



# Office of the County Manager

500 S Grand Central Pky 6th Fl • Box 551111 • Las Vegas NV 89155-1111  
(702) 455-3530 • Fax (702) 455-3558

Yolanda T. King, County Manager

Kevin Schiller, Assistant County Manager • Randall J. Tarr, Assistant County Manager • Jeffrey M. Wells, Assistant County Manager

Jessica L. Colvin, Chief Financial Officer

Les Lee Shell, Chief Administrative Officer

October 6, 2021

Aisha Edwards

Senior Program Officer, Criminal Justice Team

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Re: Clark County SJC Grant Modification and Budget Revision

Dear Ms. Edwards,

Clark County is requesting approval to modify our Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC) grant strategies and, subsequently, our grant budget. Changes to the grant are necessary after the county recently assumed responsibility for the project. This situation proved to be an excellent opportunity as we were able to convene a team of justice system leaders over the past few months to develop more robust SJC strategies with the assistance of the Justice Management Institute (JMI).

Our proposed SJC strategies are as follows:

1. Create a CJCC/SJC Director Position

The original grant application sought to fund two positions: a SJC Coordinator/Analyst and a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) Coordinator. The county is combining these two positions into a CJCC/SJC Director position. The reporting structure for this position will be determined by the county in consultation with SJC. This position will coordinate the day-to-day operations of the CJCC and facilitate implementation of the SJC and CJCC initiatives, including the race and ethnicity committee and community engagement efforts.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: up to \$140,000 per year, including benefits*

2. Evaluate the Clark County CJCC

Clark County formed a CJCC in 2016 that served an important role in shaping our criminal justice system. Over the past year, the council has become less productive due to the pandemic. Clark County is seeking technical assistance from JMI to potentially restructure and strengthen the CJCC so that the council is more effective at managing the criminal justice system.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: None*

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### 3. Expand Initial Appearance Court and Pretrial Services

One of Clark County's most successful initiatives from the first SJC grant was the creation of the Initial Appearance Court (IAC) in the Las Vegas Justice Court. The IAC established a formal bail review hearing within 12-24 hours of arrest. The state legislature passed a bill requiring all justice courts, consistent with a recent Nevada Supreme Court decision to hold initial release hearings within 48 hours of arrest by July 1, 2022. Clark County has ten additional justice court townships that must comply with the new state law.

The rollout of the IAC model to all justice courts will require a restructuring of the pretrial services program, which primarily operates in the Las Vegas Justice Court. The program will need to serve the other courts in completing the Nevada Pretrial Risk (NPR) assessment and a financial affidavit. In addition, the county would like to improve the program's supervision practices so that they more align with national standards and provide judges with more release options.

As part of the SJC, Clark County is seeking technical assistance from JMI for the IAC expansion effort and to improve the pretrial services program.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: None*

### 4. Place of a Social Worker at Jail Intake

With the cooperation from LVMPD, the county will pilot the placement of a social worker in the intake area of the Clark County Detention Center to assist individuals appearing at the IAC hearings. The social worker will engage individuals shortly after their bond setting to assist them on the court's conditions of release and to conduct a quick screening for prosecutorial diversion and community-based services.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: up to \$101,000 per year, including benefits*

### 5. Add Staff to Process Video Evidence in the District Attorney's Office

Criminal case processing is being delayed due to the large volume of law enforcement body worn camera evidence in the Clark County District Attorney's Office. Clark County is proposing the addition of one staff member to the graphic specialist team to reduce the bottleneck of evidence needed for discovery.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: up to \$101,000 per year, including benefits*

### 6. Create a Social Worker Position to Assist Probation Violators in the Public Defender's Office

Probation violations are a significant contributor to the jail population and the Clark County Public Defender's Office is seeking to pilot a social worker position to assist with these cases. The social worker position will be responsible for assessing clients

and developing a case plan that will be presented to the court for consideration in lieu of incarceration.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: up to \$101,000 per year, including benefits*

7. Discontinue Arrests for Traffic Warrants

During the pandemic, Clark County adopted a policy of discontinuing arrests for traffic warrants to protect the health of the community. A new state law will decriminalize most traffic violations starting on October 1, 2023. Clark County will adopt local policies to implement the new state law early.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: none*

8. Purge Old Traffic and some Low-Level Misdemeanor Warrants

The justice courts will establish criteria and a process for purging old traffic warrants to reduce the likelihood that individuals are incarcerated under these circumstances. Additionally, the justice courts will determine which low level misdemeanor warrants can be purged as well.

*Revised budget amount for this strategy: none*

Please find our revised budget attached for your consideration. As you will see, the revised budget is proposing the proration of grant funded positions for the first year (ten months) to fit the grant award amount and to allow flexibility in offering competitive salaries to qualified candidates. We will adjust the budget and the proration period once the positions have been filled.

Clark County is grateful to the MacArthur Foundation for our inclusion in the Safety and Justice Challenge, and we look forward to continuing our success and being a collaborative partner to the network.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Wells  
Assistant County Manager

cc: Commissioner Tick Segerblom  
County Manager Yolanda King  
Sheriff Joseph Lombardo  
Las Vegas Justice Court Chief Judge Melissa Saragosa  
District Court Judge Linda Bell  
District Attorney Steve Wolfson  
Public Defender Darin Imlay  
Thomas Eberly (JMI)

## Budget Template

Cost Category	Year 1	Prorated Year 1*	Year 2	Total
<b>I. Personnel</b>	<b>\$ 443,000</b>	<b>\$ 369,167</b>	<b>\$ 443,000</b>	<b>\$ 812,167</b>
SJC Coordinator/Analyst (100%)	\$ 140,000	\$ 116,667	\$ 140,000	\$ 256,667
Jail Intake Social Worker (100%)	\$ 101,000	\$ 84,167	\$ 101,000	\$ 185,167
Graphic Specialist for DA's Office (100%)	\$ 101,000	\$ 84,167	\$ 101,000	\$ 185,167
Probation Violations Social Worker for PD's Office (100%)	\$ 101,000	\$ 84,167	\$ 101,000	\$ 185,167
<b>II. Professional Services</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
				\$ -
<b>III. Data Enhancements (e.g., IT system improvements, technology, st</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>IV. Equipment and Hardware</b>	<b>\$ 6,600</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 6,600</b>
Laptops for new positions (4 laptops)	\$ 6,600			\$ 6,600
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>V. Travel (e.g., airfare, hotel accommodations, food and incidentals)</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>		<b>\$ 12,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,000</b>
All Sites Network Meetings	\$ 6,000		\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000
<b>VI. Meeting Expenses (e.g., meeting space, food and supplies)</b>	<b>\$ 1,600</b>		<b>\$ 1,633</b>	<b>\$ 3,233</b>
SJC Site Meetings (food and supplies)	\$ 1,600		\$ 1,633	\$ 3,233
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>VII. Indirect Costs (not-to-exceed 15%)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 457,200</b>		<b>\$ 456,633</b>	<b>\$ 840,000</b>

\* Year 1 salaries are prorated to ten months