

March 31, 2023

Chairwoman Kay Granger
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Greene Virtual Reality Simulator in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Greene County Sheriff's Office located at 10005 Spotswood Trail, Stanardsville, VA 22973. The funding would be used for the acquisition of a virtual reality training system to provide its deputies interactive training in the skills of crisis intervention, de-escalation, and use of force. This funding will allow for the purchase of a virtual reality training simulator, including the workstation, head mounted display, training accessories, scenario generator, and software. The training system is a comprehensive solution that allows trainers to give presentations and classes, conduct interactive testing and assessment, and provide immersive hands-on scenario-based exercises with detailed debriefing and after-action reviews.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Greene County currently does not have a public safety training building or a shooting range for deputies, requiring deputies to travel more than 30 miles away to train and to qualify with their weapon. This training simulator will allow for interactive crisis intervention, de-escalation, and use of force training. The training system is a comprehensive solution that allows trainers to give presentations and classes, conduct interactive testing and assessment, and provide immersive hands-on scenario-based exercises with detailed debriefing and after-action reviews.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152). Specifically, the project provides a local law enforcement agency with additional equipment and training for law enforcement programs, stated as a purpose of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program in section 501(a)(1)(A) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Abigail Spanberger
Member of Congress