing a new police services facility. While the Fitchburg City Council has not yet voted to approve the design formally, many council members support the existing design, as training space is a critical component of the new facility to help meet present and future staff needs. As the design currently stands, the new facility will include a large multi-purpose room for classroom training, a mid-sized Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) room, and an open-concept, 25-yard ballistic training bay. Those areas of the police services facility will be available to our law enforcement partners throughout the county, State, and Federal agencies to rent for in-service and specialized training. New dedicated training spaces will allow us to host more regional-level training and collaboration with law enforcement partners.

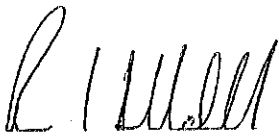
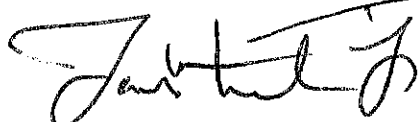

The new Police Services Facility for the City of Fitchburg will provide an additional option for area law enforcement agencies to train their personnel and ease the burden of scheduling, staffing constraints, and time wasted on travel. The facility can fill a growing need in the region by providing surrounding law enforcement agencies with a venue to focus on the growth and development of an extremely inexperienced profession. It will also provide space for law enforcement professionals from across the State and region of the country to participate in training from experts in various disciplines.

The Dane County region is greatly limited in available law enforcement training space, which would include classrooms, DAAT space, and indoor ballistic-capable training bays. Often, law enforcement agencies compete to schedule in-service or specialized training with the two places available today: Madison Police Department and Dane County Sheriff's Office. In addition, these two agencies are responsible for their own sworn staff, so training space is at a premium in the area. Furthermore, Dane County is one of Wisconsin's largest and fastest-growing areas. Fitchburg alone has grown more than 50% in the last two decades. With a larger regional population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and training requirements for the foreseeable future.

Training in the policing profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the countless critical incidents that occur throughout our country every year. Local law enforcement is, more often than not, the initial response to those incidents. The ability of an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during an incident is directly tied to the quality of training received. Fitchburg's new police facility will allow local law enforcement to step forward in delivering exceptional service to area communities. In addition, a larger police facility and training offerings will facilitate further growth and advancement opportunities in the number of field training officers in the Fitchburg Police Department, which is a crucial aspect of employee retention and officer recruitment.

Lastly, the training component of the facility will allow Fitchburg police to engage with the community in a manner the city has never seen. The department can explore opportunities to bring in local residents and participate in training, such as the citizen's academy and sessions where both the community and the police can learn more about the police and different cultures within the community they serve. Additional space would also increase collaboration opportunities for programming with existing community organizations and strengthen ongoing partnerships. Based on data from the 2020 census, Fitchburg is the most diverse city in Dane County. The city must have sufficient training space to allow for effective community outreach programming to reach a variety of populations, positively impacting both the Fitchburg Police Department and the community as a whole by building trust in our department and its personnel.

The following signatories of the letter support the proposed design for the new City of Fitchburg police facility and back the city's efforts to receive a grant from the State of Wisconsin to help make the project a reality.

 R. I. Wall Fitchburg Alder District 4 - Seat 8  
 Janice J. Fitchburg ALDER District 4 - Seat 7  
 Shannon Strassner Fitchburg Alder District 3 - Seat 6

January 19, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

The City of Fitchburg is in the process of designing a new police services facility. The Fitchburg City Council is supportive of the existing design, as training space is a critical component of the new facility to help meet present and future staff needs. As the design currently stands, the new facility will include a large multi-purpose room for classroom training, a mid-sized Defense and Arrest Tactics (DAAT) room, and an open-concept, 25-yard ballistic training bay. Those areas of the police services facility will be available to our law enforcement partners throughout the county, State, and Federal agencies to rent for in-service and specialized training. New dedicated training spaces will also allow us to host more regional-level training and collaboration with law enforcement partners.

