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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

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

March 19th, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rose DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Arlington Police Department Security Network project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Arlington, Texas Police Department located at 101 West Abram Street, Arlington, TX 76010. The funding would be used for the acquisition and installment of an integrated aerial security network encompassing expanded response airframes, layered detection systems, and lawful mitigation capability. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because as Arlington continues to host large-scale, high-attendance events across multiple venues and entertainment corridors, expanding the operational drone fleet is critical to maintaining rapid response capabilities. Increasing both Drone as First Responder (DFR) assets and portable UAS platforms will enhance the ability to provide immediate aerial situational awareness, reduce response times, support perimeter security, and assist with suspect tracking, crowd monitoring, and incident management. Fixed DFR assets positioned near major venue clusters will allow aircraft to launch within seconds of a call for service, while portable systems will provide field operators and specialized units with flexible deployment options during dynamic operations. Expanding this fleet ensures comprehensive coverage during extended events.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

Jake Ellzey
Member of Congress

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