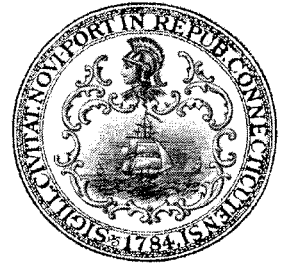




NEW HAVEN
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE
One Union Avenue • New Haven • Connecticut • 06519



Otoniel Reyes
Chief of Police

Justin Elicker
Mayor

March 3, 2021

The Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, Board of Alders
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Alder President Walker-Myers,

In accordance with the Order of the Board of Aldermen authorizing the Mayor to apply for and accept all grants on behalf of the City of New Haven, passed October 17, 1994, I am respectfully writing to advise the Honorable Board that the Department of Police Service would like to accept up to \$35,000.00 from Demand Zero to purchase buy/informant money, external hard drives for file storage, and evidence security bags for the Investigative Services Unit with narcotics and related cases, and to purchase food and veterinary services for our patrol/narcotics dogs Farley and Bruce.

Demand Zero is a group of community organizers on a mission to combat the opioid crisis by targeting the trade of illegal and lethal drugs in New Haven. Demand Zero conducted a fundraiser in June that raised funds to purchase K9s Farley and Bruce.

Dr. Mehul Dalal, Community Services Administrator, stated that "there are many, many more overdoses that are occurring" since the pandemic began, adding that the most common drug involved in overdoses in New Haven is heroin, with "fentanyl and fentanyl-like products that are most involved in fatal overdoses." Funds for drug investigations are critical at this time as our usual funding source for undercover and narcotics operations, asset forfeiture, has dropped significantly. Asset forfeiture funds pay for buy/informant money and undercover vehicle rentals. Funds are apportioned based on the number of officers involved in a case. Due to Covid-19, officer involvement in cases has been limited and the courts have been shut down so cases are not being heard. We don't know when this situation will change.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact me at (203) 946-6333 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Otoniel Reyes
Interim Chief of Police

Dedicated to Protecting Our Community

phone (203) 946-6333 fax (203) 946-7294 website www.cityofnewhaven.com/police