

Sheriff Wrights request for much needed equipment

Below you will see the list of equipment needed to increase the safety of our officers and the public that we have not been able to acquire through the normal budget process.

Critical needs are as follows:

Riot Helmet-XL with gas mask and face shield

906 series

Price: \$169.44 X 50 units \$8,472

Purpose: to protect its wearer's head, face, and eyes from handheld melee weapons, and thrown projectiles such as bricks.

Gas Mask General

Price: \$300 X 55 units \$16,500 (optional 30 additional units \$9,000)

Pepperball

Price: \$1,000 X 2 units plus ammunition \$2,500 FTC

Purpose: Compact and lightweight, the Pepperball FTC is the industry gold standard for crowd-control and other applications where accuracy and reliability is a factor. The system decreases the likelihood of an officer involved shooting by dispersing chemical rounds. Uniquely, this system can be used to specifically target the aggressor without gassing the entire crowd.

Uniforms

Price: \$152 X 19 sets \$3000

Cylinder Grenade Launcher

L540-3 40mm spring 5" from Combined Systems Technology

Price: \$6,000 X 2 units \$12,000

Purpose: The nonlethal 40mm crowd dispersal round provides friendly forces the capability to enhance law enforcement protection by stopping, confusing, disorienting, or deterring a potential threat without using deadly force.

Night Vision Goggles

Price: \$50,000 for three or four sets

Purpose: To increase the ability of our pilots and officers to see at night, dramatically increases safety for night time missions.

Drones

Price: \$10,000 X 3 units \$30,000

Purpose: To be used when using the helicopter is less than the best tool for the job, crime scene documentation, some surveillance duties etc.
(Currently our pilot is using his personal drone)

Flight helmets

Price: \$2,500 X 5 \$12,500

Purpose: Safety gear for the pilots and crew. Currently our officers are using military hand-me-down gear.

Flight Suits

Price: \$200 X 10 \$2,000

Purpose: The Nomex flight suits are fire resistant and an important piece of safety gear. The suits being worn now are hand-me-downs and approaching the end of their serviceability.

Flight Gloves

Price: \$50 X 10 \$500

Purpose: The Nomex gloves are fire resistant and an important part of the flight safety gear.

Funding Justification

1. The requested funds will significantly increase the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office ability to respond to critical incidents to include, but not limited to; (SWAT Support, Active Shooter response, barricaded suspects) Specifically, it will allow the Sheriff's Office to conduct operations in a safer manner and increase service to the community.
2. Spartanburg County is the fifth most populous county in South Carolina with a population of approximately 350,000, encompassed within 819 square miles. We have mutual aid agreements with 4 surrounding counties, only one of which that has an aviation program. The increase in funds would allow the purchase of new operational equipment and personal safety gear and allow the Aviation Unit to serve the public in a more efficient and safe manner.
3. Our aircraft fly approximately 300 hours per year in the following mission sets: pursuit of criminals, mission person searches, SWAT team support, covert reconnaissance, inter-agency support, interstate interdiction support and training.
4. We use drones on a case by case basis to support the same mission sets but at a lower operating cost and with increased safety for personnel.
5. Currently Spartanburg County has one full time pilot and two part time pilots. The Aviation Division also has 6 part time Tactical Flight Officers that fly left seat during active missions.

Our requests total \$137,472, please feel free to contact us with any questions or should you require additional information.

Thank you for your consideration,