



COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 09/05/2023

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2024 INTERIM FUNDING FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COURT PROGRAM FUNDED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve FY 2024 interim funding in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the Mental Health Diversion Court Program which is currently funded through the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD), for no more than ninety (90) days.

**BACKGROUND**

The CJD's mission is to create and support programs that protect people from crime, reduce the number of crimes committed, and promote accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness within the criminal justice system. CJD focuses on the enhancement of Texas' capacity to prevent crime, provide service and treatment options, enforce laws, train staff and volunteers, and restore crime victims to full physical, emotional, and mental health.

On October 18, 2022, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #139460, accepted an FY 2023 grant award in the amount of \$85,000.00 from CJD to fund the Mental Health Diversion Court Program.

The Mental Health Diversion Program is a pre-trial, post-booking diversion program for mentally impaired offenders. The program offers offenders a treatment option that is judicially supervised and is designed to divert mentally impaired offenders out of the traditional criminal justice process and into appropriate rehabilitative alternatives.

The existing grant expired on August 31, 2023, and the Office of the Governor has not yet announced the awards for the FY 2024 grant period. The program is expected to receive funding.

If approved, interim funding will be utilized to continue the Mental Health Diversion Program.

This request has been reviewed by the Budget Office and Auditor's Office.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

If County funds are utilized, the grant will reimburse Tarrant County for use of interim funding upon the Commissioners Court approval of the grant contract renewal. If interim funding is required for ninety (90) days, the estimated cost will be as follows:

Mental Health Diversion Court Program (G0085-2024/4192500000) - \$25,000.00

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Mgmt	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Claudia J. Del Toro Castro Helen Giese
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