



MEMORANDUM

To: Galveston County Commissioners Court
From: Grants Administration Department
Court Date: February 2, 2026
RE: District Attorney's Office
FY 2027 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Application
Violence Against Women Justice and Training Program

BACKGROUND

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) offers grant programs to promote coordinated, multidisciplinary approaches to improving the criminal justice systems to respond to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, commercial sex trafficking, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Since 2009, Galveston County has operated a Violence Against Women Prosecutor Program through the District Attorney's Office. This program designates a specific prosecutor position to handle cases involving violence against women. Although this position is not the only prosecutor who handles this type of cases, the grant program provides the County an opportunity to have a position specifically for this type of case.

In 2017, Galveston County added a Violence Against Women Protective Order Attorney to elevate the three-month backlog. By adding this position, the County was able to expedite the process to obtain Protective Orders for Galveston County residents.

Congress allocates funding to each state for VAWA programs and the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office – Criminal Justice Division administers the funds for the state. Funds are distributed to the local Councils of Government (COGs) such as the Houston-Galveston Council (HGAC) here in our region, who regulates the grant caps and prioritizes applications for funding recommendations through their Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC).



SUMMARY

For 2027, a 70/30 match to meet the funding needed for both position and the HGAC Regional VAWA application.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Grant Application:	\$199,110.63
County Contribution:	\$85,333.17
Total Project Cost:	\$284,443.80

RECOMMENDATIONS

Grants Administration requests the Court to consider approval to submit the FY 2027 VAWA grant application to the Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office – Criminal Justice Division and authorize the County Judge to sign supporting resolution.

ATTACHEMENTS FOR WET SIGNATURE

- FY 2027 VAWA Application Resolution