



Steven A. Hall
SHERIFF

Office of the Sheriff

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Headquarters
23150 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-4200 Ext. *1900
301-475-4047 Fax

Detention and Rehabilitation Center
41880 Baldrige Street
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-4200 Ext. *3200
301-475-4095 Fax



An Internationally
Accredited Agency

TO: Maryland Intergovernmental Review & Coordination (MIRC)

SUBJECT: FY2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program (Invitation-Only, Noncompetitive Application) O-COPS-2026-172583-PKG00293023

DATE: July 14, 2026

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), has invited the **St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO)** to apply for **\$800,000** in funding under the FY2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program (TEP) Invitational Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the **SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle** technology and equipment project. This project is included in the FY2026 minibus spending bill passed by Congress and signed into law by the President.

Through this opportunity, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is requesting \$800,000 to purchase a self-propelled, motorhome-style Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) configured so that its operation will not require a commercial driver's license. The MCV would be equipped with the tools and technology necessary for rapid deployment from SMCSO and would provide a secure, mobile structure for critical-incident operations, including electrical power, an onboard generator, radio and computer capabilities, equipment storage, and a conference/work area. Although the grant does not require a local match, CSMC approval is requested to expend up to \$250,000 from Locally Forfeited Funds Project # 2409LF to cover the remaining cost of procuring the Mobile Command Vehicle and related equipment needs.

It appears this application is subject to review by State Under Executive Order 12372. Thus, we are sending this submission through the MIRC. Also, an eligibility requirement for this grant opportunity is that State and local governmental entities must comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which provides that State and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity. This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a State or local government entity or official. SMCSO complies with 8 U.S.C. § 1373. Based on the June 22, 2026, guidance issued by the Maryland Attorney General's Office, SMCSO understands that applicable Maryland law does not prohibit the sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging of citizenship or immigration-status information addressed by 8 U.S.C. § 1373. See complete submission for more information regarding this.

FY2026 TEP provides funding to state, territorial, local, Tribal, and other entities designated for Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending in the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Joint Explanatory Statement (JES) for the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-74). Although FY2026 TEP is a noncompetitive program, all eligible funding recipients must complete an online application containing specific and detailed budget and narrative information before receiving an award.

Enclosed are the SF-424 submission, other documents, and information related to the project. Historical Background follows on the next page.

Historical Background:

March 2021–October 2023 – SMCSO communicated with Congressman Steny Hoyer’s Office regarding funding opportunities for a replacement Mobile Command Vehicle and formally requested assistance in identifying potential funding sources.

April 30–May 7, 2024 – Congressman Hoyer’s Office identified the COPS Technology and Equipment Program as a possible funding source and requested additional project information. On May 7, 2024, the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County (CSMC) approved a Letter of Support for the project. Senator Jack Bailey and Dr. Meenakshi G. Brewster, MD, MPH, St. Mary’s County Health Officer, also provided a letter of support for this project in May 2024.

February 4, 2026 – County leadership was notified that Senators Chris Van Hollen and Angela Alsobrooks had advised SMCSO that the Mobile Command Vehicle project would receive \$800,000 in FY2026 Congressionally Directed Spending funding.

March 11, 2026 – The COPS Office notified SMCSO that \$800,000 had been designated for the “SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle” project and would be administered through the FY2026 TEP NOFO.

June 2, 2026 – SMCSO received the official invitation to apply for \$800,000 under the FY2026 TEP Invitational NOFO. This was received from the Office of Community Orienting Policing Services USDOJ.

July 14, 2026 – The Commissioners of St. Mary’s County Government approved the submission of the pre-application for the subject grant.

Thank you for reviewing this submission. Please reach out to Captain Richard Russell at 240-538-2879 or M. Carlotta “Lotti” Bell, CFAO, at 240-298-6866 should you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,



Steven A. Hall
Sheriff

St. Mary’s County, Maryland

This Workspace form is one of the forms you need to complete prior to submitting your Application Package. This form can be completed in its entirety offline using Adobe Reader. You can save your form by clicking the "Save" button and see any errors by clicking the "Check For Errors" button. In-progress and completed forms can be uploaded at any time to Grants.gov using the Workspace feature.

When you open a form, required fields are highlighted in yellow with a red border. Optional fields and completed fields are displayed in white. If you enter invalid or incomplete information in a field, you will receive an error message. Additional instructions and FAQs about the Application Package can be found in the Grants.gov Applicants tab.

OPPORTUNITY & PACKAGE DETAILS:

Opportunity Number:	O-COPS-2026-172583
Opportunity Title:	FY26 COPS Technology and Equipment Program
Opportunity Package ID:	PKG00293023
Assistance Listing Number:	16.710
Assistance Listing Title:	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants
Competition ID:	
Competition Title:	
Opening Date:	06/02/2026
Closing Date:	07/16/2026
Agency:	Community Oriented Policing Services
Contact Information:	COPS Office Response Center

APPLICANT & WORKSPACE DETAILS:

Workspace ID:	WS01693102
Application Filing Name:	SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle (Co.Proj.US2607)
UEI:	NWV6B4HHRQL9
Organization:	COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
Form Name:	Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
Form Version:	4.0
Requirement:	Mandatory
Download Date/Time:	Jul 14, 2026 11:43:44 AM EDT
Form State:	No Errors

FORM ACTIONS:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

*** If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):**

*** Other (Specify):**

*** 3. Date Received:**

Completed by Grants.gov upon submission.

4. Applicant Identifier:

0-COPS-2026-172583-PKG00293023

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

MARYLAND

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

*** a. Legal Name:**

Commissioners of St. Mary's County

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

52-6001015

*** c. UEI:**

NWV6B4HHRQL9

d. Address:

*** Street1:**

23150 Leonard Hall Dr

Street2:

*** City:**

Leonardtown

County/Parish:

St. Mary's County

*** State:**

MD: Maryland

Province:

*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

20650-5801

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

St. Mary's Co Sheriff's Office

Division Name:

Special Operations Division

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mrs.

*** First Name:**

Mary

Middle Name:

Carlotta "Lotti"

*** Last Name:**

Bell

Suffix:

Title:

Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

Organizational Affiliation:

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office

*** Telephone Number:**

2402986866

Fax Number:

*** Email:**

lotti.bell@stmaryscountymd.gov

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

B: County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Community Oriented Policing Services

11. Assistance Listing Number:

16.710

Assistance Listing Title:

Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

O-COPS-2026-172583

* Title:

FY26 COPS Technology and Equipment Program

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV)

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant * b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: * b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	800,000.00
* b. Applicant	0.00
* c. State	0.00
* d. Local	0.00
* e. Other	250,000.00
* f. Program Income	0.00
* g. TOTAL	1,050,000.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☒ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:	Mrs.	* First Name:	Mary
Middle Name:	<input lotti""="" type="text" value="Carlotta "/>		
* Last Name:	Bell		
Suffix:			

* Title: * Telephone Number: Fax Number: * Email: * Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

Lotti Bell

From: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
<copsusdoj@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2026 1:43 PM
To: Sheriff's Fiscal Mgmt
Subject: FY2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program (TEP) NOFO is Now OPEN

Some people who received this message don't often get email from copsusdoj@service.govdelivery.com. [Learn why this is important](#)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
145 N Street, NE, Washington, DC 20535

June 2, 2026

Dear **Mary Carlotta “Lotti” Bell**:

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) is pleased to invite your agency, **St. Mary’s County Sheriff’s Office**, to apply for funding under the FY 2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program (TEP) Invitational Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in the amount of **\$800,000.00** for the following technology and equipment project: **“SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle.”**

FY 2026 TEP provides funding to state, territorial, local, Tribal, and other entities designated for Community Project Funding / Congressionally Directed Spending in the [Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Joint Explanatory Statement \(JES\)](#) for the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-74). Although FY 2026 TEP is a noncompetitive program, to receive the grant award, all eligible funding recipients are required to complete an online application that provides specific and detailed budget and narrative information outlining the agency’s project.

