

**AN AMENDED RESOLUTION
BY PUBLIC SAFETY AND LEGAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF ATLANTA FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000 CONTINGENT ON A MATCH NOT MORE THAN \$100,000; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FOUNDATION FUNDING TO SUPPLY THE MATCHING FUNDS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, mentally ill offenders require specialized consideration from the time of arrest to the time of adjudication and release and re-entry to ensure that their condition does not escalate upon confrontation with law enforcement and to ensure that treatment is included in court ordered sentencing to address mental health issues that result in contact with the criminal justice system, and

WHEREAS, the City would benefit from a program to plan and implement a strategic approach to mentally ill offenders that incorporates the sequential intercept model to treat mentally ill offenders, as advocated by mental health professionals , and

WHEREAS, mentally ill offenders , if not treated for their condition, will repeatedly offend and come into contact with the criminal justice system, and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive approach to the specialized needs of mentally ill offenders includes training of law enforcement to recognize mentally ill offenders and to respond appropriately to not agitate the offender to violent behavior, as well as the need for sentencing options for the court to include treatment programs that will address the offender's condition, and

WHEREAS, collaboration among service providers is essential to effective configuration of an array of services designed to remedy mental health issues of such offenders

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Section 1: that the Mayor is hereby authorized to apply for and accept grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 from the United States Department of Justice to plan and implement a program at the Community Court of the City of Atlanta to provide a comprehensive, court supervised program to remedy the chronic problems of mentally ill offenders; contingent on a match not more than \$100,000.

Section 2: that the Mayor is hereby authorized to apply for and accept matching grant funds from a foundation to provide the required local share of the Justice Department funded program.

Section 3: that the Department of Justice application will not go forward until a source of matching funds is identified.

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TRANSMITTAL FORM FOR LEGISLATION

TO MAYOR'S OFFICE: Greg Pridgeon, Chief of Staff
(For review & distribution to Executive Management)

Commissioner Signature:  Director Signature: _____

Originating Dept: Judicial Agencies – Court Operations Contact Name: Krystal Smith

Committee(s) of Purview: Public Safety & Legal Admin. Committee Deadline: _____

Committee Meeting Date(s): 3/10/09 City Council Meeting Date: 3/16/09

09-R-0417


CAPTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT A GRANT ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF ATLANTA FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$250,000 TO BE MATCHED WITH NOT MORE THAN \$100,000; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FOUNDATION FUNDING TO SUPPLY THE MATCHING FUNDS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$250,000

Mayor's Staff Only

Received by Mayor's Office: 2/24/09 
(date)

Reviewed by: 
(date)

Submitted to Council: _____
(date)