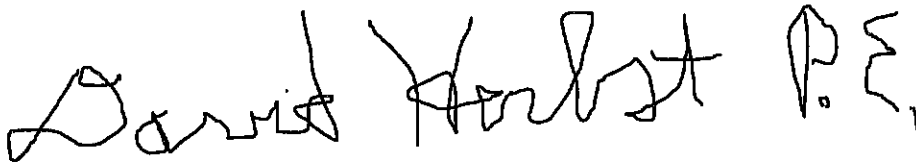
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Training in the policing profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the countless critical incidents that occur throughout our country each and every year. Local law enforcement is, more often than not, the initial response to those incidents. The ability for an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during an incident is directly tied to the quality of training received. Fitchburg's new police facility will provide another opportunity for local law enforcement to take a step forward in delivering exceptional service to area communities. In addition, a larger police facility and training offerings will facilitate further growth and advancement opportunities in the number of field training officers in the Fitchburg Police Department, which is a crucial aspect of employee retention and officer recruitment.

Lastly, the training component of the facility will allow Fitchburg police to engage with the community in a manner the city has never seen. The department can explore opportunities to bring in local residents and participate in training such as the citizen's academy and sessions where both the community can learn more about the police, and the police can learn more about different cultures within the community it serves. Additional space would also increase collaboration opportunities for programming with existing community organizations and strengthen ongoing partnerships. Based on data from the 2020 census, Fitchburg is the most diverse city in Dane County. It is imperative that the city has sufficient training space to allow for effective community outreach programming to reach a variety of populations, positively impacting both the Fitchburg Police Department and the community as a whole by building trust in our department and its personnel.

The following signatories of the letter are supportive of the Fitchburg City Council's approved design for its new police facility and back the city's efforts to receive a grant from the State of Wisconsin to help make the project a reality.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Herbst P.E.". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The letters "David" and "Herbst" are connected, and "P.E." is written to the right of the name.

David R Herbst P.E. Fitchburg District 1 Alder



Alfonso Morales, Chief of Police  
5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711  
Ph: 608.270.4300 | Fx: 608.270.4349 | fitchburgwi.gov

January 10, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

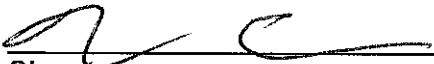
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The Dane County region is limited with law enforcement training space, which would include classroom style, Defense and Arrest Tactics space, and indoor ballistic-capable training areas. More often and not, law enforcement agencies are competing with each other to schedule in-service or specialized training with two places to choose from, Madison Police Department and Dane County Sheriff's Office. In addition, these two agencies are responsible to the sworn staff they have, so training space is at a premium in the area. Furthermore, this area of the State is one of the largest and fastest growing and, with more population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and training requirements of staff.

The new Police Services Facility for the City of Fitchburg will provide an additional option for law enforcement agencies to train their personnel and ease the burden related to scheduling, staffing constraints and time waste for travel. The new police services facility will also provide surrounding law enforcement agencies to venue to focus on the growth and development of an extremely inexperienced profession. Additionally, it will also provide space for law enforcement professionals from across the State and region of the country to participate in training from experts in a variety of disciplines.

Training in our profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the many critical incidents that occur throughout our country. Our local law enforcement are, more often than not, the initial response to those incidents. The ability for an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during those incidents is born through the quality of training received. This facility will provide another opportunity for law enforcement to take a step forward in delivering exceptional service to our communities.

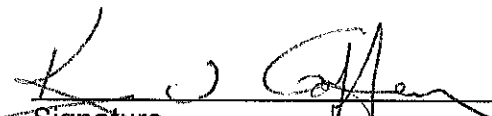
The below signatures represent law enforcement agencies and regional partners that fully support the City of Fitchburg in receiving grant funding through the State of Wisconsin – Department of Administration for their new police services facility. The below officials recognize the importance and value of the training components of the facility and intend on utilizing the space for their own agency's training, as well as collaborating with community organizations and local, county, State and Federal law enforcement to better serve our collective community.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

01/11/24  
Date

Brian Conway  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

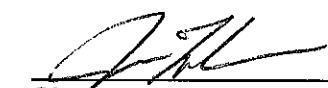
Chief of Police, Monona  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title & Agency

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

1/11/24  
Date

Kim V. Gaffney  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

U.S. MARSHAL - United STATES MARSHAL SERVICE.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title & Agency

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

1/11/24  
Date

JASON ZEEH  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

CAPTAIN WI State Patrol  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title & Agency

[Signature]  
Signature

01/11/2024  
Date

Jennifer Pagenkopf  
Printed Name

Chief of Police Oregon Police Department  
Title & Agency

[Signature]  
Signature

11 JAN 24  
Date

MARK W. GARTY II  
Printed Name

CHIEF OF POLICE COTTAGE GROVE PD  
Title & Agency

[Signature] Verona PD  
Signature

1-11-2024  
Date

Matthew Dart  
Printed Name

Lt. Verona PD  
Title & Agency

[Signature]  
Signature

1-11-2024  
Date

Daniel Sents  
Printed Name

Chief Stoughton  
Title & Agency

D. J. Danner  
Signature

1/11/24  
Date

David Danner  
Printed Name

Vernon PD - Chief  
Title & Agency

[Signature]  
Signature

01/11/24  
Date

Tom Heinen  
Printed Name

Chief - Milledale P.D.  
Title & Agency

Charles A. Turbbs Sr  
Signature

01/11/24  
Date

CHARLES A. TURBBS SR  
Printed Name

DIRECTOR DANE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
Title & Agency

[Signature]  
Signature

01 23 2024  
Date

Michael Sipes  
Printed Name

Chief - Sun Prairie PD.  
Title & Agency



Signature

Kalvin D. Barrett

01/22/24

Date

Printed Name

Dane County Sheriff's Office

Title & Agency



Signature

Adam Kreitzman

Printed Name

Waunakee Police Department

Title & Agency

1/23/24

Date



Signature

Aaron P Chapin

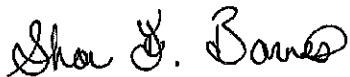
Printed Name

Chief of Police - McFarland Police Department

Title & Agency

01/23/2024

Date



Signature

Shon F. Barnes

Printed Name

Chief of Police - Madison Police Department

Title & Agency

1/30/2024

Date



January 10, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

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The Dane County region is limited with law enforcement training space, which would include classroom style, Defense and Arrest Tactics space, and indoor ballistic-capable training areas. More often and not, law enforcement agencies are competing with each other to schedule in-service or specialized training with two places to choose from, Madison Police Department and Dane County Sheriff's Office. In addition, these two agencies are responsible to the sworn staff they have, so training space is at a premium in the area. Furthermore, this area of the State is one of the largest and fastest growing and, with more population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and training requirements of staff.

The new Police Services Facility for the City of Fitchburg will provide an additional option for law enforcement agencies to train their personnel and ease the burden related to scheduling, staffing constraints and time waste for travel. The new police services facility will also provide surrounding law enforcement agencies to venue to focus on the growth and development of an extremely inexperienced profession. Additionally, it will also provide space for law enforcement professionals from across the State and region of the country to participate in training from experts in a variety of disciplines.

Training in our profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the many critical incidents that occur throughout our country. Our local law enforcement are, more often than not, the initial response to those incidents. The ability for an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during those incidents is born through the quality of training received. This facility will provide another opportunity for law enforcement to take a step forward in delivering exceptional service to our communities.

Lastly the training component to the facility will allow Fitchburg police to engage with the community in a manner the city has never seen. The department will explore opportunities to bring in the community and participate in training such as the citizens academy and sessions where both the community can learn more about the police and the police can learn more about different cultures.



**Jorge Antezana** | **Executive Director**  
Wisconsin Latino Chamber of Commerce  
**B:** PO Box 259851, Madison, WI 53725  
**P:** (608) 712-3522  
**W:** [www.lccwi.org](http://www.lccwi.org)  
**E:** [jorge@lccwi.org](mailto:jorge@lccwi.org)



January 25, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E. Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: City of Fitchburg Police Department's application to the 2023 Wisconsin Act 19, Non-State Grant Program

To whom this may concern:

United Way of Dane County is excited to support the City of Fitchburg Police Department's application to the 2023 Wisconsin Act 19, Non-State Grant Program. If awarded, this grant would provide valuable funding to the City of Fitchburg Police Department to design and build a new police services facility that includes a much-needed training space. As their community partner, we know they have a strong foundation in community policing and that small police departments, such as theirs, would benefit greatly from this opportunity to expand its training space to advance community policing strategies. We also know this area in Dane County, Wisconsin is one of the fastest growing in our state, and with its increasing population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and training requirements.

United Way of Dane County has been working to meet the changing needs of our community for over 100 years. The primary goal of our *Plan for Community Well-Being* is to measurably increase individual and family well-being so that every person in Dane County leads a healthy, thriving and secure life that meets their own defined goals and that is not impacted by experiences of systemic racism, discrimination and poverty. Community safety is another focus of our organization, and we rely on our neighborhood police departments to support the goal of safety, which contributes to overall family well-being. United Way of Dane County is proud to partner with City of Fitchburg as we work to achieve our collective community health goals.

