

### Office of the Erie County District Attorney

MICHAEL J. KEANE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

May 20, 2025

GARY W. HACKBUSH
FIRST DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

The Honorable Erie County Legislature 92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Buffalo, New York 14202

Re:

Authorization to Accept Grant Funding for Statewide Targeted Reductions

in Intimate Partner Violence Grant

Honorable Members:

Please find attached a resolution requesting legislative authorization to accept grant funding from and enter into contracts with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant, a project involving the District Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Office, and Department of Probation in Erie County.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If your Honorable Body requires any further information, kindly contact our office and we will accommodate your request.

Respectfully Submitted,

MICHAEL J. KEANE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MJK/lh

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Erie County Legislature

From: Michael J. Keane, District Attorney

Date: May 20, 2025

Re: Acceptance of Funding for Statewide Targeted Reductions in

Intimate Partner Violence Grant

#### I. Summary of Recommended Action

Legislative authorization is requested to accept grant funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, to establish grant budgets, and to enter into contracts with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the implementation of the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) Grant Initiative for the period April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026. Funds have been awarded to the District Attorney's Office, Department of Probation and the Sheriff's Office. The total state funding of \$2,379,496 also includes funding for the Buffalo Police Department and Child and Family Services.

#### II. Fiscal Implications of Proposal

The Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has awarded three Erie County departments a total of \$1,547,176:

District Attorney \$954,964
Probation 423,238
Sheriff's Office 168,974
\$1,547,176

- There will be a negligible amount of county share dollars needed to support the fringe benefits on overtime, parking reimbursement for staff per the CSEA contract provisions, and mileage that are unallowable costs as determined by DCJS.
- Grant Duration: 1 year: 4/1/25 3/31/26; however; given timing of final award notification and time involved in job postings/hiring process positions will not be filled until closer to June or later.

These monies will be funding the full salary and fringe benefits of six positions within the District Attorney's Office:

- Assistant District Attorney V (MC, JG 16)
  - o Annualized: \$128,475 Balance of Year: \$83,042
- Assistant District Attorney V (MC, JG 16)
  - o Annualized: \$128,475 Balance of Year: \$83,042
- Victim/Witness Case Manager (CSEA, JG 9)
  - o Annualized: \$71,064 Balance of Year: \$40,529
- Victim Advocate (CSEA, JG 7)

- o Annualized: \$52,562 Balance of Year: \$24,690
- Discovery Analyst (MC, JG 13)
  - o Annualized: \$95,795 Balance of Year: \$61,919
- Assistant Project Coordinator Victim/Witness Program (CSEA, JG 9)
  - o Annualized: \$62,935 Balance of Year: \$34,543

These monies will be funding the full salary and fringe benefits of one position within the Sheriff's Office:

- Detective Deputy (PBA, JG 9)
  - o Annualized: \$98,663 Balance of Year: \$41,742

These monies will be funding the full salary and fringe benefits of two positions within the Department of Probation:

- Probation Officer (CSEA, JG 11)
  - o Annualized: \$90,845 Balance of Year: \$37,846
- Assistant Crime Analyst (CSEA, JG 12)
  - o Annualized: \$87,938 Balance of Year: \$36,635

#### III. Reason for Recommendation and Background of Proposal

Erie County was identified as a jurisdiction eligible to receive \$2,379,496 through the State's new initiative to reduce intimate partner violence through evidence-based, survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive interventions. Funds have been awarded to the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, Department of Probation, Buffalo Police Department and Child & Family Services. The intent of the STRIVE initiative is to drive a collaborative approach to fighting intimate partner violence with joint partners representing police, prosecutors and victim service providers.

#### IV. Consequences of Negative Action

Not accepting this grant will be a detriment to serving the victims of intimate partner violence. We would be unable to further the intimate partner violence reduction initiative or achieve the programs goals developed by DCJS.

#### V. Steps Following Approval of Measure

The funded Departments will work with the Division of Budget and Management and the Comptroller's Office to implement this proposal.

## RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Re: STRIVE Grant

WHEREAS, the Erie County District Attorney, Sheriff's Office and Probation Departments are committed to providing the resources necessary to assist survivors of domestic and intimate partner abuse, and

WHEREAS, the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services has awarded County agencies funds through the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) initiative for the period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026:

- Erie County District Attorney's Office's \$954,964, which includes \$100,000 awarded to ECMC BRAVE Trauma Recovery Center
- Erie County Sheriff's Office \$168,974
- Erie County Probation Department \$423,238; and

WHEREAS, authorization is required by the Erie County Legislature for the County Executive to enter into grant contracts and accept grant funding; and

WHEREAS, no county contribution is required to accept this grant,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into contracts with the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services to accept funding through the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence Initiative (STRIVE); and be it further

RESOLVED, authorization is provided to create the following positions in the District Attorney's Office in fund 281, fund center 11400:

- Two positions of Assistant District Attorney V (JG 16)
- One position of Victim Witness Case Manager (JG 9)
- One position of Victim Advocate (JG 7)
- One position of Discovery Analyst (JG 13)
- One position of Assistant Project Coordinator Victim/Witness Program (JG 9); and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby provided to establish the District Attorney's STRIVE Grant as follows:

Erie County District Attorney's Office Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence Initiative (STRIVE)

#### April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026 Fund: 281, Cost Center: 1140050, Grant: 114STRIVE2526

REVENUE	
409000 – State Aid Revenues	\$954,964
TOTAL	\$954,964
APPROPRIATIONS	
500000 – Full Time Salaries	\$470,525
502000 – Fringe Benefits	235,261
516010 - Contracts Non-Profit Services	100,000
510100 – Out of Area Travel	3,000
510200 – Employee Training	8,000
561410 - Lab & Technical Equipment	138,178
TOTAL	\$954,964

#### and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into a sub-contract with ECMCC's BRAVE Trauma Recovery Center as per state authorized funding levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County District Attorney's Office is authorized to purchase CELLEBRITE equipment/software, a forensic tool used by law enforcement to analyze data from various digital sources; and be it further

RESOLVED, authorization is provided to create one position of Detective Deputy in the Sheriff's Office in fund 281, fund center 11510; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Division of Budget and Management is authorized to establish the Sheriff's Office STRIVE grant as follows:

#### Erie County Sheriff's Office Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence Initiative (STRIVE) April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026 Fund 281, Funds Center 11510, 115STRIVE2526

REVENUE	
409000 – State Aid Revenues	\$168,974
TOTAL	\$168,974
APPROPRIATIONS	
500000 – Full Time Salaries	\$98,663
501000 – Overtime	\$20,000
500300 – Shift Differential	\$1,400
500320 - Uniform Allowance	\$1,500

500330 - Holiday Worked	\$1,250
500340 – Lineup Pay	\$4,500
500350 – Other Employee Payments	\$5,600
502000 – Fringe Benefits	\$35,081
510100 - Out of Area Travel	\$980
TOTAL	\$168,974

and be it further

RESOLVED, authorization is provided to create the following positions within the Department of Probation in fund 281, fund center 12610:

- One position of Probation Officer (JG 11)
- One position of Assistant Crime Analyst (JG 12); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the Division of Budget and Management to establish the grant as follows:

# Erie County Probation Department Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence Initiative (STRIVE) April 1, 2025– March 31, 2026 Fund 281, Cost Center: 1261020, Grant: 126STRIVE2526

REVENUE	
409000 – State Aid Revenue	\$423,238
479000 - County Share Contribution	\$8,270
TOTAL	\$431,508
APPROPRIATIONS	
500000 – Full Time Salaries	\$178,783
501000 - Overtime	\$31,838
502000 – Fringe Benefits	\$95,901
506200 – Maintenance & Repair	\$4,000
510000 – Mileage	\$1,760
510100 – Out of area Travel	\$5,186
510200 - Training and Education	\$5,000
516030 - Maintenance Contracts	\$109,040
TOTAL	\$431,508

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is authorized to adjust grant appropriations and revenues in accordance with the final grantor funding levels or grantor-authorized changes to award amounts; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Division of Budget and Management is authorized to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Erie County District Attorney, Erie County Executive, Erie County Comptroller, Department of Personnel, Director of Budget and Management, Probation Department (c/o Jeff Lipman, Room 112, 1 Niagara Plaza), and Sheriff's Office.