

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

STATE SENATE

702 CAPITAL AVENUE
FRANKFORT, KY 40601
502-564-8100
JASON.HOWELL@LRC.KY.GOV



DISTRICT 1
CALLOWAY, FULTON,
GRAVES, HICKMAN,
LYON & TRIGG
COUNTIES

JASON HOWELL

March 29, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
United States Congress
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Comer:

It is my understanding that the Murray State University Police Department (MSUPD) is working to secure project funding in the amount of \$1.1 million for upgrades to MSUPD including computers and mobile data terminals, communications equipment, camera systems, and additional infrastructure upgrades to support their efforts at Murray State University and throughout the region.

Please be aware that I fully support this effort. I greatly appreciate the work of Murray State University, the leadership of President Bob Jackson, and Chief of Police Ryan Orr. I firmly believe the MSUPD is an important safety feature of my district, assisting Calloway County, the City of Murray, and our surrounding region with a multitude of emergency management and safety issues.

The requested amount from the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and related agencies would be used by the MSUPD to purchase a replacement radio communication console with updated systems software and hardware, including 11 mobile data terminals for the police cruisers. The communications system replacement will include 15 portable radios to utilize when other forms of technology are not available and in critical emergency situations where higher technology systems are unavailable. This equipment will replace the university's current police radio communications system and portable radio equipment, most of which has reached the end of life with parts no longer available.

The Honorable James Comer

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March 29, 2023

The MSUPD will also replace roughly 60 cameras and infrastructure as needed to support the cameras. New cameras in the most critical areas will allow for high-definition footage and much wider viewing angles that will increase the effectiveness of the surveillance system.

Thank you for your support of my district and Murray State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Howell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

Jason Howell
State Senator

JH/ajd

Commonwealth of Kentucky

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

5th Legislative District
MaryBeth.Imes@lrc.ky.gov



STATE CAPITOL ANNEX
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
502-564-8100
Fax (502) 564-1820

MARY BETH IMES

March 28, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
United States House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Comer:

I am writing to inform you that I fully support the Murray State University Police Department's FY24 Community Project Funding Request of \$1.1 million, within the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

The Murray State University Police Department (MSUPD) is vital to our community, protecting the university's students, faculty, and staff, and providing law enforcement assistance to the city of Murray, Calloway County, and the surrounding region. The MSUPD also serves as the emergency operations center for Calloway County and is employed to address significant events that require a coordinated response. In 2018, it was named the "Department of the Year" by the National Campus Safety Summit.

If granted, the funding will be used to replace and update MSUPD's radio communication console systems and surveillance cameras. These technological improvements will increase the effectiveness of the department, improve its response time, and add to the safety of our community.

I hope you will give the Murray State University Police Department's funding request your most serious consideration. Thank you for your service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and our great nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Beth Imes".

Mary Beth Imes
State Representative
5th House District

MBI/mcb

Commonwealth of Kentucky

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WADE WILLIAMS
702 CAPITAL AVENUE
ANNEX ROOM 329H
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
(502) 564-8100



WADE.WILLIAMS@LRC.KY.GOV
STATE MESSAGE LINE:
800-372-7181
4TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

March 28, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
United States House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Comer:

The Murray State University Police Department (MSUPD) is working to secure an FY 24 Community Project Funding request through the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and related agencies in the amount of \$1.1 million. If approved, the funds would purchase upgrades to the department's computers and mobile data terminals, communications equipment, camera systems, and additional infrastructure to support MSUPD's efforts at Murray State University and throughout the region.

As a former law enforcement officer and proud Murray State alum, please note that I am in full support of this funding request.

The MSUPD's primary mission is to protect lives and properties of the university, as well as promoting public safety education, and they do a phenomenal job meeting this mission. With 14 sworn officers and six telecommunicators, the department aims to achieve a reasonable level of security on campus for 10,000 students (approximately 2,500 residential) and 1,500 employees and support personnel.

In 2018, the MSUPD was even awarded Department of the Year by the National Campus Safety Summit.

Thank you for your service to our region and our nation, and thank you for your consideration of this important public safety funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wade Williams".

Rep. Wade Williams
State Representative
District 4

WW/aj



MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

March 28, 2023

The Honorable James Comer
United States House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Comer:

Murray State University has applied for a Community Project Funding Request for the Murray State University Police Department (MSUPD) in the amount of \$1.1 million through the Subcommittee on Justice, Science, Commerce and Related Agencies within the Byrne Justice Account. If awarded, this project funding would be used solely for upgrades to the MSUPD, including computers and mobile data terminals, communications equipment, camera systems and additional infrastructure upgrades to support MSUPD's efforts at Murray State University and throughout our campus community.

