

COUNTY of HIDALGO



HIDALGO COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE
Hidalgo County Administration Building
2808 South Business Highway 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539-6243
PHONE: (956) 318-2511
FAX: (956) 318-2577
WEBSITE: www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/auditor

October 27, 2023

The Honorable Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge
The Honorable David L. Fuentes, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
The Honorable Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
The Honorable Everardo "Ever" Villarreal, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
The Honorable Ellie Torres, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

RE: Certification of Revenue

Dear Judge and Commissioners:

Pursuant to Local Government Code § 111.0706 SPECIAL BUDGET FOR GRANT OR AID MONEY:

The county auditor shall certify to the commissioner's court the receipt of all public or private grant or aid money that is available for disbursement in a fiscal year but not included in the budget for that fiscal year. On certification, the court shall adopt a special budget for the limited purpose of spending the grant or aid money for its intended purpose.

I, Linda Fong, Interim County Auditor of Hidalgo County, certify to the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court the receipt of an award from the Spirit of Blue Foundation. These funds may now be made available by creating a new special budget or amending a current budget for its intended purposes.

AMOUNT
\$1,595.56

PURPOSE
HC Constable PCT4 Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant

CERTIFIED BY:

10/27/2023

Linda Fong, CPFO
Interim County Auditor

Date

HIDALGO COUNTY DISTRICT JUDGES

LUIS M. SINGLETERRY JUDGE, 92ND D.C. FERNANDO MANCIAS JUDGE, 93RD D.C. J. R. "BOBBY" FLORES JUDGE, 139TH D.C. ROSE GUERRA REYNA JUDGE, 206TH D.C. MARLA CUELLAR JUDGE, 275TH D.C. MARIO E. RAMIREZ, JR. JUDGE, 332ND D.C. NOE GONZALEZ JUDGE, 370TH D.C. LETICIA LOPEZ JUDGE, 389TH D.C. L. KENO VASQUEZ JUDGE, 398TH D.C. ISRAEL RAMON, JR. JUDGE, 430TH D.C. RENEE R. BETANCOURT JUDGE, 449TH D.C. JOSE "JOE" RAMIREZ JUDGE, 464TH D.C. YSMAEL FONSECA JUDGE, 476TH D.C.

AI-93078

Constable Pct. #4 13. 0.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG

Meeting Date: 10/31/2023

Submitted For: Atanacio Gaitan, CONSTABLE PCT. #4

Submitted By: Christopher Barrera

Department: CONSTABLE PCT. #4

CAPTION

Constable Pct. 4 Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant (1284):

Requesting ratification of grant award (AI-92784, CC 10-17-2023) and approval of certification of revenues by County Auditor in relation to the Spirit of Blue Foundation grant.

BACKGROUND

AI-83624, CC 12-14-2021, CC approval ot apply

AI-92784, CC 10-17-2023, CC approval to accept grant award and appropriation of funds.

Ratification of grant award and approval of COR by Co. Auditor is necessary, since the agenda item approved on 10-17-2023 did not include the COR by Co. Auditor.

Fiscal Impact

CALENDAR YEAR: 2023

ACCT. #: 3-1284-421-00-294-105-4-610

FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?: Y

MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?: N

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

CONST PCT4 2024 SPIRIT OF BLUE; COR by Co. Auditor in the amount of \$1,595.56 in relation to donation of safety equipment. No county cash match required. Appropriation of funds was approved by CC on 10-17-2023, AI-92784.

Revenue acct #3-1284-364-00-294-105-4-000 *CONST PCT 4 2024 SPIRIT OF BLUE-REVENUES*

Attachments

AI-92784 CC 10-17-2023 Acceptance of Award-REFERENCE ONLY

Form Review

Inbox

Budget & Management

Ivan Cantu

Final Approval

Form Started By: Christopher Barrera

Reviewed By

Veronica Ortiz

Date

10/27/2023 10:40 AM

Started On: 10/26/2023 05:20 PM

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT

O: (956) 292-7025
F: (956) 292-7034



www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/budget



505 S. McColl Rd. Suite G
Edinburg, Texas 78539



MEMORANDUM

To: Linda Fong, CPFO, Interim County Auditor

From: Dagoberto Soto, Jr., Budget Officer *D.S.*

Date: Friday, October 27, 2023

Subject: Certification of Revenues- Constable Pct. 4-Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant

Cc: Letty Chavez, First Assistant County Auditor
Isabel Rodriguez, Grants Accounting Supervisor
Constable Atanacio "JR" Gaitan, Const Pct. 4
Chief Deputy Horaldo Sanchez, Const Pct. 4
Damaris SanMiguel, Division Manager
Ivan Cantu, Budget Analyst
Celeste Garza, Grants Accountant
Sgt. Christopher Barrera, Const Pct. 4

On behalf of the Constable Pct. 4, please let this memo serve as a request for a Certification of Revenues letter from your office in relation to the grant award received from the Spirit of Blue Foundation in the amount of \$1,595.56.

Please be advised that an agenda item has been placed for the next Commissioners Court meeting of October 31, 2023 (AI-93078) for the ratification of the grant award.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ivan Cantu, Budget Analyst, at ext. 5425 or Damaris SanMiguel, Division Manager, at ext. 5410.

AI-92784

Constable Pct. #4 15. B.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG

Meeting Date: 10/17/2023

Submitted For: Atanacio Gaitan, CONSTABLE PCT. #4 Submitted By: Christopher Barrera

Department: CONSTABLE PCT. #4

CAPTION

Constable Pct. 4 - Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant (1284):

1. Authorization and approval to accept grant award in relation to the Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant for 22 Gen7 C-A-T Tourniquets and 22 RIGID TQ for MOLLE Holders with a value of \$1,595.56.
2. Approval of appropriation of funds in relation to the Spirit of Blue Foundation grant award.

BACKGROUND

On 12/14/2021 through AI# 83624, the commissioners court approved the acceptance to apply for the Spirit of Blue Foundation Grant.

Fiscal Impact

CALENDAR YEAR: 2023

ACCT. #: 3-1284-421-00-294-105-4-610

FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?: Y

MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?: N

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Appropriation of funds for the Spirit of Blue Foundation grant award in the amount of \$1,595.56. As per the Auditor's Office, the certification of revenues is not required. No county cash match required.

Revenue acct #3-1284-364-00-294-105-4-000 CONST PCT4 2024 SPIRIT OF BLUE-REVENUES

Attachments

- Award Letter
- Grant Application
- Email Correspondence
- Appropriation

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Budget & Management	Melannie Rivera	10/05/2023 11:07 AM
Ivan Cantu	Ivan Cantu	10/13/2023 11:47 AM
Final Approval	Monica Salinas	10/13/2023 07:19 PM
Form Started By: Christopher Barrera		Started On: 10/05/2023 10:00 AM
Final Approval Date: 10/13/2023		



SPIRIT OF BLUE

October 3, 2023

Sgt. Christopher Barrera
Hidalgo County Constable's Office Pct 4
1212 S. 25th Street, Suite B
Edinburg, TX 78539

Dear Sgt. Barrera,

The Spirit of Blue Foundation 501(c)(3) is pleased to inform you that the Hidalgo County Constable's Office Precinct 4 has been selected to receive a Safety Equipment Grant in the form of tourniquets and holders for your deputies. The equipment will be sourced directly from North American Rescue by Spirit of Blue and will be donated to your agency.

This grant is co-sponsored by generous donations from both Law Enforcement United (LEU) and Guardian Angel Devices. LEU is a national organization of active and retired law enforcement officers, along with surviving family members of lost officers, who raise money and ride an average of 250 miles on bicycles into Washington, DC each year for National Police Week to honor fallen officers.

Sportsmen Organized for Law Enforcement (SOLE) also participated to make this grant possible.

The grant includes:

- Twenty-Two (22) Gen7 C-A-T Tourniquets, Black (North American Rescue)
- Twenty-Two (22) RIGID TQ Case for MOLLE, Matte Black (TEKLOK) with Black/Blue Patch (Eleven 10)

The value of the grant being awarded is \$1,595.56. Nothing additional will be provided as part of the grant.

In keeping with the Spirit of Blue's mission of enhancing officer safety and vitality through meeting safety equipment and training needs, this grant is intended to provide the necessary equipment for your deputies to be protected from threats while serving their community.

In order to properly utilize the granted medical equipment, it is incumbent upon the receiving agency to provide the proper training to each individual deputy who will be receiving a tourniquet.

Spirit of Blue Foundation will replace any tourniquet that is used in the line of duty, whether on an officer or member of the community, for the duration of the deputy's service. We do this so that no deputy who uses their tourniquet on duty will have to go without one in the future. In order to claim a replacement tourniquet, the agency must simply contact Spirit of Blue and provide a redacted copy of the report citing how the tourniquet was applied.

Spirit of Blue Foundation
12771 SW Tooze Road | Sherwood, OR 97140
ryan.smith@spiritofblue.org | (585) 662-9032



SPIRIT OF BLUE

Again, congratulations on your agency being selected. We are hopeful that the use of this grant aids greatly in the safety of your deputies and the effectiveness of your agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan T. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ryan T. Smith
Executive Director



SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Thank you for your agency's interest in being considered for a Spirit of Blue Safety Equipment or Training Grant. Attached to this sheet is a submission form that will aid you in submitting information for consideration. While we are not able to approve all requests that are received, we review all submissions for their potential impact on officer safety, financial hardship of the agency and the Foundation's ability to meet those needs with its resources and partnerships.