The City of Fitchburg is in the process of designing a new police services facility, and training space is a critical component of the new facility. As the design currently stands, the new facility will include a large multi-purpose room for classroom training, a mid-sized Defense and Arrest Tactics room, and an open-concept, 25-yard ballistic training bay. These areas of the police services facility will be available to law enforcement partners of County, State, and Federal agencies to rent for in-service and specialized training. Training space is at a premium in our county, and often, law enforcement agencies compete to schedule in-service or specialized training. These dedicated training spaces will also allow the City of Fitchburg Police Department to host more regional-level trainings and collaborate more effectively with law enforcement partners.

Lastly, adding more training space to their current facility will allow City of Fitchburg police to engage with the community in a manner their city has never experienced. Their department is excited to explore opportunities to invite community members to participate in trainings such as the citizens' academy



where the community can learn more about the police, and the police can learn more about the community which it serves.

The City of Fitchburg represents a vibrant and growing population of individuals and families whom we serve, and the safety and well-being of this community is important to United Way of Dane County. We strongly support the City of Fitchburg Police Department's State of Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program application, and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Renee Moe  
President & CEO



January 27, 2024

Deputy Chief Matthew J. Laha  
City of Fitchburg Police Department

Letter of support for the Fitchburg Police Services Training Center

The City of Fitchburg Wisconsin is building a stand-alone police services building that includes a Training Center. The Dane County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) supports this project as it will provide space for community engagement and meet the workforce demands of recruitment and retention. The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing stated, "To be effective in an ever-changing world, training must continue throughout an officer's career."

In 2022, the NAACP adopted a resolution Reaffirming Necessary Police Reform Policies in the United States. The excepted language states "WHEREAS, many law enforcement agencies have minimal training relating to diversity, culture, and bias with many states having no bias training mandates at all, and that is then exacerbated by the focus on combat tactics in basic training which, in turn, heavily impacts and amplifies the perceptions and biases officers carry into their interactions with the public, specifically with Black people and people of color, who are dehumanized and seen as threats." The NAACP called on federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to standardize comprehensive training requirements on implicit bias and racial profiling. The City of Fitchburg will be front and center balancing officer needs and community interests.

The Training Center will address crisis intervention, including mental health, resiliency and suicide prevention, use-of-force options and de-escalation tactics, scenario-based training relating to potentially dangerous situations, and implicit bias. The facility includes a community room for local groups to meet and discuss areas of concern such as building trust, training, and service delivery. This is an ideal setting which aligns well with the Task Force's recommendation: "Law enforcement agencies should engage community members in the training process."

Police departments that face significant staffing shortages may experience the negative aspects of their communities' quality of life. Recruiting, retaining, and sustaining a workforce that can deliver the greatest level of protection and service is fundamental to building trust, promoting community engagement, and supporting a thriving community. The Dane County NAACP supports the Training Center's curriculum, increased access for officer training, and availability for community use. This is an investment for the future and could possibly include Continuing Education Units for officers and community members. This will not only encourage participation, but also provide a permanent record of the individuals who have completed the course.

Submitted by

Greg Jones, President  
NAACP Dane County



Jack E. Daniels, III, Ph.D., President

January 25, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

It is with great pleasure I write this letter in support of the City of Fitchburg in receiving grant funding through the State of Wisconsin – Department of Administration for a new Police Services Facility. Madison College provides training and instruction for those seeking certification in public safety. As a result of what we offer, I can attest that the proposed facility would be of great benefit to Madison College, and to the Fitchburg community. The City of Fitchburg Police Department is a valued partner, and I fully support this proposal.

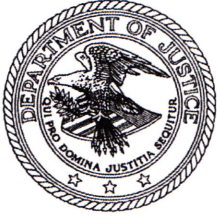
With increasing challenges securing appropriate training space, access to the proposed facility would provide current and updated police services training space for Madison College. Fitchburg Police's proposed facility would include accommodations for indoor ballistics training – something Madison College is no longer able to accommodate in our academy. With no space for this type of training, Madison College currently utilizes Dane County Sheriff's Office's outdoor training facility in Waunakee. Although we are appreciative of this use, the demand for this space is increasing, and access can often be challenging. Moreover, an outdoor facility is not ideal for building foundational competencies for new firearms handlers - especially given the extreme weather possibilities. Access to Fitchburg's ballistics training space would not only provide additional flexibility in training schedules, but also offer a safe, well-contained, indoor facility. This is especially important as Madison College's police agency partners maintain a growing need to provide certified training to their new hires.

