

#040806

December 23, 2004

1/10/05
Submitted by
Edward Earl
Young

Marion Radson
Gainesville City Attorney
200 East University Avenue, Suite 425, 32602
Gainesville, Florida 32601

Re: Misuse Misappropriation of Block Grant Funds in the 5th Ave/Pleasant Street
Corridor.

Dear City Attorney:

This letter serves as an official complaint following my telephone call to your office and Dr. Jackson Sasser office director of Santa Fe Community College on December 12th, 2004 at ~10:00am; concerning a recent donation of property to SFCC by the city commission and purchase of property by SFCC, located next to Clean Cut Barbershop at 430 NW 5th Avenue.

I have researched the purpose and objectives for the Block Grant Fund and have found that many of these funds have been diverted to Santa Fe Community College and the Gainesville Police Department. These diverted funds however, have not been used in the manner or purpose they were intended for as required by the National and Federal Block Grant Program which is stated in depth on the City of Gainesville website under <http://www.cityofgainesville.org/comdev/house/>. Please see attached copies of allocated funds from the Block Grant Program for other use than what it is legally intended for. Monies were used to purchase property for SFCC, video cameras in GPD patrol vehicles, replacement of computers and printers at the Explorer Office at the Police Annex (SFCC), laptop computers for School Resource Officers, upgrading of the Police Departments file server, bicycles for the Police Departments Bike Unit etc.... just to name a few.

It is clearly understandable that the Block Grant Program funds are for the development of the Gainesville historic community in improving the quality of life for Gainesville's low and moderate-income residents and neighborhoods and nonprofit organizations. In looking in and around the 5th Ave/Pleasant Street corridor, little or none has been done to enhance or beautify this community. This historic community continues to be neglected and run down while Santa Fe Community College is persistent in taking over property that is intended for Block Grant use by low to moderate income residents or current/potential business owners.

I applied for Block Grant Funds to open my current business (Clean Cut Barbershop) however was denied the funds. I inquired a second time for funds to open a Laundromat and again was denied. As a business owner and having been denied access to Block Grant Funds in the 5th Avenue / Pleasant Street corridor, I continue to be affected by the diversion of these funds to other areas they are unintended for. My Barbershop is located

Block Grant

The Block Grant office is a division of the Community Development Department of the City of Gainesville. This office works with other City departments and community-based non-profit organizations to improve the quality of life for Gainesville's low- and moderate income residents and neighborhoods.

The Block Grant Division provides overall management, oversight, coordination, and monitoring and evaluation of the CDBG and HOME Programs to ensure compliance with national objectives, federal grant regulations and local plans and policies.

The objectives of the CDBG and HOME Programs are to develop a viable urban community by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate income.

Improving Housing, Jobs and Services
for the Neighborhoods of Gainesville

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs... meeting
needs at home, in the family, and throughout Gainesville's
neighborhoods.

- [General Information regarding the CDBG and HOME Programs](#)
- The Citizen Advisory Board [Coming soon!]
- Current Fiscal Year Funding [[CDBG](#) (19KB); [HOME](#) (18KB)]
- [Application Process Timeline](#) (23KB)
- [Application Packet Forms](#) (241KB)
- [Monthly Reporting Forms](#)
- [CDBG/Home Program Target Areas Map](#) (30KB)
- [About the Block Grant Division](#)

To contact the Block Grant staff, e-mail COGBlockGrant@cityofgainesville.org or call (352) 334-5031.

**LLEBG FY 2000 for Gainesville City, FL
Original Request For Drawdown Information**

There are two tabs for the project and allocations. The "Project Information" displays all the project details. The "Allocation Summary" displays the actual allocation breakdown for the project.