The COPS Office will issue awards with a 24-month period of performance, with a period of performance start date of January 23, 2026, the enactment date of Public Law 119-74. Costs incurred on or after January 23, 2026, but prior to issuance of an award and approval of the project budget by the COPS Office may be reimbursed, but are incurred at the applicant's own risk, as authorized costs will be limited to those approved by the COPS Office.

Please review the [FY 2026 TEP Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) and related documents, including the [FY 2026 TEP Application Resource Guide](#), which are available on the COPS Office website at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/tep>. These documents contain important instructions and information about the application process and award requirements.

Completing an application under this program is a two-step process:

Before You Begin: SAM. Register with the SAM (System of Award Management) database or confirm or renew your existing SAM registration.

Confirm your entity's electronic business point of contact (E-Biz POC) in SAM is accurate.

Step 1: [Grants.gov](#) Register with [Grants.gov](#) or confirm your existing registration. Submit the first part of your application in [Grants.gov](#) The direct link to this NOFO in grants.gov is <https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/362643> . The deadline to complete this step is Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET. Note: If the APPLY button is not active when you are logged in to [Grants.gov](#), contact your agency's [Grants.gov](#) Authorized Organized Representative (AOR) for assistance, or review the steps for registering your organization in [Grants.gov](#)

Step 2: JustGrants. Onboard your agency to the JustGrants Justice Grants System. Complete and submit the second part of your application in JustGrants (<https://www.justicegrants.usdoj.gov>). Complete application packages for the FY 2026 TEP funding opportunity are due by Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Detailed instructions and explanations of the application process can be found in the [FY 2026 TEP Application Resource Guide](#), with additional resources available at [Training: Application Submission | JustGrants Resources](#).

The COPS Office looks forward to working with your agency. If you would like more information or require technical assistance during the application process, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov or 800-421-6770.

Sincerely,

Brenda Worthington

Assistant Director

Grants Administration Division



You have received this email because you have requested [Awards](#) updates from the U.S. Department of Justice's [Community Oriented Policing Services \(COPS\) Office](#). Your subscription information may not be used for any other purposes.

[Manage Your Subscriptions](#) | [Department of Justice Privacy Policy](#) | [GovDelivery Privacy Policy](#)

This email was sent to sheriffiscalmgmt@stmaryscountymd.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) · 145 N St, NE · Washington, DC 20530 · 800-421-6770

NOTE: THESE SURVEY QUESTIONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT IN PART 2 OF THE APPLICATION but will not populate until the SF424 Form is submitted, if CSMC approves today. Providing this now for full review, transparency, and awareness as this will also be submitted in the next part of the Application Submission.

FY 2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program (TEP) Survey Questions

Contents

Survey Questions 1

Agency Eligibility Information 2

Duplication of Funding..... 4

Executive and Contact Information 5

Need for Federal Assistance 7

Continuation of the Project 8

Proposed Technology and Equipment Project..... 9

28 CFR Part 23 (Criminal Intelligence) 11

Unmanned Aircraft Systems 12

Certification of Review and Representation of Compliance..... 13

Acknowledgement of Electronic Signature..... 13

Agency Eligibility Information

1. Type of Agency (select one)

- ☒ Law Enforcement
- ☐ Non-Law Enforcement

From the list below, please select the type of agency which best describes the applicant.

2. Law Enforcement Entities

- ☐ Municipal Police
- ☒ Sheriff
- ☐ County Police (Non-Sheriff)
- ☐ State Police Agency
- ☐ Regional Police Department
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Police
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Council
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Fish & Wildlife
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Courts
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal – Other
- ☐ Public University/College Police
- ☐ Private University/College Police
- ☐ Natural Resources Police (e.g., Fish and Wildlife or Park Police)
- ☐ Transit Police
- ☐ Public Housing Police
- ☐ School District Police
- ☐ Attorney/Court/Investigative Agencies (e.g., District Attorney's Office, Bureau of Investigations, etc.)
- ☐ Multijurisdictional Task Force
- ☐ Consortium of Law Enforcement Agencies
- ☐ Constable
- ☐ Marshals
- ☐ Emergency Response/Management (Non-Police)
- ☐ Municipal Government
- ☐ New Start-Up (*please specify*)

Non-Law Enforcement Entities

- ☐ Attorney/Court
- ☐ Charter or Private School
- ☐ Community/Neighborhood Organization
- ☐ Consortium/Partnerships (Other than police/public safety)
- ☐ Corrections
- ☒ County Government
- ☐ Emergency Response/Management (e.g., Fire or EMS)
- ☐ Faith-Based Organization
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Council

****3a DISCLAIMER:** The FY26 TEP grant requires compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373. Maryland Attorney General Guidance updated June 2026 recognizes that Maryland law remains aligned with the principles of § 1373 and permits the voluntary sharing of citizenship or immigration status information with federal immigration authorities. While Maryland law restricts certain immigration enforcement activities and the sharing of other personal information, it does not prohibit the sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging of citizenship or immigration status information contemplated by § 1373. Accordingly, based upon the guidance of the Maryland Attorney General's Office, the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is able to certify compliance with this eligibility requirement.

- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribal Courts
- ☐ Federally Recognized Tribe – Other
- ☐ For-Profit Organization
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Multijurisdictional Task Force
- ☐ Municipal Government
- ☐ National Law Enforcement
- ☐ Nonprofit with 501C-3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
- ☐ Nonprofit without 501C-3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)
- ☐ Park
- ☐ Private University (Other than police/public safety)
- ☐ Public Housing
- ☐ Public University/College (Other than police/public safety)
- ☐ Public University/College Public Safety
- ☐ Schools
- ☐ State
- ☐ State Associations Chiefs of Police (SACOP)
- ☐ State Associations of Sheriffs
- ☐ State Government
- ☐ Transit
- ☐ Tribal/Native Village
- ☐ Value-based Organization
- ☐ Law Enforcement Stakeholder Association

3. Are you a state or local governmental entity applying for this funding opportunity? [Dropdown]

- ☒ Yes **see**3a disclaimer above** There is no spot to add the Disclaimer under this # in the system but it would be attached to the SF424 Form and application submission.
- ☐ No (if no, continue to question 4)

3a. If yes, is your agency in compliance with 8 U.S.C. §1373, which provides that state and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity? This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a state or local government entity or official.

