

**53242**

**DATE:** December 8, 2016

**TO:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Robin Schlaff  
Director, Office for Women

**SUBJECT:** Authority to amend each of the County's three (3) grant agreements with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, pursuant to which the County accepted grants awarded to it under the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program to operate the County's Family Justice Center and provide related services, by extending the term of each grant agreement to a new termination date of November 30, 2017, to provide the County with additional time to use a portion of the funds that remain unspent from each grant.

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Since 2009, the County of Westchester (the "County") has entered into three (3) grant agreements with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, ("OVW"), pursuant to which the County collectively accepted grants under OVW's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program ("GTEAP") in a total amount of \$2,900,000, covering the period from October 1, 2009 through November 30, 2016, in order to establish, implement, and sustain the County's Family Justice Center ("FJC"), install an automated victim notification of protective orders ("VNPO") system, and train police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers (collectively, the "Previous Grant Agreements"). Your Honorable Board approved resolutions concerning the Previous Grant Agreements on December 7, 2009, March 15, 2012, June 28, 2012, and November 7, 2013.

Although each of the three (3) Previous Grant Agreements was presented, treated, and executed as a separate grant agreement, OVW views the funded work as part of a single 'project'. Therefore, OVW looks at the Previous Grant Agreements in their totality, thereby treating them as though they were a single grant agreement with a term of October 1, 2009 through November 30, 2016, for the amount of \$2,900,000.

Accordingly, when OVW recently notified the County that it has been awarded a 12-month, no-cost extension of the term during which the County can expend funds from the Previous Grant Agreements, OVW treated the extension of the three (3) grant agreements as though it were an

extension of a single grant agreement. In addition, OVW will not provide the County with an amendment to execute. Instead, OVW will merely modify its documentation in its online system, to which the County consents, in order to reflect the fact that the overall term during which the funds from the Previous Grant Agreements can be expended is now extended to November 30, 2017.

Therefore, the County respectfully requests authority from your Honorable Board to consent to the amendment of each of the Previous Grant Agreements to extend its term to a new termination date of November 30, 2017, to provide the County with additional time to use a portion of the funds that remain unspent from each grant (the "First Amendment").

Except as specifically described above, all terms and conditions of each of the Previous Grant Agreements shall remain in full force and effect.

The proposed First Amendment will serve a public purpose by providing additional time to expend OVW funds on the operation of the FJC, as well as train law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors.

The goal and objective of the proposed First Amendment is to provide additional time to expend OVW funds on the operation of the FJC, as well as train law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors.

The goal and objective of the proposed First Amendment is in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as operating the FJC, as well as training law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors, will ultimately enhance the safety and independence of victims of abuse because victims who are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers.

The goal and objective of the proposed First Amendment is also in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as it will ensure that OVW funds remain available to the County for the aforementioned work.

The goal and objective of the proposed First Amendment will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, I recommend adoption of the proposed resolution.

# RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Director of the Office for Women, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") is hereby authorized to consent to the amendment of each of its three (3) previous grant agreements (the "Previous Grant Agreements") with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, ("OVW") pursuant to which the County accepted grant funds under OVW's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program ("GTEAP") to operate the County's Family Justice Center ("FJC") and provide related services, in order to extend the term of each grant through November 30, 2017, to provide the County with additional time to use a portion of the funds that remain unspent from each grant; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as specifically amended hereby, all terms and conditions of each of the Previous Grant Agreements shall remain in full force and effect; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be charged/credited:

FUND	DEPT	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Revenue Source	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year(s)
263	11	988R	9852	T988	\$0	2016-2017

**Budget Funding Year(s)** 2016-2017      **Start Date:** 12/1/2016      **End Date:** 11/30/2017  
 (must match resolution)

\$0

(must match resolution)

**Funding Source:**      Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_  
    State Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
    Federal Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
    Other \_\_\_\_\_