

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 7, 2021

The Honorable Kristen Mahoney
Acting Director; Deputy Director for Programs
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

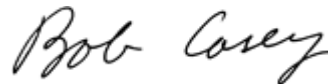
Dear Acting Director Mahoney,

I write in support of the application by the City of Erie, Pennsylvania, Police Department for the Bureau of Justice Assistance Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-Based Program. I urge you to give this proposal full and fair consideration.

It is my understanding that, if funded, this grant will help the City of Erie Police Department build capacity and secure resources for new diversion, follow-up and referral programs designed to help individuals and families impacted by opioid and substance use. I am informed that the City intends to work closely with service providers, medical systems and the justice system to ensure efforts are not duplicated and to fill gaps in how law enforcement can assist with strategies for diversion and supports for these individuals. The City states that its focus is not on enforcement, but on the support network. The City further states that it intends to use grant funds to bolster the Erie Police Athletic League's programs with City of Erie public school youth through partnerships with local agencies to provide education and prevention programs for the children.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my staff at (202) 224-6581.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator