

NEW HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICE

One Union Avenue • New Haven • Connecticut • 06519



Otoniel Reyes Chief of Police

Justin Elicker Mayor

November 10, 2020

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 you of an application by the City of New Haven's Department of Police Service to the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for a \$125,000.00 grant to reimburse the department for overtime for COVID-19 mitigation and response efforts, including using strategies to reduce violent crime during the period November 23 (or December 1) through December 31, 2020. As of the end of October 2020, there has been a 47.2% increase in shots fired, 31.3% increase in victims assaulted with a firearm, and a 125% increase in homicides when compared with the same period in 2019. These increases are the result of factors related the pandemic: the release of certain prisoners from prison, battles for drugs and territory and other conflicts, stresses of unemployment and being cash-strapped, and stresses of being housebound. There has been an uptick in domestic violence cases, and more involve strangulation. Shootings include retaliations for shootings that took place years ago. The wearing of masks on the street makes it easier for offenders to escape detection. We propose to use this funding for both patrol and investigations.

We are also requesting consideration of unanimous consent due to the time constraints for enforcement activities.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at (203) 946-6333 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Otoniel/Reyes Chief of Police