In addition to Madison College, the new Police Services Facility will also serve as a venue for surrounding police agencies. Public safety professionals from across the state will facilitate training at this location, creating an opportunity to share ideas, practices, and simply share the same space. Madison College benefits from strengthening its ties and reputation with existing entities, while its faculty members can obtain a broader perspective in public safety and instructional pedagogy while in this space. There is great value in strengthening our ability to provide holistic approaches to course content and materials.

Granting of this proposal will allow the City of Fitchburg to enhance their training capacities and collaborative opportunities to further police training regionally. I strongly support the City of Fitchburg's grant proposal to the State of Wisconsin – Department of Administration for a new Police Services Facility.

Sincerely,

Jack E. Daniels, III, Ph.D.  
President



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney  
Western District of Wisconsin*

Telephone 608/264-5158  
Administrative Facsimile 608/264-5183  
Civil Division Facsimile 608/264-5724  
Criminal Division Facsimile 608/264-5054

Address:

222 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 700  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

January 8, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
201 East Washington Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Re: Grants for Local Projects Program

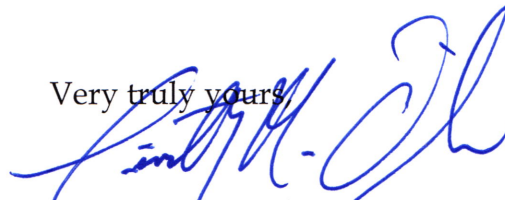
To whom this may concern:

The Fitchburg Police Department is applying for a Local Projects Program/Public Safety Purpose grant. The City of Fitchburg is building a new police station which will contain a training facility serving Fitchburg and the broader law enforcement community. Further, the facility will support the Dane County Gun Violence Reduction Initiative in which the Fitchburg police have taken a leading role.

The U.S. Attorney's Office has worked with the Fitchburg Police Department for decades to reduce drug and violent crime. Over the last two years, our office worked closely with the Fitchburg Police Department and other Dane County law enforcement to develop and implement the analytically-driven Dane County Gun Violence Reduction Initiative referred to above. The Fitchburg Police Department has been a strong leader in combatting gun violence and the drug trafficking that often accompanies gun violence. The thoughtful, energetic, and diligent efforts of the Fitchburg Police Department – from the Chief to patrol officers – are crucial to the U.S. Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods program.

The U.S. Attorney's Office is committed to working with the Fitchburg Police Department to reduce violent crime. Moreover, this spring and summer, we will work with the Fitchburg Police to broaden the Gun Violence Reduction Initiative to include community partners. If you would like further information on our involvement with this applicant or need greater details on how we plan to participate if the applicant is awarded grant funding, please feel free to contact me at 608-250-5467.

Very truly yours,



TIMOTHY M. O'SHEA  
United States Attorney



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Firearms and Explosives

*St. Paul Field Division*

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*30 Seventh St. E., Suite 1900  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
www.atf.gov*

January 30, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
202 East Washington Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Dear Sir or Madam--

The Fitchburg Police Department is applying for a Local Projects Program/Public Safety Purpose grant, and ATF would like to express our strongest support for their application. The city aims to build a new police services facility, complete with a modern training area which would serve both the law enforcement partners in the area, as well as function as a place at which the public could interact with regional law enforcement.

In an effort to reduce violent and firearm related crimes in the broader Dane County area, the Fitchburg Police Department has recently agreed to provide a Task Force Officer to the ATF Madison Field Office. This Task Force Officer, in support of United States Attorney O'Shea's Dane County Gun Violence Reduction Initiative and the work of ATF's state and local partners there, is a critical component of ATF's commitment to protecting the public from violent crime.

ATF recently hosted training in the Madison area, during which we trained over 70 prosecutors and local law enforcement officials on Privately Made Firearms, the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN), and the emerging threat of machinegun conversion devices. Fitchburg PD's proposed new facility would be ideal to host future iterations of this and other ongoing trainings as we continue working hand in hand with local law enforcement to protect the public.

