



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Budget and Purchasing Board Action

File #: 19-523

Commissioner Worley - Budget/Purchasing - To Accept and Appropriate Additional Funds for a Governor's Crime Commission Grant for Court Advocacy Services in Criminal Court (\$241,338)

### STAFF CONTACT

Pat Laws - Budget/Purchasing - 704-866-3771

### BUDGET IMPACT

The 20% match will come from salaries already included in the budget.

### BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

### BACKGROUND

Providing wrap-around advocacy to domestic violence (DV) victims is time intensive. This project will provide 2 Court Advocates dedicated to assisting and supporting a domestic violence victim from initial contact through the criminal court process - a process that can take up to two years. With additional positions, advocates will be able to go to the criminal courtrooms to offer services to victims and to collect contact information from the Magistrate's Office and District Attorney's Office. If a victim wants to file criminal charges or to check on current pending criminal charges, the advocate will be able to accompany him/her to other agencies within the courthouse: District Attorney's Office, Court Services, Public Defender's Office and Magistrate's Office. Advocates will be available to support victims who have court dates regarding DV criminal charges by sitting with victims in the courtrooms during the criminal proceedings so that they feel more at ease relaying events to the necessary individuals in the courtroom environment. Additionally, these positions will enable a weekend rotation of on-call advocates and a 2nd shift advocate for evenings resulting in more victims following through with coming to court and proceeding with the prosecution of these crimes that have a high probability of being dismissed without the victim's presence in court. The 20% in-kind match will be met through a portion of a Court Advocate's salary already included in the Sheriff's Budget and paid through Civil Service Processing Fees and through a portion of the Court Advocates' supervisor salary paid with local dollars and already budgeted as well.

### POLICY IMPACT

N/A

### ATTACHMENTS

Budget Change Request (BCR)

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	JBrown	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	TPhilbeck	RWorley	Vote
2020-007	01/28/2020	TK	JB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS

## GASTON COUNTY BUDGET CHANGE REQUEST

TO: Dr. Kim S. Eagle COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: 4131 Budget/Purchasing  
Dept. # Department Name

Matthew Rhoten 12/10/19  
 Department Director's Name Date

### TYPE OF REQUEST:

- ☐ Line Item Transfer Within Department & Fund
 ☐ Line Item Transfer Between Funds \*
- ☐ Project Transfer Within Department & Fund
 ☒ Additional Appropriation of Funds \*
- ☐ Line Item Transfer Between Departments\*
 \* Requires resolution by the Board of Commissioners

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION (As it appears in the budget)	ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT
	Fund - Function - Dept - Division - Object - Project	Whole Dollars Only
	xxx - xx - xxxx - xxxx - xxxxx - xxxxxx	(See Note Below)
2019 GCC Court Advocacy Services	010-02-4315-4315-420000-20557	(\$241,338)
Salary: 2019 GCC Court Advocacy Svc	010-02-4315-4315-510001-20556	\$168,734
FICA: 2019 GCC Court Advocacy Svc	010-02-4315-4315-510100-20557	\$17,524
Retirement: 2019 Court Advocacy Svc	010-02-4315-4315-510101-20557	\$14,280
Hospitalization: 2019 GCC Court Adv	010-02-4315-4315-510103-20557	\$40,800

### JUSTIFICATION FOR REQUEST:

Funding will provide two Court Advocate positions with salary and benefits. These additional positions will allow for more intensive services for more DV victims. Enhanced services will also allow for advocacy coverage at nights and on weekends. The 20% in-kind match will be met through a portion of a Court Advocate's salary already included in the Sheriff's Budget and paid through Civil Service Processing Fees and through a portion of the Court Advocates' supervisor salary paid with local dollars and already budgeted as well.

Note: Decreases in expenditures & increases in revenue accounts require brackets. Increases in expenditures & decreases in revenue do not require brackets. Please note that transfers between funds require interfund transfer accounts.