

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

The City of Niceville is located in the Emerald Coast Region of Northwest Florida just across Choctawhatchee Bay from the communities of Destin, Okaloosa Island and South Walton County. Nestled south of Interstate 10, the City of Crestview and part of the Eglin Air Force Base Reservation, there is a strong balance of residential neighborhoods and a business community. The character of the Niceville community is influenced by its historical ties to the local water ways, fishing industry as well as Northwest Florida State College and our military neighbors, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt and Duke Fields.

The past several years have seen budget constraints caused by the national economic down-turn causing reduced funding for non-essential police activities. Base line police services such as primary responses to calls for service by the Uniformed Patrol Division and secondary responses to citizen complaints by the Investigation Unit have to be maintained. Funding for replacement equipment to be used in ancillary traffic activities such as speed enforcement and aggressive driving have been curtailed in support of basic police activities. Additionally, private contributions that would periodically support special police functions or activities have seen a reduction as well.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Niceville Police Department seeks to enhance its traffic enforcement efforts through the utilization of improved police equipment used to measure vehicular speed. Existing speed measuring devices of the Niceville Police Department are old and in poor repair. They are of old technology and some do not work at all. Repair of the old equipment is expensive and sometimes not possible. Sufficient funds do not exist to purchase the replacement and additional equipment to regain a proactive stance in the community in regards to aggressive traffic enforcement.

The Niceville Police Department currently employs 18 full-time sworn officers, 8 part-time officers and a support staff of 4 civilians. The patrol function of the Department is accomplished by the 13 officers and supervisors of the Uniformed Patrol Division. This Division is divided into a day shift, swing shift, night shift and relief shift. Each shift works an eight hour day on a nine day rotation of six work days and three off days. These patrol officers provide visible random patrolling and service availability for approximately 13,000 permanent citizens residing in a 6+ square mile area.

The Niceville Police Department intends to utilize grant funds to acquire 10 in-car speed measuring devices, including hardware, in support of its proactive traffic enforcement program. Ten marked vehicles of the Patrol Division will be selected to have the speed measuring devices mounted. The officers assigned to these vehicles will be certified in the use of speed measuring instruments

according to the rules of the State of Florida. The officers will utilize the speed measuring devices to aggressively enforce speeding and aggressive driving in the jurisdictional limits of the City of Niceville, Florida. Each officer will write a minimum of two speeding citations each tour of duty.

BUDGET DETAIL WORKSHEET

EQUIPMENT

Mobile Police Radar Units – 10 @ \$1,056	\$10,569.00
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<u>TOTAL GRANT AMOUNT</u>	<u>\$10,569.00</u>
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Grant funds will be managed in a manner consistent with acceptable, contemporary procurement and accounting policies, guidelines and practices of the City of Niceville. All draw downs and grant expenditures will be maintained and tracked separately from other federal funding. Grant funds will be deposited into the existing law enforcement trust fund, where it will remain pending distribution per terms of the agreement.