



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1084

1. Title of Project: Law Enforcement Crime Scene Investigation Training Initiative (LECSITI) at the CSI Academy of Florida

2. Senate Sponsor: Keith Perry

3. Date of Submission: 01/14/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The Law Enforcement Crime Scene Investigation Training Initiative (LECSITI) is a program to be offered through the CSI Academy of Florida that would allow anyone employed by a State of Florida law enforcement agency to take LECSITI supported courses free-of-charge to their agency. This would include sworn and non-sworn employees such as deputies, officers, crime scene investigation personnel, and others as appropriate. The LECSITI Program would provide training in courses such as Crime Scene Investigation, Forensic Photography, Death Investigation, Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Human Remains Recovery, and others that would help Florida Law Enforcement more consistently and effectively investigate crimes. It would also reduce the strain on individual agencies' budgets as the program would provide waivers for local lodging in addition to the free tuition.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Law Enforcement

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,337,880
Fixed Capital Outlay	750,000
Total State Funds Requested	2,087,880

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	2,087,880	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	2,087,880	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 1,177,880

10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The Executive Director will oversee program operation including staff, creation/implementation of content, creation/submission of deliverables, construction, research, and other projects. Salary is \$145K per year and position must be held by an individual possessing a doctorate degree.	145,000
Other Salary and Benefits	This program will employ a Program Manager with a salary of \$70,000 per year. This program will also employ 2 full-time instructors who will be responsible for the primary instruction of program courses. The salary for each of these positions will be \$55,000 per instructor for a total of \$110,000 per year. As these positions will not provide benefits, the compensations are adjusted to include the ability for said employees to obtain/utilize benefits on their own.	180,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Vehicle with towing capacity, equipment trailer, ground penetrating radar, and 3D scanner are 1-time purchases to house and transport equipment and improve course quality/technology at a cost of \$160K. Vehicle service and maintenance is \$15K. Conference/training travel to raise program awareness and maintain continuing education for salaried staff is \$27K per year.	202,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Research will be ongoing to ensure program instructs students based on most current methodologies for crime scene and death investigation. Supply costs will vary based on current project needs but average estimated cost per year will be \$150K.	150,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	This program will employ clerical positions of receptionist(s) and admissions officer(s), each of whom will be paid \$18 per hour. These positions will either be hired out as full-time jobs at 40 hours per week per position, or as part-time to be split between 2 people per position. For either option, the total cost for each position would be \$37,440 per year. This will cost a total of	74,880



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	\$74,880.	
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expendable supplies will cost approximately \$48K per year; equipment maintenance and replacement will cost \$10K per year; travel waivers for out of town students to attend training regardless of their agency's travel budget will cost \$306K per year if each course accommodates 30 students; facility rent to use current CSI Academy space and resources will be \$60K per year including janitorial services and utilities.	424,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Part-time contracted instructors at \$25/hour; multiple part-time instructors may be used up to 60 hours/week with no single part-time instructor working more than 40 hours per week for a maximum cost of \$72K per year; outside specialty instructors may be used up to 12 times per year at a cost of \$7,500 per course or \$90K per year.	162,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Bathroom renovation: integrate with City sewer and water and general upgrades for increased student use (\$250K); classroom renovation: projectors, podiums, computer integration, seats, tables, and WiFi upgrades (\$250K); general renovation: lobby, reception desk, admin offices, evidence processing lab, parking lot, building security (\$250K).	750,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,087,880

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

The purpose of the LECSITI Program is to provide innovative training in the field of crime scene investigation to Florida law enforcement. Instructing participants in the fundamental principles of crime scene investigation allows them to be better prepared to identify, process, investigate, and solve crimes which can help reduce and prevent both violent and non-violent crime and would allow any member of any State law enforcement agency to take this training for free. All this, in turn, promotes citizen safety and security.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

This program will offer an average of 4 courses per month, 12 months per year, on specialized topics in crime scene investigation including crime scene investigation, bloodstain pattern analysis, human remains recovery, death investigation, shooting reconstruction, fire and arson investigation, and others. Research will also be conducted and published to support the techniques and methods taught in these courses. Access to these courses and their training materials will be free of charge to all Florida law enforcement.