The MSUPD is a fully-functioning law enforcement agency capable of enforcing all laws and investigating all offenses which come under its jurisdiction, with 14 sworn officers and many staff members and student workers. These individuals do an excellent job protecting our faculty, staff, students and community members daily. Prospective students and their families often mention safety as one of their top decisions in deciding to attend Murray State University. For example, in 2018 the MSUPD was awarded Department of the Year by the National Campus Safety Summit – an important and well-deserved honor for our department.

Our University also serves Calloway County as the Emergency Operations Center, tasked to address significant events requiring a coordinated response in Calloway County and our surrounding cities and counties. MSUPD holds accreditation from the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police for both its patrol and telecommunications divisions. While accreditation provides accountability, professionalism and transparency to those served by MSUPD, additional funding opportunities are necessary to upgrade the essential equipment required for the department's sustained operations and duties to not only Murray State but the City of Murray, Calloway County and our surrounding community.

We appreciate your support of this request and thank you for your steadfast support of Murray State University.

Sincerely,

Robert L (Bob) Jackson, Ed.D.
President

We are Racers.

murraystate.edu

218 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318 | 270-809-3763 | Fax 270-809-3413

Equal education and employment opportunities M/F/D, AA employer. Murray State University supports a clean and healthy campus. Please refrain from personal tobacco use.

Bob Rogers
Mayor



City of Murray



March 28, 2023

Congressman James Comer
2410 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Comer,

Please accept this letter of support regarding the Community Project Funding Request submitted by the Murray State University Police Department. The City of Murray and the Murray Police Department have a strong working relationship with Murray State University as well as the Murray State University Police Department. Our city police officers work hand to hand on a daily basis to provide assistance when needed on campus. As you are aware, crime does not recognize county lines, city limits or university boundaries. Murray is very fortunate to have strong, well trained, and dedicated police officers at both agencies.

Murray State University is a vital part of this community and this region. The economic and educational impact of the university simply can't be overstated. One of the reasons that Murray State is so beloved by so many is the fact that it is a safe campus located in a safe community. Safety directly correlates to student attendance and the Murray State University Police have done an excellent job over the years recognizing future trends in law enforcement to continue to keep the campus community safe. In order to continue this trend, it is paramount that cutting-edge equipment be utilized to achieve the desired outcomes.

Should Murray State be awarded the Community Project Funding Request, it will allow them to stay abreast with the latest equipment to continue to allow our agencies to work together towards safety and service.

It is our honor provide this letter of support for this funding.

Bob Rogers, Mayor
City of Murray, KY

Sam Bierds, Chief
City of Murray Police Department

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MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
Police Department

The Honorable James Comer
United State House of Representatives
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Comer,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Murray State University Police Department's (MSUPD) F24 Community Project Funding Request of \$1.1 million. MSUPD plays a crucial role in our community by providing safety and security to the university's students, faculty, and staff. MSUPD has mutual aid agreements to aid the city of Murray and Calloway County.

MSUPD, serving as the emergency operations center for Calloway County, is frequently tasked with responding to critical situations that demand a well-coordinated and collaborative approach. I would like to highlight one instance where MSUPD played a critical role in our community. On December 10th, 2021, MSUPD coordinated with the Kentucky National Guard and FEMA to utilize Murray State University facilities as the staging ground for tornado relief efforts.

In 2018 MSUPD received national recognition for their efforts in the response to a large-scale incident that occurred on Murray State's campus. MSUPD was named the "Department of the Year" by the National Campus Safety Summit, which is a testament to their commitment to excellence and professionalism.

If the requested funding is approved, it will be utilized to upgrade MSUPD's radio communications, police cruiser mobile data terminals, and camera system. With these essential tools, officers can communicate efficiently, respond promptly to emergencies, and access vital information in real-time. The camera systems offer an extra level of security by enabling the tracking of potential threats and monitoring active emergencies, while computers support efficient data management and analysis. Investing in these critical resources will significantly enhance the quality of life for Murray State University and surrounding communities. I am confident that acquiring these resources will help us create a more secure and safer future for Murray State.

Lastly, I want to express my appreciation for your service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and our nation. I urge you to give the Murray State University Police Department's funding request your utmost attention and consideration. Thank you for your time and dedication to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ryan Orr
Interim Chief of Police
Murray State University
Police Department