Further, the ATF Madison Field Office is working diligently to deputize Task Force Officers from other departments in both the Greater Dane County area, as well as in other parts of the state. This proposed training facility would benefit those law enforcement relationships, in addition to providing ATF and its partnered agencies much needed training space in Western Wisconsin.

Very sincerely,

Will Panoke  
Acting Special Agent in Charge  
St. Paul Field Division



## Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, Inc

Chief Dean Smith / WCPA President  
dsmith@wichiefs.org / (920) 236-5720  
420 Jackson St. Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901

January 10, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

The City of Fitchburg is in the process of designing a new police services facility. Training space is a critical component of the new facility. As the design currently stands, the new facility will include a large multi-purpose room for classroom training, a mid-sized DAAT room and an open-concept, 25-yard ballistic training bay. These areas of the police services facility will be available to our law enforcement partners throughout the county, State, and Federal agencies to rent for in-service and specialized training. These dedicated training spaces will also allow us to host more regional-level training and collaboration with law enforcement partners.

The Dane County region is limited with law enforcement training space, which would include classroom style, Defense and Arrest Tactics space, and indoor ballistic-capable training areas. More often and not, law enforcement agencies are competing with each other to schedule in-service or specialized training with two places to choose from, Madison Police Department and Dane County Sheriff's Office. In addition, these two agencies are responsible to the sworn staff they have, so training space is at a premium in the area. Furthermore, this area of the State is one of the largest and fastest growing and, with more population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and training requirements of staff.

The new Police Services Facility for the City of Fitchburg will provide an additional option for law enforcement agencies to train their personnel and ease the burden related to scheduling, staffing constraints and time waste for travel. The new police services facility will also provide surrounding law enforcement agencies a venue to focus on the growth and development of an extremely inexperienced profession. Additionally, it will also provide space for law enforcement professionals from across the State and region of the country to participate in training from experts in a variety of disciplines.

Training in our profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the many critical incidents that occur throughout our country. Our local law enforcement are, more often than not, the initial response to those incidents. The ability for an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during those incidents is born through the quality of training received. This facility will provide another opportunity for law enforcement to take a step forward in delivering exceptional service to our communities.

Lastly the training component to the facility will allow law enforcement to engage with the community in a manner the city has never seen. The department will explore opportunities to bring in the community and participate in training such as the citizens academy and sessions where both the community can learn more about the police and the police can learn more about different cultures within the community which it serves.

The Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, Inc. (WCPA) recognizes regional training venues will provide a statewide impact to law enforcement with obtaining information and education in a quick and efficient manner.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dean Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dean" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Smith".

Dean Smith  
President  
Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association



# Wisconsin Police Executive Group

Chairperson – Chief Christopher Botsch, Caledonia  
Vice Chair – Chief Alfonso Morales, Fitchburg      Secretary – Patrick Patton, Kenosha  
Treasurer – Aaron Goldstein, Fond du Lac      Past Chair – Bill Jessup, South Milwaukee

January 22, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

The City of Fitchburg is in the process of designing a new police services facility. Training space is a critical component of the new facility. As the design currently stands, the new facility will include a large multi-purpose room for classroom training, a mid-sized DAAT room and an open-concept, 25-yard ballistic training bay. These areas of the police services facility will be available to our local, state, and federal law enforcement partners to rent for in-service and specialized training. These dedicated training spaces will also allow Fitchburg PD to host more regional-level training and provide more opportunities to collaborate with law enforcement partners.

The Dane County region has limited law enforcement training space, which includes classrooms, Defense and Arrest Tactics space, and indoor ballistic-capable training areas. Law enforcement agencies are routinely competing with each other to schedule in-service or specialized training with two primary places to choose from, Madison Police Department or Dane County Sheriff's Office. In addition, these two agencies are responsible to their own sworn staff, so training space is at a premium in the area. Furthermore, this area of the State is one of the largest and fastest growing. With a growing population, law enforcement agencies will be expected to increase staffing and meet the necessary training requirements for their staff.

The new Police Services Facility for the City of Fitchburg will provide an additional option for law enforcement agencies to train their personnel and ease the burden related to scheduling, staffing constraints, and time wasted for travel to distant training locations. The new police services facility will also provide surrounding law enforcement agencies a venue to focus on the growth and development of an extremely inexperienced profession. Additionally, it will also provide space for law enforcement professionals from across the region to participate in training from experts in a variety of disciplines.



