



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3378

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The Florida National Guard (FLNG) Counterdrug Program enhances its capabilities in combating illicit drug trafficking, particularly the fentanyl crisis. This initiative will utilize Cellebrite digital forensic technology to provide advanced investigative support to law enforcement agencies targeting drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) operating within Florida. By leveraging cutting-edge digital forensic technology, this initiative will enhance Florida's ability to disrupt fentanyl distribution networks, reduce overdose deaths, and hold traffickers accountable. The program will provide critical technological capabilities to law enforcement agencies struggling to keep pace with the evolving digital tactics of drug traffickers.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,500,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:**

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

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?**
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

The Florida National Guard Counterdrug Program can request to receive federal funding to support this initiative.



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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

12. 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 of the Florida National Guard (FLNG) Counterdrug Digital Forensics Program will lead and oversee the implementation of a statewide digital forensics initiative supporting law enforcement efforts to combat illicit drug trafficking, particularly in response to the fentanyl crisis. This senior-level position requires strategic leadership, operational oversight, and interagency coordination to ensure the effective application of Cellebrite and digital forensic technology in c	100,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	To effectively support law enforcement in combating drug trafficking organizations (DTOs), particularly those involved in fentanyl distribution, the Florida National Guard (FLNG) Counterdrug Digital Forensics Program requires specialized forensic equipment and supporting hardware.	100,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Cellebrite training is a critical component of the Florida National Guard (FLNG) Counterdrug Digital Forensics Program, ensuring personnel have the expertise to effectively support law enforcement in dismantling drug trafficking organizations (DTOs). The increasing use of encrypted digital communication by traffickers necessitates advanced forensic skills to extract, analyze, and interpret evidence from electronic devices.	300,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Law enforcement agencies often seize locked and encrypted mobile devices that contain critical information related to drug operations. Cellebrite provides the legal equipment to bypass encryption, recover deleted data, and extract evidence from mobile phones, tablets, and other digital devices.	1,000,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

13. Program Performance

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

By leveraging cutting-edge digital forensic technology, this initiative will enhance Florida's ability to disrupt fentanyl distribution networks, reduce overdose deaths, and hold traffickers accountable. The program will provide critical technological capabilities to law enforcement agencies struggling to keep pace with the evolving digital tactics of drug traffickers. This legislative request represents a proactive, technology-driven approach to addressing Florida's fentanyl crisis. Funding and support for the FLNG Counterdrug Program's digital forensics initiative will significantly enhance law enforcement efforts, save lives, and protect communities from the devastating impact of illicit drug trafficking.

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

Support Law Enforcement Investigations: Provide real-time digital forensic assistance to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in ongoing counterdrug operations. Enhance Intelligence Collection: Extract critical data to identify criminal networks, trafficking routes, and communication patterns. Strengthen Prosecution Efforts: Deliver legally defensible digital evidence to prosecutors, increasing conviction rates for drug-related crimes. Bolster Interagency Collaboration: Establish a dedicated digital forensics task force, improving information-sharing across many jurisdictions.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The Florida National Guard Counterdrug Digital Forensics Program will provide direct and measurable benefits to Florida citizens and communities by enhancing law enforcement's ability to combat the fentanyl crisis and illicit drug trafficking. Through the integration of Cellebrite technology and digital forensic capabilities, this program will disrupt criminal networks, remove dangerous drugs from communities, and improve public safety. The FLNG will be able to assist law enforcement in the following: Identify and dismantle major drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) that supply fentanyl to Florida communities. Track drug supply chains by analyzing digital evidence, leading law enforcement directly to high-level traffickers. Prevent overdose deaths by disrupting fentanyl distribution before it reaches Florida streets. Support rapid intelligence sharing that helps first responders and community health agencies address emerging drug threats.

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

This program is critical in protecting Florida communities from the devastating effects of fentanyl and illicit drug trafficking. By serving law enforcement, prosecutors, first responders, at-risk youth, and the general public, it will provide widespread benefits to tens of thousands of Floridians each year. As the program expands, more law enforcement agencies will receive forensic support, leading to higher drug seizure rates and case resolutions. Over time, Florida communities will experience a decline in fentanyl-related overdoses, drug-related violence, and digital drug transactions. Improved training and resources leveraging the FLNG will enable law enforcement to serve even larger populations, increasing public safety across the state.

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

Drug trafficking fuels violent crime, gang activity, and community instability. The program will: Reduce violent drug-related crimes, including shootings, robberies, and homicides linked to drug trade disputes. Protect families and neighborhoods by assisting law enforcement in shutting down major distribution networks. Improve security for schools, businesses, and public spaces by targeting DTOs that operate in residential and commercial areas. Support local police departments by providing advanced digital forensic capabilities they may not have access to otherwise.

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?

Return of funding.



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14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

18. Recipient Contact Information



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a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.