



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 22-4716, **Version:** 1

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**Department:** Management and Budget

**Department Head/Elected Official:** Daniel Ramos, Executive Director

**Regular or Supplemental RCA:** Supplemental RCA

**Type of Request:** Financial Authorization

**Project ID** (if applicable): Violent\_Crime

**Vendor/Entity Legal Name** (if applicable): N/A

**MWDBE Contracted Goal** (if applicable): N/A

**MWDBE Current Participation** (if applicable): N/A

**Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal:** N/A - Goal not applicable to request

**Request Summary (Agenda Caption):**

Request by the Office of Management and Budget for approval of an allocation of up to \$575,000 to the Sheriff's Office for the Violent Crime Reduction Initiative.

**Background and Discussion:**

On March 30, 2021, Commissioner's Court approved a \$3M program targeting violent and serious crime. This program enabled the Harris County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) to successfully reduce the backlog of violent crimes and investigative response times and increase the number of violent offenders arrested and charged.

The impact on response times has enabled the HCSO to drive better outcomes. In total, 470 charges have been made YTD since the inception of the program. From June 1 - June 30 the unit has closed over 300 cases. These results have also been achieved as the HCSO has been able to utilize an "All Hands-on Deck" approach in responding to active investigations.

While funding for 35 new investigators was approved in the FY23 planning budget, these resources will not be available before the VCRI funding runs out. The VCRI allocation is expected to be depleted in the first week of August 2022. The following issues exacerbate the problem:

1. HCSO will not be able to transfer experienced deputies into the 35 investigative positions now due to staffing shortages in Patrol.

**Expected Impact:**

Significant case backlog reduction and felony charge filings have been achieved with the first \$3 million invested. It is anticipated that the final \$575K will produce similar progress. In the absence of additional funding, the number of cases in the backlog will grow across divisions of the CAPD and investigative response times will increase.

**Alternative Options:**

Add more criminal investigations positions and hire qualified personnel to fill them. It is generally not possible to do this to address the short-term need. More investigative positions are needed, however, to address this issue long-term.

**Alignment with Goal(s):**

- ☒ Justice and Safety
- ☐ Economic Opportunity
- ☐ Housing
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Governance and Customer Service

**Prior Court Action (if any):**

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
3/30/21	13	Approved
10/26/21	16	Approved
2/22/22	19	Approved

**Location: Various**

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name			
	SFY 22	FY 23	Next 3 FYs
<b>Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)</b>			
Labor Expenditures	\$575,00	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Incremental Expenditures</b>	<b>\$575,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)</b>			
Existing Budget			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Current Budget</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Additional Budget Requested			

1000 - General Fund	\$575,000	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$575,000	\$	\$
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$575,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Personnel</b> (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
<b>Total Personnel</b>	-	-	-

**Anticipated Court Date: 8/2/22**

**Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date):**

**Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note:** Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

**Contact(s) name, title, department:** Bruce Haupt, Director, Budget & Performance, Harris County Office of Management & Budget

Wayne Kuhlman, Major, Harris County Sheriff's Office

Jennifer Herndon, Captain, Harris County Sheriff's Office

**Attachments** (if applicable):