Project Information

Allocation Summary

Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Purpose Area	Allocated Amount
Purpose Area 1: Law Enforcement	
Power DMS Software Package	\$2,500
Police Explorer Post Computer Equipment	\$5,000
Police Department's Citizens' Academy Supplies	\$6,000
Laptop Computers for School Resource Officers	\$6,000
Police Department File Server	\$10,000
In-Car Video Cameras	\$40,000
GPD Technology Project	\$164,914
Equipment for Bike Unit	\$10,023
Vehicle for Mounted Unit	\$26,000
Reichert House Support Personnel	\$33,500
Purpose Area 1 Subtotal	\$303,937
Purpose Area 6: Crime Prevention	
Police Beat TV Show	\$37,500
Purpose Area 6 Subtotal	\$37,500
FY 2000 LLEBG Funding (includes award plus match)	\$341,437

If you would like a different Allocations Summary report, please select the desired report type and click on Generate Report button

Report Type: Allocations Summary by Category

Generate Report

Report generated on 14-NOV-04.

Close Window

**LLEBG FY 2001 for Gainesville City, FL
Original Request For Drawdown Information**

There are two tabs for the project and allocations. The "Project Information" displays all the project details. The "Allocation Summary" displays the actual allocation breakdown for the project.

Project Information

Allocation Summary

Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Purpose Area	Allocated Amount
Purpose Area 1: Law Enforcement	
Field Automation Project	\$268,714
Purpose Area 1 Subtotal	\$268,714
Purpose Area 6: Crime Prevention	
Reichert House Support Personnel	\$33,500
Police Beat TV Show	\$41,700
Purpose Area 6 Subtotal	\$75,200
FY 2001 LLEBG Funding (includes award plus match)	\$343,914

If you would like a different Allocations Summary report, please select the desired report type and click on Generate Report button

Report Type: Allocations Summary by Purpose Area 

Generate Report

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**LLEBG FY 2002 for Gainesville City, FL
Original Request For Drawdown Information**

There are two tabs for the project and allocations. The "Project Information" displays all the project details. The "Allocation Summary" displays the actual allocation breakdown for the project.

Project Information

Allocation Summary

Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Purpose Area	Allocated Amount
Purpose Area 1: Law Enforcement	
Field Automation Project	\$200,000
Purpose Area 1 Subtotal	\$200,000
Purpose Area 6: Crime Prevention	
Reichert House	\$21,878
Crime Prevention Education	\$41,000
Purpose Area 6 Subtotal	\$62,878
FY 2002 LLEBG Funding (includes award plus match)	\$262,878

If you would like a different Allocations Summary report, please select the desired report type and click on Generate Report button

Report Type: Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Generate Report

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**LLEBG FY 2003 for Gainesville City, FL
Original Request For Drawdown Information**

There are two tabs for the project and allocations. The "Project Information" displays all the project details. The "Allocation Summary" displays the actual allocation breakdown for the project.

Project Information

Allocation Summary

Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Purpose Area	Allocated Amount
Purpose Area 1: Law Enforcement	
Forensic Crime Lab Enhancement	\$157,042
Purpose Area 1 Subtotal	\$157,042
Purpose Area 6: Crime Prevention	
Crime Prevention Education	\$42,500
Purpose Area 6 Subtotal	\$42,500
FY 2003 LLEBG Funding (includes award plus match)	\$199,542

If you would like a different Allocations Summary report, please select the desired report type and click on Generate Report button

Report Type: Allocations Summary by Purpose Area 

Generate Report

Report generated on 14-NOV-04.

Close Window

**LLEBG FY 2004 for Gainesville City, FL
Original Request For Drawdown Information**

There are two tabs for the project and allocations. The "Project Information" displays all the project details. The "Allocation Summary" displays the actual allocation breakdown for the project.

Project Information

Allocation Summary

Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Purpose Area	Allocated Amount
Purpose Area 1: Law Enforcement	
Field Reporting Technology Project Enhancement	\$38,868
Purpose Area 1 Subtotal	\$38,868
Purpose Area 6: Crime Prevention	
Crime Prevention through Public Education	\$41,000
Purpose Area 6 Subtotal	\$41,000
FY 2004 LLEBG Funding (includes award plus match)	\$79,868

If you would like a different Allocations Summary report, please select the desired report type and click on Generate Report button

Report Type: Allocations Summary by Purpose Area

Generate Report

Report generated on 14-NOV-04.

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