

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Accountability Court Lowndes County DUI - State Court

Work Session/Regular Session

DATE OF MEETING: June 25, 2019

BUDGET IMPACT: \$40,000

FUNDING SOURCE:

- Annual
- Capital
- N/A
- SPLOST
- TSPLOST

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Accountability Court Lowndes County DUI

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES: This award is made under the Accountability Courts State of Georgia grant program. The Lowndes County DUI Court has been awarded a grant by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for a total of \$114,373.80; with a 10% match requirement by the County in the amount of \$12,708.20. Lowndes County DUI Court is requesting a total \$40,000 for the 2019-2020 grant period as the grant only pays for a portion of the Court Coordinator's salary and benefits and half of the surveillance officer's contract salary. The Court requests that the shortfall be paid by the DATE funds that are generated from fines and fees collected by the State Court of Lowndes County. The authorizing Georgia Law code section O.C.G.A. 15-21-101(b)(3) states "Moneys collected pursuant to this article and placed in the "County Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Fund" shall be expended by the governing authority of the county for which the fund is established solely and exclusively (3) if an operating under the influence court division has been established in the county under Code Section 15-1-19, for the purposes of the operating under the influence court division." The Lowndes County DUI Court began operating in January 2017 and currently has a total of 24 active participants in the program and anticipate growing to 30 participants by the end of the year. There have been a total of 21 participants to successfully complete and graduate from the program. In the year 2018, the DUI court saved the taxpayers approximately \$487,950.00 in incarceration costs.

- OPTIONS: 1. Approve
2. Board's pleasure

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve

DEPARTMENT: State Court

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Stacey Bass

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: