



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

March 19, 2026

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 Real-Time Public Safety Response and Situational Awareness Initiative project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, located at 316 West Main Street, Lafayette, LA 70501. The funding would be used to strengthen the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office's ability to protect the public and respond effectively to emergencies through the deployment of Drone as First Responder technology, patrol-level unmanned aerial systems, and deployable mobile camera towers. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it represents a responsible, one-time investment in proven technology that will improve public safety outcomes while maximizing the efficiency of existing personnel and resources.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 1701(b)(9) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(9)).

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Higgins".

Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress