

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement has allocated Lee County \$204,223 in FFY 23 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program funding. On June 12, 2024, eligible agencies were invited to meet on June 25, 2024, to discuss the County's allocations and the best use of the funds for the upcoming Fiscal Year. On June 25, 2024, a consensus was reached on the allocation of the funds. Below are the recommended proposals and allocation amounts:

Cape Coral Police Department

Amount: \$119,919

Funding will be used to purchase license plate readers for agency operations. Cape Coral Police Department, Fort Myers Police Department, Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Port Authority Police, all access the same software application, providing for a countywide collaboration.

Fort Myers Police Department

Amount: \$60,000

Funding will be used to expand the agency's License Plate Reader program and acquiring advanced 2D/3D mapping equipment. This investment will enhance the capabilities of the Traffic Homicide Unit, enabling more precise investigations and reconstructions of fatal traffic incidents. Additionally, the integrated software application will facilitate countywide collaboration, streamlining agency operations and bolstering community safety efforts.

Lee County Human and Veteran Services

Amount \$24,304

Funding will be used to pay a portion of the salary for a Neighborhood Accountability Board (NAB) Coordinator. NAB is a community-based restorative justice program aimed at resolving minor criminal offenses and disputes. It involves local volunteers and stakeholders who facilitate dialogue and resolution. The program emphasizes repairing harm to victims and the community over punitive measures by holding offenders accountable and having them make amends. Victims have the opportunity to voice their feelings and needs while actively participating in the resolution process. NABs aim to prevent future incidents, foster community cohesion and reduce recidivism by focusing on conflict resolution through mediation.