# Wisconsin Police Executive Group

Chairperson – Chief Christopher Botsch, Caledonia  
Vice Chair – Chief Alfonso Morales, Fitchburg      Secretary – Patrick Patton, Kenosha  
Treasurer – Aaron Goldstein, Fond du Lac      Past Chair – Bill Jessup, South Milwaukee

Training in our profession has never been more important, and the need is highlighted through the many critical incidents that occur throughout our country. Our local law enforcement personnel are often the initial response to those incidents. The ability for an officer to handle the stress and immensity of their decisions during those incidents is born through the quality of training received. This facility will provide another opportunity for law enforcement to take a step forward in delivering exceptional service to our communities.

Lastly the training component to the facility will help law enforcement to engage with the community. The department can use this facility to explore opportunities to interact with the community by participating in training such as the citizens academy and sessions where the community can learn more about the police and the police can learn more about different cultures within the community which it serves.

The Wisconsin Police Executive Group (WPEG) recognizes regional training venues will provide a statewide impact to law enforcement with obtaining information and education in a quick and efficient manner.

Respectfully,

Christopher Botsch  
Chief of Police – Caledonia, WI  
Chairperson – Wisconsin Police Executive Group



January 29, 2024

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Administration  
101 E Wilson St.  
Madison, WI 53703

Re: 2023 Wisconsin ACT 19, Non-State Grant Program

The Wisconsin Command College Alumni Association is a non-profit geared toward networking and continued education for our law enforcement executives throughout the state. Partnering with UW-Madison, the state of WI offers its own unique "Command College," a demanding six-week training with an overarching emphasis on leadership, collaboration and challenges LE executives face, culminating in the graduates becoming Certified Program Managers. More importantly, the graduates become part of a statewide network of municipal, county, and state LE executives, ready to collaborate and find solutions to our toughest challenges.

WICCAA has supported statewide initiatives and organizations for the betterment and progress of WI law enforcement, including Law Enforcement Death Response (LEDR), WI LE Memorial, and Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S). Dwindling resources both in personnel and budgets across the board have opened opportunities for collaboration and cross-training between agencies like never before. With the growing number of critical incidents, even in this state alone, cross-training is extremely beneficial. The spaces available for this type of training are limited, and therefore highly sought after.

For the reasons brought above, the WI Command College Alumni Association fully supports the City of Fitchburg in receiving grant funding through the State of Wisconsin – Department of Administration for their new police services facility.

Respectfully,

Eric Lindstrom  
President, WICCAA



January 12, 2024

Chief Alfonso Morales  
Fitchburg Police Department  
5520 Lacy Rd.  
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Dear Chief Morales,

In virtually every job, training is the cornerstone of success. No matter what field or industry, people improve their skills and abilities through learning and practice. CVMIC recognizes that training is at the core of a successful police department. This includes all aspects of an officer's duties and responsibilities. CVMIC does not provide standards of how often a law enforcement agency should train, as the resources and ability to provide training vary significantly between our members. However, I would always recommend training as often as resources and scheduling allow.

There are a variety of concepts and studies that support this. The first is skills diminish over time. Countless studies have come to this conclusion, and everyone experiences it. For example, a person's golf game is worst in spring and best in fall if they don't play over the winter. In golf, it can be frustrating. In law enforcement, this can have catastrophic results when a split-second decision is dependent on a diminished skill.

The next concept is called "spacing". When a person must cram training information in a single session, they are less likely to retain it. Spacing training sessions apart and making them more frequent increases the retention of skills and knowledge and reduces the risk of errors and accidents.

The final concept is "interleaving." This involves mixing up a variety of training topics rather than just training on one idea at a time. Doing so creates a training environment where people must combine all their skills and knowledge to complete a task. This is a critical concept in de-escalation. If an officer goes to the range and only trains "threat and shoot," this does not afford the countless other variables and options that may exist.

Access to a training facility on a regular basis will allow your officers to incorporate training on a regular and consistent basis. Attorney Patrick Gallagher lists training as the second layer in reducing liability in his book, "Successful Police Risk Management, A Guide of Police Executives, Risk Managers, Local Officials, and Defense Attorneys." With the construction of the proposed new law enforcement facility, Fitchburg is positioned to meet this critical need head-on.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Styka".

Chief Tim Styka (retired)  
Protective Service Risk Specialist