

CLAY HIGGINS
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

BOARD MEMBER
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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READINESS

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Vermilion, Louisiana, Portable and Mobile Radio Upgrades project in the fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Vermilion Parish Sheriff's Office, located at 101 South State St., Abbeville, LA 70510. The funding would be used to purchase portable multiband radios and mobile radios. These radios would replace 15-year-old radios, which are no longer supported by the manufacturer. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because when the radios need repairing, parts are often unavailable, and the radio must be pulled from service. The lack of communications equipment is an officer safety issue. Many deputies have resorted to using their cell phones, which are unencrypted and cannot interoperate with other first responders, such as fire and EMS, or other departments providing mutual aid.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress