

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: 2012 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT**

BACKGROUND:

On May 8, 2012, City Council authorized the Police Department to apply for the 2012 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The grant conditions required that the application be filed jointly with the Story County and the Council approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the County. The application and Memorandum of Understanding were completed and submitted; and in July, the Department of Justice notified the Police Department that the grant had been awarded in full.

These grant funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, as well as research and evaluation activities that will improve or enhance law enforcement programs related to criminal justice.

Total funding available to the Ames Police Department through this grant offering is \$24,043. **The Police Department proposes to use the funds for specialized training and equipment purchases. Recently the department rebuilt the firing range used for firearms training and certification. Additional equipment, including a target system, a sound system, and a camera and range supplies will be purchased using grant funds. Funds will also be used to purchase replacement and upgraded tasers and to provide advanced training to a taser instructor. Finally, grant funds will be used to acquire ballistic helmets for the Emergency Response Team. There is no match requirement with this grant.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the 2012 Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, and Bureau of Justice Assistance Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and authorize the Police Department to participate in the program.
2. Do not authorize participation in this grant program.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Police Department has participated in the JAG grant program in the past and the program has proven to be a valuable source of funds for special purchases and programs. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.