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# MONICA Z. NOTZON

State District Judge

111<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court  
1110 Victoria Street, Ste. 301  
Laredo, Texas 78040

May 2, 2016

Honorable Tano Tijerina  
Webb County Judge  
Webb County Courthouse  
1000 Houston Street (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)  
Laredo, Texas 78040

**Re: Letter of Intent to apply for Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program**

Dear Judge Tijerina:

In accordance with the Webb County Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Policy and Procedures, please accept this "Letter of Intent to Apply" for grant funds under the 111<sup>th</sup> Mental Health Court. The 111<sup>th</sup> District Court requests authorization to apply for a grant of \$250,000 from U.S. Department, Office of Justice Program and Bureau of Justice Assistance for the creation of the 111<sup>th</sup> Mental Health Court. Your favorable review of the following information required under the SPOC policy and authorization to develop and submit the grant proposal shall be appreciated.

**General Information:**

- A. Project Title: **111<sup>th</sup> Mental Health Court**
- B. Project Description: **The 111<sup>th</sup> District Court is applying for a grant for a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program. The goal is to plan the program as a problem-solving court which will emphasize public safety, lowering recidivism and hospitalization, and divert defendants with mental illness from incarceration and facilitate linkage to appropriate treatment and community resources.**
- C. Contact Person: **Honorable Monica Z. Notzon**
- D. Department/Office Telephone number: **111<sup>th</sup> District Court 523-4230**
- E. Project Time Frames: Start Date: **10/1/2017**

Project Duration: Ending Date: 09/30/2019  
**36 months**

F. Project Area: Webb County

**Project Analysis:**

- 1) What County needs, services or problems will addressed by this project?  
**It has been documented that offenders with mental illnesses are readily falling through the cracks in an inadequate jurisdiction in the criminal justice system. This appears to be due to the lack of mental health facilities available to them. This has brought to the fore the urgent need for a judicial system that could specifically advance these services that are needed by criminal offenders with mental disorders. The presence of defendants with mental illnesses in the criminal justice system imposes substantial costs on that system and substantial harm on the community.**
- 2) What is the grant matching amount of local funds or in-kind that will be proposed? Please identify specific sources of funds.  
**\$62,500 to be provided in-kind with current employees, building, utility and equipment usage.**
- 3) Will this proposed project add cost, services or any financial responsibility to the County's General Fund after the project ends? Please explain.  
**No. Operational procedures for handling offenders with mental health illnesses are already in place, the grant will provide services for those offenders who are not able to receive services.**
- 4) Will this project add employees to the county payroll if and when the grant is terminated? Please explain.  
**None. All required staff is in place as this program is in its third year of planning.**
- 5) What are the operating and maintenance costs of the grant funded project activities that will be funded by the county?  
**\$62,500 to be provided in-kind with building, utility and equipment usage.**
- 6) How many citizens will be served and in what way? Please explain.  
**Between 20-100 offenders, in the span of 36 months, will be allowed in the program. The program will be designed to identify and address the unique needs of the criminal offenders with behavioral needs. Mental Health Court represents an effort to increase effective cooperation between the criminal justice system and the mental health system. Positive results are seen with faster processing time, improved access to mental health treatment services and reducing recidivism.**
- 7) Is a complete copy of the grant application going to be submitted to the Economic Development Department which includes Project Narratives, Performance Statement, Budget and Budget Narratives? If not provided at submission of the Letter of Intent, then will it be submitted at time that the application is due with the grant agency? Please explain.  
**Yes.**

