



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Emergency Management

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March 23, 2015

Yuki Miyamoto-Mendez
U.S. Department of Commerce
Office of Public Safety Communications
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

RE: Grant Number: 51-10-S13051

Dear Ms. Miyamoto-Mendez:

The purpose of this letter is to respectfully request a match proportionality waiver from the FFY 2013 State and Local Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) to cover the entire performance period including any future approved extension periods. The Commonwealth is fully committed to meeting the total required match over the life of the grant project period, although meeting the proportionality requirement may prove to be onerous.

The enclosed NTIA-approved Baseline Expenditure Plan and Detailed Budget fully describe the amount of budgeted matching funds and the planned rate of expenditures. The described meetings outlined in these documents have taken place since the inception of the grant program as indicated. With the newly released FirstNet directives, these already organized groups will formalize their activities, organize their governance structures, and plan their local and/or regional broadband initiatives on a regular basis and report the in-kind contributions to the program office. To accomplish this, the Statewide Interoperability Office (SWIC) along with Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) has plans during the next quarter to attend the upcoming stakeholder meetings to reintroduce and educate the stakeholders on the match requirement.

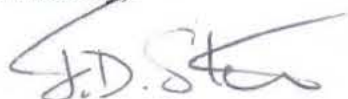
VDEM as the State Administering Agency (SAA) for many matching grant programs has a standard process in place to collect and report in-kind contributions. These same processes have and will be utilized for the SLIGP grant. In the supporting documentation are copies of the forms that have been provided and will be reintroduced to the stakeholders.

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Although we have done our best to anticipate how much time each person will spend performing SLIGP related activities on a quarterly basis, it may not always equate to exactly meeting the match proportionality each quarter. This is a result of capturing the matching funds thus far in the performance period and going forward. Rather than risk non-compliance, we would much prefer to only be held to the requirement of meeting the full match by the end of the period of performance and not on a quarterly basis.

We would like to thank the NTIA program office for their time and effort in assisting us in guidance and direction as we move forward with implementing this program. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Cheryl Lee at 8-4-897-9760 or cheryl.lee@vdem.virginia.gov.

Sincerely



Jeffrey D. Stern, Ph.D.

JDS/cl

Attachments

- C: Adam Thiel, Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Curtis Brown, Chief Deputy State Coordinator, VDEM
Brett Burdick, Deputy State Coordinator, VDEM
Cheryl Lee, Grants Director, VDEM
Priscilla Wilinski, SWIC Office Manager, OSPSHS

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