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No*

*Validation Error Message: You are not eligible to apply for this NOFO. For more information please contact the COPS Response Center at AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov.

4. Please indicate if your jurisdiction is primarily considered rural, urban, or suburban.

- ☒ Rural
- ☐ Urban
- ☐ Suburban

Duplication of Funding

Instructions:

Applicants are required to disclose whether they have pending applications for federally funded assistance or active federal awards that support the same or similar activities or services for which funding is being requested under this application.

Be advised that as a general rule, COPS Office funding may not be used for the same item or service funded through another funding source. However, leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive programs or projects is encouraged and is not seen as inappropriate. To aid the COPS Office in the prevention of awarding potentially duplicative funding, please indicate whether your agency has a pending application or an active award with any other federal funding source (e.g., direct federal funding or indirect federal funding through state subawarded federal funds) which supports the same or similar activities or services as being proposed in this COPS Office application.

5. Do you have any current, active non-COPS Office award with any other federal funding source (e.g., direct federal funding or indirect federal funding through state subawarded federal funds) that supports the same or similar activities or services as being proposed in this COPS Office application?

☐ Yes

☒ No

5a. If yes, for each potentially duplicative non-COPS Office award, provide the following detailed information: name of federal awarding agency, or state agency for subawarded federal funding; award number; program name; award start and end dates; award amount; and description of how this project differs from the application for COPS Office funding.

N/A

6. Do you have any pending non-COPS Office grant applications with any other federal funding source (e.g., direct federal funding or indirect federal funding through state subawarded federal funds) that supports the same or similar activities or services as being proposed in this COPS Office application?

☐ Yes

☒ No

6a. If yes, for each potentially duplicative non-COPS Office grant application, provide the following detailed information: application number (if known); program name; project length; total requested amount; items requested; and describe how this project differs from the application for COPS Office funding.

Executive and Contact Information

Please provide the name and contact information for the highest-ranking Law Enforcement or Program Official and Government Executive or Financial Official for your agency or organization, please see instructions below. **Steven A. Hall, Sheriff, St. Mary's County, Maryland**

Law Enforcement Executive/Program Official

This position will ultimately be responsible for the programmatic management of the award.

Instructions for Law Enforcement Agencies:

For law enforcement agencies, the Law Enforcement Executive is the highest-ranking official in the jurisdiction (Chief of Police, Sheriff, or equivalent). Before this application can be submitted, the Entity Administrator in JustGrants must invite this individual to apply for a JustGrants account with the role of Authorized Representative, and this individual must log in to JustGrants to review the application.

Instructions for Non-Law Enforcement Agencies:

For non-law enforcement agencies (e.g., institutions of higher education, school districts, private organizations, etc.), the Program Official is the highest-ranking official in the jurisdiction (e.g., executive director, chief executive officer, or equivalent). Please note that information for non-executive positions (e.g., clerks, trustees) is not acceptable. Before this application can be submitted, the Entity Administrator in JustGrants must invite this individual to apply for a JustGrants account with the role of Authorized Representative, and this individual must log in to JustGrants to review the application.

7a. Title: **Commissioner President**

7b. First name: **James**

7c. Last name: **Guy**

7d. Phone: **301-475-4200**

7e. Email address: **randy.guy@stmaryscountymd.gov**

Government Executive/Financial Official

This position will ultimately be responsible for the financial management of the award.

Instructions for Government Agencies:

For law enforcement agencies, this is the highest-ranking government official within your jurisdiction (e.g., Superintendent, Mayor, City Administrator, or equivalent). Before this application can be submitted, the Entity Administrator in JustGrants must invite this individual to apply for a JustGrants account with the role of Authorized Representative, and this individual must log in to JustGrants to review the application.

Instructions for Non-Government Agencies:

For non-law enforcement agencies, this is the financial official who has the authority to apply for this award on behalf of the applicant agency (e.g., Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, or equivalent). Please note that information for non-executive positions (e.g., clerks, trustees) is not acceptable. Before this application can be submitted, the Entity Administrator in JustGrants must invite this individual to apply for a JustGrants account with the role of Authorized Representative, and this individual must log in to JustGrants to review the application.

8a. Title:

8b. First name:

8c. Last name:

8d. Phone:

8e. Email address:

Instructions for Application Submitter Contact:

Enter the application point of contact's name and contact information.

9a. Title:

9b. First name:

9c. Last name:

9d. Phone:

9e. Email address:

Need for Federal Assistance

10. All applicants are required to explain their inability to address the need for this award without federal assistance. Please do so in the space below. [Please limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office is requesting federal assistance to acquire a mobile command vehicle because the agency does not have the financial capacity to purchase this critical resource through local funding alone. While the County remains committed to supporting public safety, available funding must first address essential operational needs such as personnel, employee benefits, fleet replacement, facility maintenance, mandated training, and daily operating expenses. These recurring obligations leave insufficient funding for the acquisition of specialized emergency response assets such as a mobile command vehicle.

St. Mary's County presents unique public safety challenges due to its large geographic area, predominantly rural landscape, extensive shoreline along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and the presence of critical infrastructure, including Naval Air Station Patuxent River. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for managing a wide range of incidents requiring coordinated command and control, including major criminal investigations, critical incidents, missing person searches, severe weather events, large public gatherings, hazardous materials incidents, and responses requiring multi-agency coordination.

Currently, the Sheriff's Office must rely on temporary or improvised command posts established from patrol vehicles, trailers, or nearby buildings. These options lack the communications capabilities, workspace, interoperability, and technological infrastructure necessary to effectively manage complex or extended incidents. The absence of a dedicated mobile command platform can hinder information sharing, operational coordination, resource management, and overall incident effectiveness.

Without federal assistance, the Sheriff's Office would be unable to acquire a mobile command vehicle within its foreseeable capital budget. The cost of purchasing and equipping such a vehicle exceeds available local funding and would require the County to defer or eliminate other critical public safety priorities. As a result, the agency would continue to rely on less effective alternatives that do not provide the capabilities needed to support modern incident management.

Federal funding through the COPS Technology and Equipment Program would enable the Sheriff's Office to establish a fully functional mobile command capability that enhances incident command, improves interoperable communications among local, state, and federal partners, strengthens emergency preparedness, and increases operational effectiveness during planned events and emergency responses. This investment will directly improve the Sheriff's Office's ability to protect the residents and visitors of St. Mary's County while supporting coordinated responses to incidents that impact the broader Southern Maryland region.

Without this federal investment, acquiring a mobile command vehicle would not be financially feasible, and the Sheriff's Office would continue to operate without the critical resource necessary to meet today's increasingly complex public safety demands.

Continuation of the Project

11. Does your agency or organization plan to obtain necessary support and continue the program, project, or activity following the conclusion of federal support?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

If yes,

11a. Please identify the source(s) of funding that your agency plans to utilize to continue the program, project, or activity following the conclusion of federal support:

- ☒ General funds
☐ Raise bond/tax issue
☐ Private sources/donations
☒ Nonfederal asset forfeiture funds (subject to approval from the state or local oversight agency)
☐ Fundraising efforts
☐ State, local, or other nonfederal award funding
☐ Other

11b. If other, please provide a brief description of the source(s) of funding. (Please limit your response to a maximum of 125 words)

N/A

Proposed Technology and Equipment Project

12. Please describe the crime problem(s) that will be addressed with this grant and provide relevant facts or data to show the nature, prevalence, and severity of the problem. Applicants must clearly describe

- How this project aligns with the project title listed in the Joint Explanatory Statement;
- How this project will fulfill a specific public safety need, assist in responding to and preventing crime, and expand the implementation of community policing;
- How the project will improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve; and
- How this project will help agencies reorient their mission toward community-oriented policing or enhance their involvement or commitment to community policing.

[Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office serves a jurisdiction of approximately 120,000 residents across more than 350 square miles of land, much of which is rural and geographically dispersed. The county also contains critical infrastructure, including Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and hosts numerous community events that require coordinated public safety operations. The Sheriff's Office routinely responds to serious criminal investigations, missing and endangered persons, search and rescue operations, severe weather events, large public gatherings, and incidents requiring coordinated responses among local, state, and federal agencies. These incidents demand a unified command capability that the agency currently lacks.

This project aligns with the COPS Technology and Equipment Program's emphasis on technology that improves law enforcement effectiveness, enhances officer safety, strengthens community policing, and promotes interagency collaboration. The requested mobile command vehicle will serve as a deployable command and communications platform that improves coordination during critical incidents while also supporting proactive community engagement.

The project fulfills a significant public safety need by providing a centralized location for incident command, interoperable communications, intelligence sharing, and operational planning. During major criminal investigations, large-scale searches, community events, and emergency incidents, the vehicle will improve coordination among law enforcement, fire and EMS, emergency management, public works, school officials, and other government partners. Improved communication and real-time information sharing will enhance decision-making, reduce response times, improve resource deployment, and increase the effectiveness of coordinated crime prevention and emergency response efforts.

The mobile command vehicle will also expand the Sheriff's Office's community policing efforts by providing a visible and accessible law enforcement presence at community events, neighborhood meetings, school functions, public safety demonstrations, and special events throughout the county. Rather than relying solely on traditional enforcement activities, deputies will have an opportunity to engage directly with residents, answer questions, provide crime prevention education, strengthen relationships, and build public trust. These interactions foster partnerships that encourage information sharing and improve the community's willingness to report suspicious activities and assist law enforcement.

The requested vehicle will significantly improve the flow of information among responding agencies by providing reliable communications infrastructure and workspace for unified command during planned events and emergency incidents. It will also enhance collaboration with federal, state, and local partners during incidents affecting the Naval Air Station, critical infrastructure, and regional public safety operations.

By increasing operational effectiveness, strengthening partnerships, improving communication, and expanding opportunities for meaningful engagement with the public, this project directly supports the principles of community-oriented policing while enhancing the Sheriff's Office's ability to prevent crime, respond to critical incidents, and provide the highest level of service to the residents and visitors of St. Mary's County.

13. Define the goal and objectives that you are ultimately trying to accomplish through this grant and how the proposed project would fit into an overall effort to address the problems identified above. [Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The goal of this project is to enhance the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's ability to prevent and respond to crime, improve public safety, strengthen multi-agency coordination, and expand community-oriented policing through the acquisition and deployment of a mobile command vehicle.

The primary objective is to establish a dedicated, technologically capable mobile command platform that provides incident commanders with the resources necessary to effectively manage critical incidents, major criminal investigations, search and rescue operations, missing person investigations, planned public events, severe weather responses, and other large-scale emergencies. The vehicle will improve command and control by providing interoperable communications, operational planning space, real-time information sharing, and coordination among local, state, and federal partners.

A second objective is to improve operational efficiency by reducing delays associated with establishing temporary command posts and enhancing the coordination of personnel and resources during complex incidents. The mobile command vehicle will enable responding agencies to operate from a centralized location, improving situational awareness, decision-making, and resource deployment while supporting a unified command structure consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

A third objective is to expand the Sheriff's Office's community policing efforts by increasing meaningful engagement with residents throughout St. Mary's County. The mobile command vehicle will be deployed at community events, neighborhood meetings, school functions, public safety demonstrations, and other outreach activities to provide an accessible location where deputies can interact with community members, deliver crime prevention information, strengthen relationships, and encourage collaboration in identifying and addressing public safety concerns.

This project is part of the Sheriff's Office's broader strategy to modernize public safety capabilities while strengthening partnerships with the community and other public safety agencies. The requested mobile command vehicle will complement existing emergency response capabilities, improve interoperability among law enforcement and allied agencies, and support coordinated responses to incidents affecting the county's residents, visitors, businesses, schools, and critical infrastructure, including Naval Air Station Patuxent River.

Project success will be measured by the successful deployment and operational use of the mobile command vehicle during critical incidents, planned public safety events, community engagement activities, and multi-agency operations. Additional indicators of success include improved interagency coordination, enhanced communications capabilities, expanded community outreach opportunities, increased operational efficiency, and strengthened public trust through continued implementation of community-oriented policing principles.

The acquisition of a mobile command vehicle will provide a long-term capability that enhances officer effectiveness, improves emergency response, strengthens community partnerships, and supports the Sheriff's Office's mission of protecting life, preserving public safety, and serving the citizens of St. Mary's County through collaborative, community-focused policing.

14. How will you ensure effective implementation of the project? Applicants must identify any applicable governmental and community initiatives which complement or will be coordinated with the proposed project. Include a detailed timeline with key activities and milestone

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office has the personnel, project management experience, and established partnerships necessary to successfully implement this project and ensure the mobile command vehicle is fully integrated into the agency's public safety and community policing operations. Overall project oversight will be provided by agency leadership, with support from Fleet Management, Information Technology, Communications, Emergency Management, Finance, and operational personnel responsible for emergency response and community engagement.

The Sheriff's Office maintains longstanding collaborative relationships with numerous local, state, and federal partners, including the St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services, St. Mary's County Emergency Management, local fire and EMS agencies, the Maryland State Police, the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, neighboring law enforcement agencies, public school officials, and other local government departments. The mobile command vehicle will complement existing emergency management initiatives, mutual aid agreements, the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the County's emergency operations planning by providing a centralized platform for unified command, interoperable communications, and coordinated decision-making during planned events, critical incidents, and emergencies.

The vehicle will also support the Sheriff's Office's community policing strategy by serving as a highly visible and accessible resource during community events, neighborhood meetings, school programs, public safety fairs, National Night Out activities, crime prevention initiatives, and other outreach efforts. These deployments will strengthen partnerships with residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations while providing opportunities to share crime prevention information and encourage community involvement in public safety.

Throughout the life of the grant, the Sheriff's Office will monitor project progress, ensure compliance with all grant conditions, and evaluate vehicle utilization to ensure it supports both emergency response operations and community-oriented policing initiatives. This structured implementation plan will ensure the mobile command vehicle provides a sustainable, long-term enhancement to public safety, interagency collaboration, and community engagement throughout St. Mary's County.

Instructions:

The following is the COPS Office definition of community policing that emphasizes the primary components of community partnerships, organizational transformation, and problem solving.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues, such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

15. Please provide information on the proposed community policing activities, including partnerships, organizational transformation, and problem solving, that will be implemented or enhanced as a result of grant funding for this project. [Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The acquisition of a mobile command vehicle will significantly enhance the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's community policing strategy by expanding partnerships, improving problem-solving capabilities, and strengthening the agency's ability to engage with the public in meaningful ways. Rather than serving solely as an emergency response asset, the mobile command vehicle will function as a year-round resource supporting proactive policing, crime prevention, and community engagement.

The vehicle will be deployed at neighborhood meetings, National Night Out events, school functions, public safety fairs, youth programs, crime prevention initiatives, and community events throughout St. Mary's County. These deployments will provide deputies with a highly visible and accessible location to engage directly with residents, answer questions, distribute crime prevention information, and build relationships that encourage collaboration in identifying and addressing local public safety concerns.

The project strengthens partnerships with numerous stakeholders, including the St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services, Emergency Management, local fire and EMS agencies, public schools, community organizations, neighboring law enforcement agencies, the Maryland State Police, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and other local, state, and federal partners. The vehicle will improve coordination during planned events, critical incidents, and emergency responses by providing a centralized location for unified command, interoperable communications, and collaborative decision-making.

The project also supports organizational transformation by providing the Sheriff's Office with a dedicated platform that enhances operational flexibility while reinforcing the agency's commitment to community-oriented policing. Deputies will be better equipped to address recurring public safety issues through collaborative problem-solving rather than relying solely on traditional enforcement strategies. The mobile command vehicle will enable law enforcement and community partners to work together more effectively to identify concerns, develop solutions, and improve the overall quality of life for the residents of St. Mary's County.

By strengthening partnerships, improving communication, and expanding opportunities for direct community engagement, this project advances the core principles of community policing while enhancing the Sheriff's Office's ability to proactively address crime, social disorder, and public safety concerns.

16. Please address any applicable consultation with community groups and appropriate private and public agencies in the implementation of the proposed project. [Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office maintains strong working relationships with public safety agencies, local government, educational institutions, community organizations, and private-sector partners throughout St. Mary's County. These relationships have helped identify the need for a mobile command vehicle that can support coordinated emergency response while expanding community engagement opportunities.

Implementation of the project will involve continued collaboration with the St. Mary's County Department of Emergency Services, Emergency Management, local fire and EMS agencies, the Maryland State Police, neighboring law enforcement agencies, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, public schools, county government, and other public safety partners. These agencies routinely work together during planned events, critical incidents, emergency preparedness exercises, and mutual aid responses, and will benefit from the enhanced command, communication, and coordination capabilities provided by the mobile command vehicle.

The Sheriff's Office will also continue collaborating with community organizations, civic associations, schools, faith-based organizations, businesses, and neighborhood groups to identify opportunities for deploying the vehicle during outreach events and public safety initiatives. The vehicle will serve as a visible and accessible resource that supports crime prevention education, public safety demonstrations, youth engagement, and community discussions regarding local concerns.

The project reflects ongoing consultation with stakeholders who recognize the need for improved coordination, enhanced communications, and increased opportunities for positive interaction between law enforcement and the community. The Sheriff's Office remains committed to maintaining these partnerships throughout implementation and ensuring the mobile command vehicle supports both operational effectiveness and community-oriented policing initiatives.

17. Please describe to what extent there is community support in your jurisdiction for implementing the proposed award activities. [Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The proposed project has demonstrated strong support from elected officials, government agencies, and community partners who recognize the value of enhancing public safety and strengthening community policing throughout St. Mary's County.

The Sheriff's Office has obtained letters of support from the St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners, the St. Mary's County Health Department, and Maryland State Senator Jack Bailey. These letters reflect a shared commitment to improving public safety, enhancing emergency preparedness, strengthening interagency collaboration, and supporting initiatives that foster positive relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

The Sheriff's Office has a longstanding history of partnering with residents, schools, businesses, civic organizations, faith-based organizations, and public safety agencies through crime prevention programs, community events, school resource activities, public education initiatives, and neighborhood engagement efforts. These partnerships have consistently demonstrated the community's willingness to work collaboratively with law enforcement to address public safety concerns.

The mobile command vehicle will further strengthen these relationships by providing a visible and accessible platform for community engagement throughout the county. Residents will have increased opportunities to interact with deputies during neighborhood meetings, community festivals, National Night Out events, school activities, and other outreach programs. The vehicle will also enhance the Sheriff's Office's ability to provide timely public information during emergencies and large-scale incidents, reinforcing public confidence and trust.

The strong support demonstrated by community leaders and partner agencies reflects broad recognition that this project will improve public safety, strengthen community partnerships, and enhance the Sheriff's Office's ability to serve the residents and visitors of St. Mary's County.

18. Please describe to what extent the award activities will impact the other components of the criminal justice system in your jurisdiction. [Limit your response to a maximum of 500 words.]

The acquisition of a mobile command vehicle will positively impact the entire criminal justice system by improving coordination, communication, and operational efficiency among agencies responsible for public safety and emergency response. The vehicle will provide a centralized command platform that supports unified operations during major criminal investigations, critical incidents, search and rescue operations, planned events, and emergencies requiring a coordinated multi-agency response.

The vehicle will enhance collaboration among the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office, the Maryland State Police, local police departments, the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office, Emergency Services, Emergency Management, local fire and EMS agencies, and other local, state, and federal partners. By improving interoperable communications and information sharing, the project will strengthen investigative coordination, improve resource management, and support more effective incident resolution.

In addition to benefiting agencies within St. Mary's County, the mobile command vehicle will serve as a regional public safety resource for Southern Maryland. Through established mutual aid agreements and longstanding partnerships, the Sheriff's Office routinely collaborates with neighboring law enforcement agencies, regional emergency management organizations, and federal partners, including Naval Air Station Patuxent River. The vehicle will enhance regional preparedness by providing a deployable command and communications platform that can support multi-jurisdictional incidents, planned regional events, natural disasters, critical infrastructure incidents, and other emergencies requiring coordinated responses across jurisdictional boundaries.

The mobile command vehicle will also support coordinated operations involving the courts, prosecutors, emergency management personnel, and other governmental agencies during incidents that require a unified response. Enhanced command capabilities will improve situational awareness, facilitate timely decision-making, and reduce duplication of effort among responding agencies.

Beyond emergency response, the vehicle will support collaborative community policing initiatives involving schools, community organizations, local government, and public safety partners. These coordinated efforts contribute to crime prevention, strengthen public trust, and encourage community participation in identifying and resolving public safety concerns before they escalate.

By improving communication, strengthening partnerships, enhancing regional mutual aid capabilities, and increasing operational coordination across the criminal justice system, the project will provide lasting benefits that extend well beyond the Sheriff's Office. The mobile command vehicle will serve as a force multiplier for local, regional, state, and federal partners while advancing community-oriented policing and contributing to a safer, more resilient Southern Maryland.

28 CFR Part 23 (Criminal Intelligence)

Certification of Review of 28 C.F.R. Part 23/Criminal Intelligence Systems:

If your agency is requesting COPS Office funds for equipment or technology that will be used to operate an interjurisdictional criminal intelligence system that receives, stores, analyzes, exchanges, or disseminates data regarding ongoing criminal activities, you must agree to comply with the operating principles at 28 C.F.R Part 23.

If you are requesting COPS Office funds to operate a single agency database (or other unrelated forms of technology) and will not share criminal intelligence data with other jurisdictions, 28 C.F.R. Part 23 does not apply.

19. Please check one of the following, as applicable to your agency's intended use of COPS Office funds:

- ☒ No, my agency will not use these COPS Office funds (if awarded) to operate an interjurisdictional criminal intelligence system.
- ☐ Yes, my agency will use these COPS Office funds (if awarded) to operate an interjurisdictional criminal intelligence system and will comply with the requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 23.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

Instructions

For the purpose of this program, the terms “unmanned aircraft system,” “drone,” and “unmanned aerial vehicle” all have the meaning given to the term “unmanned aircraft system” in 49 U.S.C. § 44801(12), “an unmanned aircraft and associated elements (including communication links and the components that control the unmanned aircraft) that are required for the operator to operate safely and efficiently in the national airspace system.” (Hereinafter, “UAS”). The term “counter-UAS system” has the meaning given to the term in 49 U.S.C. § 44801(5), “a system or device capable of lawfully and safely disabling, disrupting, or seizing control of an unmanned aircraft or unmanned aircraft system.” (Hereinafter, “counter-UAS”).

Blue UAS Cleared List (Blue List): the Blue List is a reference portal for the U.S. Department of War Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), U.S. Government, and industry partners, providing an aggregated list of compliant UAS systems and components. <https://bluelist.appsplatformportals.us/>

Consolidated Screening List (CSL): CSL is a list, maintained by the International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, of parties for which the United States Government maintains restrictions on certain exports, reexports, or transfers of items. <https://www.trade.gov/consolidated-screening-list>

20. Does the applicant propose to purchase UAS with award funds?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes,

20a. By checking the box, the applicant acknowledges he or she understands that if any Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) is purchased with award funds:

1. It must be one manufactured by an entity included, as of the date of purchase, on the U.S. Department of War Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Blue UAS Cleared List (available at <https://bluelist.appsplatformportals.us/>);

2. It must not be manufactured by an entity that will be included, as of the date of purchase, on the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce’s Consolidated Screening List (available at <https://www.trade.gov/consolidated-screening-list>);

3. No modifications or additional accessories that are not on the DCMA Blue UAS Cleared List will be introduced to the purchased UAS. Further, the applicant understands that the entity operating the UAS must have sufficient policies and procedures regarding privacy, civil liberties, and information technology cybersecurity related to the operation of the UAS; and

4. Counter-UAS or activities are unallowable under this program.

N/A I understand.*

*Validation Error Message: Please check the box.

Certification of Review and Representation of Compliance

21. ☒ By checking the box, the applicant indicates he or she understands that: (1) the applicant will comply with all legal, administrative, and programmatic requirements that govern the applicant for acceptance and use of federal funds as outlined in the applicable COPS Office Grant Application Resource Guide, the COPS Office Award Owner's Manual, the DOJ Grants Financial Guide, Assurances, Certifications, all Executive Orders, and applicable Presidential Memoranda, program regulations, laws, orders, and circulars; (2) the applicant understands that as a general rule COPS Office funding may not be used for the same item or service funded through another funding source; and 3. the applicant and any required or identified official partner(s) listed in this application mutually agreed to this partnership prior to submission.*
22. ☒ By checking the box, the applicant indicates he or she provides a certification that: (1) the programs to be funded by the grant meet all the requirements of the COPS Office statute (34 U.S.C. § 10381, et seq.); (2) all the information contained in the application is correct; and (3) the applicant will comply with all provisions of the COPS Office statute (34 U.S.C. § 10381, et seq.) and all other applicable Federal laws.*
23. ☒ By checking the box, the applicant indicates that he or she understands that the COPS Office may require your agency to review, confirm and/or update specific data items in the submitted application and failure to respond may eliminate the application from funding consideration.*

*Validation Error Message: Please check the box.

Acknowledgement of Electronic Signature

24. By checking the box, the applicant indicates that he or she understands that "clicking to agree" in this application and the required forms, including the Assurances, Certifications and, if applicable, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form are just as legally enforceable as physical signatures.
- ☒ I understand.*

*Validation Error Message: Please check the box.



Steven A. Hall
SHERIFF

Office of the Sheriff

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Headquarters
23150 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-4200 Ext. *1900
301-475-4047 Fax

Detention and Rehabilitation Center
41880 Baldrige Street
Leonardtown, MD 20650
301-475-4200 Ext. *3200
301-475-4095 Fax



An Internationally
Accredited Agency

June 30, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
145 N Street NE
Washington, DC 20530

Subject: FY2026 COPS Technology and Equipment Program Grant Application, St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Vehicle Project

Thank you for this noncompetitive, invitational, funding opportunity which provides funding to state, territorial, local, Tribal, and other entities designated under the heading "Community Oriented Policing Services, Technology and Equipment Community Projects / COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment" in the Congressional Joint Explanatory Statement – Division C, which is incorporated by reference into Public Law 119-74, to develop and acquire effective law enforcement equipment, technologies and interoperable communications that assist in responding to and preventing crime and expand the implementation of community policing. Equipment funded under this program should meet any applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Office of Law Enforcement Standards.

St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) is applying for \$800,000 in funding for a Mobile Command Unit. Through this funding opportunity, one of the additional eligibility factors for applying for this grant is that "State and local governmental entities must comply with 8 U.S.C. §1373, which provides that State and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity. This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a State or local government entity or official."

Relative to the eligibility requirement, SMCSO has consulted with Deputy County Attorney Houser and our agency counsel regarding the FY2026 TEP eligibility requirement concerning compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373. Based on the June 22, 2026 guidance issued by the Maryland Attorney General's Office, SMCSO understands that applicable Maryland law does not prohibit the sending, receiving, maintaining, or exchanging of citizenship or immigration-status information addressed by 8 U.S.C. § 1373. Accordingly, legal counsel has advised that SMCSO may execute the required certification.

Respectfully,

Steven A. Hall, Sheriff
St. Mary's County, Maryland

***St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment Request 5/2024
(updated on 6/24/2026 to reflect the current plan and budget).***

Commerce, Justice, Science

COPS Technology

DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment projects support state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to develop and procure the technology and equipment needed to respond more quickly and effectively, improve officer safety, increase transparency, and enhance community relations.

Funding must be aligned with the purposes of section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). As such, the Chairman will consider projects to develop and/or acquire technologies and equipment, including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology, to assist State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

Eligible recipients for COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding are State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies. Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding.

The information below was required to submit our Community Project Funding request to the House Appropriations Committee in May 2024, however, on 6/24/26 this was updated to reflect the current plan and budget.

The following questions are answered to the best of our ability. Additionally, please note that details of Community Project Funding requests will be made available for public inspection. For additional information, please consult the committee guidance, which can be found [here](#).

REQUIRED QUESTIONS FOR ALL ACCOUNTS

NOTE: Updated on 6/24/26 to reflect the current plan and budget.

- 1. Non-federal Project Sponsor Requesting Funds:**
St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO)
- 2. Primary Point of Contact (name, email, phone number, organization address):**

POC – Program/Project:

Captain Richard W. Russell

Richard.russell@stmaryscountymd.gov

O) 301-475-4200 x8062 and C) 240-538-2879

23150 Leonard Hall Drive, Leonardtown, MD 20650

POC - Financial or Grant System:

Mary Carlotta "Lotti" Bell

lotti.bell@stmaryscountymd.gov

O) 301-475-4200 x1933 and C) 240-298-6866

23150 Leonard Hall Drive, Leonardtown, MD 20650

***St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment Request 5/2024
(updated on 6/24/2026 to reflect the current plan and budget).***

- 3. Project Priority (if non-federal sponsor is submitting more than 1 project): COPS 1**
- 4. Short Name of Project: SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV)**
- 5. Complete Description of Project (limit 1000 characters, including spaces):**
Funding for a motorized (MCV) to enhance law enforcement and public safety operations. A MCV would increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between responding public safety partners to include Commissioners of St. Mary's Co.; Fire/EMS; MD State Police; Dept. of Defense; other Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies; Health Dept.; Dept. of Emergency Services; Emergency Management Agency; St. Mary's Co. Public Schools; MD State Highways; and Dept. of Public Works & Transportation. Thus, allowing for continuity of operations and the effective management of critical incidents in a self-sustained unified command environment, which the Federal Emergency Management Agency/FEMA and MD Department of Emergency Management/MDEM have identified as best practice. A MCV would provide a secure mobile structure for local and regional critical incident operations, and would include-electricity, generator, radio and computer capabilities, and equipment storage.
- 6. Has this project been submitted to any other Member of Congress, if so please list the Members' name and a staff point-of-contact: N/A**
- 7. Is the entity to receive the funds a non-profit? If yes, provide documentation that the non-profit is a 501(c)(3) including EIN number: NO. The entity is a Local Government Law Enforcement Agency. 52-6001015**
- 8. Attach a letter of support from the non-federal sponsor of the project or the project partner for the project being requested. If there is no official non-federal sponsor or project partner, this can be a letter of support from the community or city/county. Attached are Letters of Support that were submitted with the original funding request.**
- 9. Why is this project a community priority?**
Currently, the Sheriff's Office maintains a 2006 Featherlite pull-behind trailer, pulled with a 2008 Ford F550 Pick-up truck as its Mobile Command Unit. The combination thereof requires a commercial driver's license (CDL) which is very limiting and challenging. The current unit is antiquated, very narrow, and limited in space. It does not have a restroom and is not as efficient in functionality. The maintenance and reliability of the current unit are also of concern as the equipment and technology have been extended beyond the end of useful life. As such, the current mobile command unit is in need of replacement to a more versatile, drivable, and functional mobile vehicle unit, that does not require a CDL to drive it. Lastly, the SMCSO is the only law enforcement agency in the region that does not possess an MCV that leverages the latest technology and equipment that meets the operational needs of a modern agency.

***St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment Request 5/2024
(updated on 6/24/2026 to reflect the current plan and budget).***

The ability for law enforcement and other public safety components to collaborate, communicate, and improve the decision-making process directly impacts the community. The MCV provides a vital setting wherein responding personnel of a critical incident or event can securely meet, stage, brief, and deploy resources. Decisions include scene containment/security, fire/EMS resources/response, road closures, need for evacuation/routes, communications to the public, and countless others relating to mitigating, investigating, and returning the community to a normal status.

Critical incidents that have affected the community range from active crime scenes, barricaded suspects, critical missing persons (child/elderly), aircraft crashes (civilian/military), large-scale community and other special events, weather (hurricanes/tornadoes), to active shooter situations in a school, business, and community setting.

10. Amount of Request:

\$800,000 Federal Grant Project #US2607 and up to \$250,000 Locally Forfeited Funds Project #2409LF to be used to fund any difference in amounts needed to purchase the MCV and/or related equipment.

(see next pages)

REQUIRED QUESTIONS FOR BYRNE JAG PROJECTS

In addition to the below questions, you **must** submit a letter(s) demonstrating community support.

Letters of support can be emailed directly to james.deatley@mail.house.gov.

1. Project Title: St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Vehicle

2. Project Description:

The proposed motorized Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) unit would be a large motor home style vehicle, which does not require a CDL and is equipped with the necessary tools and technology that can be deployed on a moment's notice from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. This MCV would provide a secure and mobile structure for critical incident operations, to include electricity, generator, radio/computer capabilities, equipment storage, and conference area.

A MCV provides a vital setting for law enforcement wherein responding personnel of a critical incident or event can securely meet, stage, brief, and deploy resources. Decisions include scene containment/security, fire/EMS resources/response, road closures, need for evacuation/routes, communications to the public, and countless others relating to mitigating, investigating, and returning the community to a normal status.

The MCV will be used for large-scale community events, critical incidents or catastrophes, weather events, missing person searches, that may be prolonged for an extended period. Critical incidents that have affected the community range from active crime scenes, barricaded suspects, critical missing persons (child/elderly), aircraft crashes (civilian/military), large-scale community and other special events, weather (hurricanes/tornadoes), to active shooter situations in a school, business, and community setting. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office, through its mutual aid agreements with allied agencies, would mobilize the MCV in response to regional critical incidents.

This MCV will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between responding public safety partners to include but not limited to: Commissioners of St. Mary's County; various Fire/EMS; Maryland State Police; Department of Defense; other Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies; Health Department; Department of Emergency Services; Emergency Management Agency; St. Mary's County Public Schools; Maryland State Highway; and the Department of Public Works & Transportation. Thus, allowing for the continuity of operations and the effective management of critical incidents in a self-sustained unified command environment, which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) have identified as best practice.

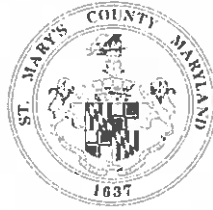
3. Estimated Start Date: January 23, 2026

4. Estimated End Date: January 23, 2028

***St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office DOJ COPS Technology and Equipment Request 5/2024
(updated on 6/24/2026 to reflect the current plan and budget).***

5. Amount requested: **\$800,000**
6. Total Project Cost: **\$1,050,000 maximum**
7. Can the project obligate (encumber) all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? Y/N: **Yes, the funds can be obligated. However, the design phase is about a month and delivery would be 16-18 months after they receive the purchase order.**
8. Is the funding requested by a governmental or non-profit organization? **Governmental**
9. Recipient Point of Contact:
Captain Richard Russell
Commander, Special Operations Division
23150 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650
10. Recipient Phone Number: **Office: 301-475-4200 x8062, Mobile: 240-538-2879**
11. Recipient Email Address: **Richard.Russell@stmaryscountymd.gov**
12. In which congressional district(s) is the recipient located?: **Fifth District**
13. Recipient Legal Name: **Commissioners of St. Mary's County, Doing Business As:
St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office**
14. Recipient Address:
23150 Leonard Hall Drive
Leonardtown, MD 20650
15. If project is located in a different congressional district, please identify the district: **N/A**
16. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? (Y/N): **No**
17. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? (Y/N): **No**
18. If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project: **N/A**
19. Are you aware of another Member of Congress making a request for this same project? (Y/N or N/A): **No**
20. Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? (Y/N): **No**
21. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State': **The Mobile Command Vehicle would be housed in Leonardtown, Maryland which is in St. Mary's County, Maryland.**

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hoyer:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County support the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's request for the SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV). Currently, the Sheriff's Office maintains a 2006 Featherlite pull-behind trailer with a 2008 Ford F550 Pick-up truck as a Mobile Command Unit. The current unit is antiquated, very narrow, limited in space, does not have a restroom and is not efficient in functionality.

The proposed motorized Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) unit would be a large motor home style vehicle, which does not require a CDL and is equipped with the necessary tools and technology that can be deployed on a moment's notice from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. This MCV would provide a secure and mobile structure for critical incident operations, to include electricity, generator, radio/computer capabilities, equipment storage, conference area, and restroom facilities.

A MCV provides a vital setting for law enforcement wherein responding personnel of a critical incident or event can securely meet, stage, brief, and deploy resources. Decisions include scene containment/security, fire/EMS resources/response, road closures, need for evacuation/routes, communications to the public, and countless others relating to mitigating, investigating, and returning the community to a normal status.

The MCV will be used for large-scale community events, critical incidents or catastrophes, weather events, missing person searches, that may be prolonged for an extended period. Critical incidents that have affected the community range from active crime scenes, barricaded suspects, critical missing persons (child/elderly), aircraft crashes (civilian/military), large-scale community and other special events, weather (hurricanes/tornadoes), to active shooter situations in a school, business, or community. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office, through its mutual aid agreements with allied agencies, would mobilize the MCV in response to regional critical incidents.

This MCV will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between responding public safety partners to include but not limited to: Commissioners of St. Mary's County; various Fire/EMS; Maryland State Police; Department of Defense; other Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies; Health Department; Department of Emergency Services; Emergency Management Agency; St. Mary's County Public Schools; Maryland State Highway; and the Department of Public Works & Transportation. Thus, allowing for the continuity of operations and the effective

Page 2
The Honorable Steny Hoyer
May 7, 2024

management of critical incidents in a self-sustained unified command environment, which the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) have identified as best practice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/SH/sf
E:/Consent/2024/073

Cc: Commissioner Mike Alderson, Jr.
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow
David Weiskopf, County Administrator
Steven Hall, St. Mary's County Sheriff

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Budget & Taxation Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 401
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3673 • 301-858-3673
800-492-7122 Ext. 3673
Jack.Bailey@senate.state.md.us

District Office
Dorsey Professional Park
23680 Three Notch Road, Unit 101
Hollywood, Maryland 20636
240-309-4238

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Letter of Support – St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Vehicle

Dear Congressman Hoyer:

I am writing to express my support for the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office's request for grant funding for a new Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV). The proposed motorized MCV unit would be a large motor home style vehicle, which does not require a CDL and is equipped with the necessary tools and technology that can be deployed on a moment's notice from the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. This MCV would provide a secure mobile structure for critical incident operations and include electricity, generator, radio and computer capabilities, equipment storage, conference area, and restroom facilities.

An MCV provides a vital setting for law enforcement where personnel responding to a critical incident or event can securely meet, stage, brief, and deploy resources. Decisions include scene containment and security, fire and EMS resources and response, road closures, need for evacuation routes, communications to the public, and countless others relating to mitigating, investigating, and returning the community to a normal status.

The MCV will be used for large-scale community events, critical incidents or catastrophes, weather events, and missing person searches that may be prolonged for an extended period. Critical incidents that have affected the community include active crime scenes, barricaded suspects, critical missing persons, aircraft crashes, large-scale community and other special events, weather events, and active shooter situations in schools, businesses, or communities. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office, through its mutual aid agreements with allied agencies, would mobilize the MCV in response to regional critical incidents.

This MCV will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between responding public safety partners to at all levels of government, including Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. This would allow for continuity of operations and the effective management of critical incidents in a self-sustained unified command environment, which the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Department of Emergency Management have identified as best practice.

Thank you for your consideration of my support of this important request to assist the Sheriff's Office in their efforts to protect the residents of St. Mary's County and Southern Maryland. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Senator Jack Bailey



**ST. MARY'S COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Meenakshi G. Brewster, MD, MPH - Health Officer

Administration, Records & Health Services: 301 – 475 – 4330

Environmental Health: 301 – 475 – 4321

Medical Assistance Transportation: 301 – 475 – 4296

Maryland Relay Service: 1 – 800 – 735 – 2258

Email: smchd.healthdept@maryland.gov

5/9//2024

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
1705 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Hoyer,

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) is pleased to support the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office (SMCSO) request for the SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV).

Sheriff Steven Hall and the members of the Sheriff's Office have been invaluable partners, demonstrating their commitment to public safety and health through their tireless collaboration with SMCHD. This successful partnership has been evident throughout the Opioid Epidemic, the COVID-19 pandemic, and our ongoing efforts to address our community's public health (including behavioral health) concerns.

As the local health department for St. Mary's County, Maryland, SMCHD is responsible for protecting and promoting the health of our residents. As the county's leader in public health, the agency is committed to ensuring that community members have access to personal and environmental health services and information. SMCHD also plays a crucial role in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters. During public health emergencies, an SMCSO mobile command post could assist us when we rely on SMCSO to ensure safety at mass testing sites and at point-of-distribution sites for items such as antimicrobial prophylaxis or treatment, potassium iodide tablets, other treatment, and vaccines.

Our goal is to partner with other institutions to optimize the health of our county's residents, with efforts toward community health and emergency planning. The MCV will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of communication between responding public safety partners. This allows for the continuity of operations and effective management of critical incidents.

Identifying best practices is crucial to improvement and development of all public services. Unified Commands when dealing with critical incidents have been identified as a best practice, and we are pleased to lend our support to the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office and their request for the SMCSO Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV). This initiative will support and aid numerous community partners.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information about the St. Mary's County Health Department and our partnership with the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully,

Meenakshi G. Brewster, MD, MPH
St. Mary's County Health Officer