

Memorandum

To: Finance Committee
From: Wayne D. Hudson, Chief of Police
Cc: David E. Weiss, Mayor
Matt Carroll, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: February 6, 2026
Re: Law Enforcement Trust Fund – Local (Fund No. 701) and Federal (Fund No. 702)

The Shaker Heights Police Department is seeking the City's authorization to spend funds to purchase items/services through the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund (Fund No. 702) and the Local Law Enforcement Trust Fund (Fund No. 701). The Shaker Heights Police Department (SHPD) is a professional, nationally accredited, and award-winning law enforcement agency. To maintain this status, the SHPD must add certain equipment, update other equipment, increase/enhance mission essential training, and continue to professionally engage the community.

Federal Law authorizes the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury to share federally forfeited property with participating state and local law enforcement agencies. Rules and regulations that govern the Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund can be found in the March 2024 issue of U.S. Department of Justice/U.S. Department of the Treasury: **Guide to Equitable Sharing for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies.**

On December 18th, 2014, then President Barack Obama, signed an Executive Order establishing the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. In May, 2015 the Task Force released their final report with recommendations. The recommendations consisted of several action items that were organized under six "pillars." The pillars are: Building Trust and Legitimacy, Policy and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Prevention, Training and Education, and Officer Wellness. The items/services that the SHPD are requesting are directly in line with the recommendations from the Task Force on 21st Century Policing. In June 2020, Mayor David Weiss signed off on the action steps outlined in the Obama Foundation Pledge. In addition, in 2024, the City of Shaker Heights conducted a Listening Project with the community. The results revealed the community wants more officers, more community engagement, and more traffic enforcement. Many items in this budget request are directly related to the requests of the Shaker Heights community.

The SHPD will follow all City of Shaker Heights procurement requirements to include formal public bid on items over \$50,000 unless the item(s) is on a government contract. The requested items and/or services will be used to increase the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the SHPD and make a greater impact on the community.

On February 5, 2026, Chief Hudson appeared before the Safety & Public Works committee. This request passed with one dissention. The following questions were asked.

1. Are the items listed all new items?
 - o No. The ballistic vests request is a new request.



2. Did we receive these funds from money seizures from across the United States?
 - o No, the funds come from local money seizures.
3. Will the SHPD run out of these funds or are there more funds coming in?
 - o We will not drain the accounts. We do receive funds throughout the year, however the amount all depends on seizures made.
4. How is the Cellbrite data stored?
 - o The Cellbrite system is a software program that is installed on a standalone computer hard drive. The computer is located in a locked office with access limited to ONLY those that are certified on the system. The data that is legally removed from a cellphone is stored on the standalone computer hard drive that is not connected to the SHPD network. No data is shared with Cellbrite.

It is recommended that the Finance Committee support the SHPD 2026 Law Enforcement Trust Fund Budget as presented. It is further recommended that with the committee's support of this item be forwarded to the City Council with a recommendation for approval.

New or Re-new 2026 Projects

- Ballistic Vest Plates \$25,000
 - With the proliferation of high-powered rifles, officers are now responding to more incidents where these weapons are present. The funds will be used to purchase ballistic front plates that will stop a rifle round. Each officer would be outfitted with one front ballistic plate.

- Lexipol Yearly Maintenance \$26,000
 - Purchased in 2024, Lexipol offers daily training geared towards the region and also provides up-to-date policy reviews to make sure that the SHPD is on the cutting edge and in alignment with best practices in the field. There is a third-pronged component of officer wellness to this platform which assists with recruiting and retention of SHPD employees.

- Cellbrite Annual Subscription \$14,000
 - Purchased in 2024, the Cellebrite system allows detectives to quickly unlock and obtain information from cellular telephones. The technology saves detectives a lot of time and time is of the essence in these investigations.

- IA Pro Annual Maintenance \$12,000
 - Purchased in 2024, as part of the Fair Ticketing Initiative, The City of Shaker Heights agreed to share information about the SHPD Internal Affairs Accountability Systems. This software is designed to create the types of reports the Department of Justice recommends for Progressive Communities who desire to be transparent.

- Virtra Annual Maintenance \$11,677
 - Purchased in 2025, this technology allows officers to train in a virtual reality. This system allows officers to experience real world scenarios in a training environment. Officers can work on their verbal commands and de-escalation skills along with their safety tactics.

Law Enforcement Trust Federal– (Fund No. 702)

Requested Item/Service	One Time Cost	Annual Operating Cost
Ballistic Vest Plates	\$25,000	0
Lexipol Yearly Maintenance	Paid in 2025	\$26,010.50
Cellbrite Annual Subscription	Paid in 2025	\$14,050
IA Pro Annual Maintenance	Paid in 2025	\$7,500
Virtra Annual Maintenance	Paid in 2025	\$11,677
TOTAL	84,237.50	
CURRENT TOTAL (as of 1-29-26 per Finance)	\$152,303.31	
REMAINING BALANCE (after one time and annual operating cost)	\$68,065.81	

Law Enforcement Trust Fund – Local (Fund No. 701)

Application of the proceeds in the Local Law Enforcement Trust Fund is governed under Ohio Revised Code – 2981.13, which requires that expenditures from this account receive approval from the City’s legislative authority.

- SHPD Training and other Law Enforcement Matters \$50,000
 - To pay the cost to send officers to “train the trainer” courses in certain disciplines so that they can instruct SHPD officers and provide training to our community. Disciplines such as Verbal De-escalation, School Threat and Safety, Arrest- Search and Seizure, Anti-biased, Community Policing, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Duty to Intervene, and other programs used to further build relationships and collaborations with those that live, work, and visit Shaker Heights.
 - To pay the costs of protracted or complex investigations or prosecutions;
 - To provide reasonable technical training or expertise;
 - To provide matching funds to obtain federal grants to aid law enforcement, in the support of Drug Awareness Resistance Education (DARE) programs or other programs designed to educate adults or children with respect to the dangers associated with the use of drugs of abuse;

<u>Law Enforcement Trust – Local (Fund No. 701)</u>		
Requested Item/Service	One Time Cost	Annual Operating Cost
Basic and Advanced Training	\$40,000	0
TOTAL	\$50,000	0
CURRENT TOTAL (as of 12/31/25 per Finance)	\$80,421	
REMAINING BALANCE	\$30,421	