



**Massachusetts Gaming Commission**  
**101 Federal Street, 12th Floor**  
**Boston, MA 02110**

**2017 COMMUNITY MITIGATION FUND**  
*Specific Impact Grant Application*  
**BD-17-1068-1068C-1068L-11234**

*Please complete entire Application*

Norfolk District Attorney

1. NAME OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENT ENTITY/DISTRICT

Norfolk District Attorney's Office

2. DEPARTMENT RECEIVING FUNDS

Kathleen A. Barnett, Chief Fiscal Officer

3. NAME AND TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING OF FUNDS

45 Shawmut Road, Canton, MA 02021

4. ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING OF FUNDS

781-830-4884, Kathleen.barnett@massmail.state.ma.us

5. PHONE # AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR HANDLING OF FUNDS

Margaret R.S. Krippendorf, First Assistant District Attorney

6. NAME AND TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY

45 Shawmut Road, Canton, MA 02021

7. ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY

781-830-4830, Margaret.krippendorf@massmail.state.ma.us

8. PHONE # AND EMAIL ADDRESS OF INDIVIDUAL AUTHORIZED TO COMMIT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY

Plainridge Park Casino

9. NAME OF GAMING LICENSEE

**1. IMPACT DESCRIPTION**

**Please describe in detail the impact that is attributed to the construction of a gaming facility. Please provide support for the determination that the construction of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact.**

The presence of a gaming facility in the Town of Plainville, a small southeastern town of approximately 8,200 residents, brings significant opportunities and increased revenue to the town to fund schools, parks, buildings and roadway projects. It has brought hundreds of full-time and part-time positions to the area. And, for attendees in and around Massachusetts, it provides a new form of entertainment and enjoyment for those attending the facility.

However, its presence has also had a negative impact on the host and surrounding communities. The negative impact is similar to the impact seen by other similar venues attracting a large number of people. One of these negative impacts is an increase in public safety/law enforcement activity. The Norfolk District Attorney's Office has seen an increase in the public safety impact in the host and surrounding communities of Plainville, Foxborough, Wrentham and Franklin. Prosecutors in the Wrentham District Court, which covers the towns of Plainville, Foxborough, Wrentham Franklin, Walpole, Millis, Medway and Norfolk, have seen a rise in the number of criminal cases stemming from the Plainridge Park Casino.

Since 2015, the Norfolk District Attorney's Office has prosecuted the following types of cases stemming directly from the Plainridge Park Casino: domestic violence offenses, firearm offense, illegal drug charges, assault and battery charges, assault and battery on a police officer charge, larcenies, drunk driving offenses, resisting arrest, trespassing, disorderly conduct, public drinking and minor motor vehicle offenses. Overall, there are more criminal and civil citations being issued for motor vehicle offenses, more criminal offenses occurring in and around the facility, and a general increase in criminal activity as a result of increased traffic and more individuals being in that area.

Pursuant to the Victim Bill of Rights, each of the above-mentioned cases that had a victim component in it would also be assigned a Victim Witness Advocate employed by the Norfolk District Attorney's Office. Victim Witness Advocates serve as a liaison between the prosecutor and the victim, advocate on the victim's behalf and assist the victim throughout the criminal justice process.

**2. PROPOSED MITIGATION**

Please identify below the manner in which the funds are proposed to be used. Please provide documentation (e.g. - invoices, proposals, estimates, etc.) adequate for the Commission to ensure that the funds will be used for the cost of mitigating the impact from the construction of a proposed gaming establishment. Please describe how the mitigation request will address the specific impact indicated. Please attach additional sheets/supplemental materials if necessary.

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office (NDAO) is one of eleven (11) separate District Attorney's Offices in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is charged with prosecuting criminal offenses occurring within the 27 cities and towns located in Norfolk County. The NDAO is responsible for prosecuting all criminal offenses occurring within its boundaries.

The towns of Plainville, Foxborough, Wrentham and Franklin are all part of Norfolk County. Criminal offenses occurring in Plainville, Foxborough, Wrentham and Franklin are all handled out of the Wrentham District Court which, as noted above, also covers the towns of Walpole, Millis, Medway and Norfolk.

There are presently three (3) Assistant District Attorneys (ADAs) working in the Wrentham District Court handling criminal cases in these eight communities. One of these three ADAs serves as the Supervisor of the Wrentham District Court. She is the most experienced ADA in that court. She has worked in the office since 2008, first as a Victim Witness Advocate and then as an ADA since 2014. She oversees the day-to-day operation of the Wrentham District Court and is in the best position to oversee the criminal cases resulting from the operation of the Plainridge Park Casino.

There are presently two (2) Victim Witness Advocates (VWAs) working in the Wrentham District Court handling criminal cases arising in those eight communities. One VWA is responsible for all general misdemeanor and felony cases and the other VWA is responsible for handling all domestic violence related cases in Wrentham District Court. Both are seasoned VWAs with over 10 and 4 years respectively advocating for victims. Depending on the type of offense arising from Plainridge Park Casino, one of the VWAs assists the prosecutor with said cases.