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c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

Most directly, the target population served by this project is Florida law enforcement in that they will be the ones eligible to participate in the training program for free. If each class can accommodate a maximum of 30 students, with 4 classes per month throughout the annual funding term, up to 1,440 law enforcement officers could participate in this program. By extension, however, this project serves every citizen in the State of Florida in that it teaches and promotes the implementation of a higher quality standard of crime scene investigation. More thorough crime scene investigation can prevent the escalation of crime which can decrease the overall crime rate in Florida. Beyond that, it ensures that not only the victims of crimes are benefiting from this improved capacity for crime scene investigation but also that the suspects in a criminal investigation are not getting wrongfully accused and, instead, letting the evidence speak for itself.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

By offering free industry leading crime scene investigation training to all Florida law enforcement, this program provides the potential for officers statewide to participate and return to their local communities with more knowledge, skills, and abilities that they can use to identify, process, investigate, and solve crimes. This should help to improve the solve rates of crimes, reduce the overall crime rate, and - in turn - promote general citizen safety and security. In addition to this benefit to the potential victims of crime, it helps those who may be accused of a crime by providing assurance that the evidence speaks the truth and to prevent wrongful accusations that may occur through missing key evidence that may exonerate the innocent or through improper collection, analysis, or interpretation of said evidence.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Most directly, the target population served by this project is Florida law enforcement in that they will be the ones eligible to participate in the training program for free. If each class can accommodate a maximum of 30 students, with 4 classes per month throughout the annual funding term, up to 1,440 law enforcement officers could participate in this program. By extension, however, this project serves every citizen in the State of Florida in that it teaches and promotes the implementation of a higher quality standard of crime scene investigation. More thorough crime scene investigation can prevent the escalation of crime which can decrease the overall crime rate in Florida. Beyond that, it ensures that not only the victims of crimes are benefiting from this improved capacity for crime scene investigation but also that the suspects in a criminal investigation are not getting wrongfully accused and, instead, letting the evidence speak for itself.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

The expected benefit of this project is that it will allow all Florida law enforcement, regardless of their agency's size or budget, to have access to specialized industry leading crime scene investigation training. As a result of this training, they will return to their agencies better prepared to investigate crimes including documenting, collecting, preserving, and analyzing the evidence. This will, in turn, increase citizen's feelings of safety and security and will - hopefully - lead to a reduction in overall crime rates in Florida due to the improved standards of crime scene investigation employed statewide. Outcome assessments will be measured quantitatively through before and after comparisons of the skills and proficiencies in crime scene investigation techniques as self-evaluated by program participants as well as through a comparison of crime and solve rates before and after program participation. This information will be detailed in an annual deliverable report.



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f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

Should the contracting agency (i.e., the CSI Academy of Florida) fail to meet deliverables or performance measures, the suggested penalty is a restriction from applying for future funding for the subsequent fiscal year after the deliverables/performance measures were not met.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

The owners of the facility at 12787 NW US HWY 441, Alachua, FL 32615 (also known as the CSI Academy of Florida) are the managing partners and business owners of the CSI Academy of Florida, LLC. They are not to be compensated by this funding request in any way beyond the rent provided for facility use by the LECSITI Program and the capital outlay for improvements necessary for full program implementation.

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Debra Mongiardo
- b. **Organization:** CSI Academy of Florida - Forensic Sciences Foundation
- c. **E-mail Address:** debbie@csiacademyflorida.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (386)518-6300

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** CSI Academy of Florida - Forensic Sciences Foundation
- b. **County:** Alachua
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Debra Mongiardo
- e. **E-mail Address:** debbie@csiacademyflorida.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (386)518-6300

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Jacob Rush
- b. **Firm Name:** Law Offices of Robert A. Rush, P.A.
- c. **E-mail Address:** jake@robertarushpa.com
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