February 6, 2019

Dear Mr. Hatcher:

Congratulations and thank you for applying for a grant from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) Court Security Grant Program in 2018. This initiative is a great example of all three branches of government collaborating to enhance the safety of Tennessee courthouses for you and for all who use them each day.

On November 5, 2018, we approved **Blount County** for the following funds:

Item	Amount Requested	10% Match	Total Approved
Bulletproof Circuit	\$34,305	\$3,430.50	\$30,784.50

It is our understanding that these funds were to be used to bulletproof your circuit court courtrooms, which would bring your county up to the minimum courtroom standards. In January 2019, we received an amendment to your grant request stating that upon starting construction, you realized the circuit court benches were already bulletproof and you are now requesting additional funds to instead bulletproof the circuit, general sessions and juvenile clerk area. Bulletproofing of these areas were included in the new minimum courtroom security standards adopted in February 2018. **Therefore, Blount County is now approved for the following:**

Item	Amount Requested	10% Match	Total Approved
Bulletproof Circuit,	\$59,906	\$5,990.60	\$53,915.40
GS & Juv clerk area			

We truly hope that the above purchases will provide greater security for the judges, staff, and citizens who use your courthouse facilities.

This grant has been designated as a reimbursement grant. Therefore, the county must first purchase the security equipment, and then provide the AOC with a receipt and any other supporting documentation.

As stated in the grant application, a 10 percent match is required. Also, you cannot receive more than the "Total Amount Approved From The AOC" for an item. If an item is more than the "Total Amount Approved From The AOC", the county can make up the difference. For example, if you requested \$10,000 for an item, the "Total Amount Approved" would be \$9,000 (your request minus the required 10 percent match). If the final invoice for the item was \$10,500, you would receive \$9,000 from the AOC for reimbursement and would be responsible for the extra \$500. If the item comes in less than the requested amount, the AOC will pay 90 percent of the

final receipt. The county must purchase this equipment and provide the AOC with the invoice and any supporting documentation before **June 1, 2019**. Because this is one-time funding, there will **not** be funds available for ongoing maintenance and replacement equipment.

Final receipts can be submitted to Pam Hancock, AOC Fiscal Services Director, at pam.hancock@tncourts.gov, or 615-741-6285 (Fax). Please include a cover letter that includes the remittance address for reimbursement.

If you have questions on the process or require an extension, please let Barbara Peck know as soon as possible. She can be reached at <u>Barbara.peck@tncourts.gov</u> or (615) 532-6047. We look forward to working with you on your grant!

Thank you again for applying for this year's court security grant. It is our pleasure to provide funding for these important security measures.

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Deborah Taylor Tate Administrative Office of the Courts