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office is requesting funding under the grant application in the amount of seventy four thousand thirty-one dollars and sixty cents (\$74,031.60). This represents:

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- (1) Twenty seven thousand five hundred (\$27,500.00) dollars to pay for one-half of the \$55,000.00 annual salary of the Supervising Assistant District Attorney at the Wrentham District Court.
- (2) Twelve thousand four hundred nineteen dollars (\$12,419.00) to pay for the State of Massachusetts Comptroller-mandated fringe and indirect costs associated with this salary (35.16% fringe charge of \$9,669.00; and 10% indirect charge of \$2,750.00).
- (3) Twenty three thousand five hundred (\$23,500.00) dollars to pay for one-half of the \$47,000.00 annual salary of one Victim Witness Advocate at the Wrentham District Court.
- (4) Ten thousand six hundred twelve dollars and 60 cents (\$10,612.60) to pay for the State of Massachusetts Comptroller-mandated fringe and indirect costs associated with this salary (35.16% fringe charge of \$8,262.60; and 10% indirect charge of \$2,350.00).

If funding is approved, the ADA will be in charge of all criminal cases arising from the Plainridge Park Casino prosecuted by the NDAO. Said ADA will be responsible for prosecuting each of those cases and will be responsible for tracking all facility related cases in order to measure the true impact this facility is having on the area and specifically in the Wrentham District Court.

If funding is approved, the 2 VWAs will be responsible for handling their respective criminal cases arising from Plainridge Park Casino. The partially-funded VWA will also be responsible for assisting the Assistant District Attorney in tracking all facility related cases in order to measure the true impact this facility is having on the area and specifically in the Wrentham District Court.

The tracking of these cases will also generate statistical data which will allow the Norfolk District Attorney's Office to identify trends occurring at the facility and to implement targeted community outreach efforts to prevent future criminal activity in this area.

**3. IMPACT CONTROLS/ADMINISTRATION OF IMPACT FUNDS**

**Please provide detail regarding the controls that will be used to ensure that funds will only be used to address the specific impact. If non-governmental entities will receive any funds, please describe what reporting will be required and how the applicant will remedy any misuse of funds.**

If awarded the requested funding, the Norfolk District Attorney will immediately identify one (1) Assistant District Attorney (ADA) in the Wrentham District Court who will be assigned to prosecute criminal cases stemming from the Plainridge Park Casino; and one (1) Victim Witness Advocate who will be responsible for handling their respective criminal cases stemming from Plainridge Park Casino and assist the Assistant District Attorney in tracking each facility-related criminal offense.

The generation of this type of statistical data will allow the Norfolk District Attorney's Community Outreach Department to not only identify trends occurring at the facility, but also to implement crime prevention programs and services to address the specific needs of these communities.

The Chief Fiscal Officer will ensure that all funds received from said grant will be separately identified and tracked to ensure funds are spent in accordance with the approved grant budget (i.e.; for one-half of the appointed Assistant District Attorney's salary and associated Comptroller-mandated fringe and indirect costs and the cost of one-half of the appointed Victim Witness Advocate's Salary and the associated Comptroller-mandated fringe and indirect costs).

**4. RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM HOST OR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS**

**Please describe and include excerpts from any relevant sections of any Host or Surrounding Community Agreement. Please explain how this impact was either anticipated or not anticipated in that Agreement.**

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office (NDAO) is not a municipality, therefore was unable to sign any Host and/or Surrounding Community Agreement. However, the Norfolk District Attorney's Office did meet with the Attorney General's Office and the host and surrounding communities of Plainville, Foxborough, Wrentham and Franklin to discuss the public safety impact of the new Plainridge Park Casino.

Area law enforcement officials were aware that their communities would see an increase in criminal offenses as a result of the facility. The NDAO, Attorney General's Office and local police departments met to discuss which agencies would handle the various criminal offenses stemming from the facility, discussed contact information for sharing information quickly concerning particular offenses and discussed what the impact would be to those local law enforcement agencies.

Plainridge Park Casino is a large venue drawing an increasing amount of individuals to the area. The parties were aware from the outset that there would be an increased impact on public safety and worked closely to ensure the organized and coordinated handling of those cases.

**CERTIFICATION BY MUNICIPALITY/GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY**

On behalf of the aforementioned municipality/governmental entity I hereby certify that the funds that are requested in this application will be used solely for the purposes articulated in this Application.

*Margaret RS Krippendorf*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Responsible Municipal  
Official/Governmental Entity

*1/26/17*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPROVAL OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GAMING COMMISSION**

On behalf of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission, the Commission hereby authorizes the payment from the Community Mitigation Fund in accordance with M.G.L. c. 23K as outlined in this Application.

Executive Director

Date

Ombudsman

Date