QUALIFYING SAFETY CATEGORIES

All requested equipment or training must have a clearly articulated Officer Safety impact. The Spirit of Blue has defined 15 safety categories that it will grant towards:

Protecting Life	Ballistic Protection, Medical Supplies, Safety Training, Traffic Awareness and Sensory Protection
Projecting Force	Lethal Force Options, Less-Lethal Force Options, Target Acquisition, Illumination and Firearms Accessories
Creating Advantage	Operational Gear, Communications, Footwear/Apparel, Intelligence Gathering and Security Solutions

GRANT FULFILLMENT

The Spirit of Blue rarely provides a cash award to a receiving agency. Instead, the Foundation will coordinate with the manufacturer, distributor or provider of the good or service being awarded and will donate the product or service to the receiving agency. Agencies who receive a Spirit of Blue grant are generally ineligible to receive additional grant funding for a two (2) year period.

PROCESS DURATION

Agencies that submit for consideration will remain in the Spirit of Blue database indefinitely. There is no need to re-apply, but agencies may update their need statements as their situations change. Grants are awarded year-round based on availability of funds and coordinating partner support. Grants are not fulfilled until they are officially accepted by the agency, which may include approval from their local governing authority (city council, county commission, etc.). This process can take as short as a few weeks and has taken up to 12-18 months for some agencies to obtain. The Spirit of Blue will work with agencies to navigate their individual process for acceptance. A grant will not be withdrawn once awarded, unless the agency's local governing authority refuses the award or the grant is not accepted within 24 months of its award.



Agency Name: Hidalgo County Constable Pct. 4
Agency Point of Contact: Deputy Christopher R. Barrera
Point of Contact Phone: 956-383-8560
Point of Contact Email: christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us
Agency Address: 2814 S. BUS, HWY 281, Edinburg, Tx 78539
Number of Sworn Officers: 21
Head of Agency Name: Constable - Atanacio "J.R." Galtan

Prioritized list of un-funded safety needs (with item quantities, detail and associated costs as available):

1. 20 Gen7 C-A-T Tourniquets for duty belts \$29.99 each, duty belt RIGID TQ case \$41.99 each = Total \$1,439.60
2. 20 First Defense MK3 Police Pepper spray \$16.99 each Total \$339.80
3. 20 Stinger LED Flashlights \$159.99 each Total \$3,199.80
- 4.
- 5.

Agency Description:

Hidalgo County Constable Pct. 4 is located in the Rio Grande Valley in south Texas, our existing capability levels include: 1 Constable, 1 Chief Deputy, 2 Sergeant, and 16 Deputy Constables. We have the following division within our agency Civil Process, Patrol, K9, Court Security, Environmental Investigations, Communications and Special operations. We patrol the Rural area just north of the U.S. Border in south Texas.



Funding Situation:

The capability gap is that Pct. 4 Constable is lacking local funding for enhance patrol and equipment.

Other Information to demonstrate merit or for consideration:

Our area is a high crime traffic area for narcotics crossing from Mexico to the U.S. We encounter human smuggling, illegal Aliens, stash houses and vehicle pursuits. We assist the Texas Department of Public Safety, Hidalgo County Sheriff's office and Border Patrol when working patrol and special operations.



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Celeste Garza <celeste.garza@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Fwd:

Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>
To: Celeste Garza <celeste.garza@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 11:16 AM

That is part of the Spirit of Blue Award. You may want to keep it in the file.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christopher Barrera <christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us>
Date: Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 11:06 AM
Subject: Fwd:
To: Isabel Rodriguez <isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Attached is a picture of the Tourniquet and the holster we will be receiving on the grant

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christopher Barrera <christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us>
Date: Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 11:04 AM
Subject:
To: <christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us>



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Christopher Robert Barrera
Sergeant Hidalgo County Constable Precinct 4
1212 S. 25th Street, Suit B, Edinburg Tx 78539
Office: (956) 383-8560 Fax: (956) 383-8565 Ext. 4310
Email: christopher.rbarrera@co.hidalgo.tx.us



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Thank you,
Isabel Rodriguez
Grants Accounting Supervisor | Hidalgo County Auditor's Office
2808 S. Business Highway 382 | Edinburg, TX 78539
(956)318-2511 Ext. 4604 | isabel.rodriguez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us

