

**From:** [Nicholas Green](#)  
**To:** "[Alicia.Pearson@usdoj.gov](mailto:Alicia.Pearson@usdoj.gov)"  
**Subject:** 2021 COPS Grant Award - John Day (FAW-167033)  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:36:09 PM

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Ms. Pearson,

I was reviewing our award documents in JustGrants and saw you were assigned as our DOJ Grant Manager.

My name is Nick Green and I am the city manager for John Day. We were excited to receive this award.

Mike Durr was our former police chief but he resigned on September 1<sup>st</sup>. I have him currently listed in the system as an authorized rep but he retired after we submitted the application and no longer works for the city. We had another officer resign shortly after him. The remaining two hung in there as long as they could, but policing an entire city with two people is not feasible. As a result, we had to suspend operations of the police department on November 1<sup>st</sup>, which the city council did by resolution.

I have transferred the two remaining officers to our Public Works department. They were not laid off, and do not need to be rehired, but I will need to re-hire the other sworn officer position and a police chief before I can stand up the department again.

Some of my city councilor's have asked if there's any way this award could be transferred to the Grant County Sheriff's Office (GCSO). They are concerned about the longevity of the department – we just got our most recent census data and we declined by nearly 5% in population. We are now down to 1,664 people, and though we are the largest city in the county, our tax base only generates about \$300,000 a year in property taxes and we typically run between \$450,000 and \$500,000 a year to operate the department.

Our next city council meeting is December 14<sup>th</sup>. It would help me to know:

- 1) Is this award transferrable to the GCSO if they were willing to assume the conditions of the grant?
- 2) Whether it is or is not, when would we be able to begin hiring staff and receive funding from DOJ?

I think answers to these two questions will help orient me.

I believe I will also have to do a modification request since we will have at least one new hire/sworn officer position we'll need to backfill in addition to reclassifying the other two, so knowing when the funds are available will help me on the timing of that decision and posting an ad for that position as well.

Overall good news and very excited to receive this award, we're just hanging by a thread out here and I understand the concerns of the councilors who don't want to be back here again in four years making the same decision. We're trying to build housing and do some other things to build up our tax base but we have a lot of ground to make up.

Best regards,

Nick

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