



FY 2027 Regional Agency Mitigation Fund Grant Application

Application Instructions:

- I. All applications must be received by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission by January 31st, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. to be considered for funding for the FY 2027 grant round.
- II. Each Agency may only submit ONE application as a Word Document.
- III. Each project must have its own form within the appropriate category. All attachments should directly follow the relevant project form.
- IV. Be sure to fill in all the information requested on the application. Applications that are left incomplete will not be accepted.
- V. All applications must submit a detailed scope of work and timeline for implementation of the project identified in the application.
- VI. All applications must contain appropriate backup materials that support the application.
- VII. The Grant Manager will be responsible for compiling the information for the quarterly reports and the submittal of the quarterly reports.
- VIII. The application must be signed by the agency’s CEO or an individual with signatory authority.
- IX. The Regional Agency Grant is broken into three segments. Please only fill out the section relevant to your application.
 - a. Part A – Regional Planning
 - b. Part B – Regional Public Safety
 - c. Part C – Regional Workforce Development
- X. Submit this completed form as well as any relevant attachments to

MGCCMF@Massgaming.gov or as a response to the COMMBUYS **BD-26-1068-1068C-1068L-121911**.

For more detailed instructions as well as the full FY 2027 Application Guidelines visit

<https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/>

Grant Manager Information (Person responsible for Quarterly Reports, etc.):
Applicant: Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office
Vendor Code: AGO
Name: Nathan Gardner
Title: Director of Grants Management
Email Address: Nathan.Gardner@mass.gov
Telephone: (617) 963-2150
Address: One Ashburton Place, 20 th Floor, Boston, MA 02108

Budget Summary

Use the space below to provide an overview of all projects to be covered by this funding. You may add as many items as is pertinent to your application (you can add rows by right clicking on the row and selecting "add row"). Please provide a category, name, brief description, and amount for each item. Please use the appropriate category below for your agency.

Category	Project Name	Description	Amount
A. Regional Planning			
B. Regional Public Safety	Addressing Casino-Linked Domestic Violence in Massachusetts	The Gaming Enforcement Division at the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office will address gaming-related domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault cases.	\$197,728.70
C. Workforce Development			
Total Request			\$197,728.70

Are you requesting a waiver for any program requirement? Yes No

- I. If yes, you must fill out a CMF Regional Agency Waiver Form. The waiver form can be found as Appendix F to the RFR on COMMBUYS or online at <https://massgaming.com/about/community-mitigation-fund/forms/> . Applications without a completed waiver form will not be considered for a waiver.

Applicant Certification



January 29, 2026

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Nathan Gardner, Director, Grants Unit

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

Part A-Regional Planning - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, requests for proposals, detailed scopes of work, drawings etc.

Project Name: _____			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact		Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Name:		Name:	
Title:		Title:	
Department:		Department:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	
Telephone:		Telephone:	
Address:		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your region. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact and that the issue is regional in nature (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.)</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.</p>			
Proposed MGC Grant Budget			
Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
	TOTAL:		

Part B – Regional Public Safety - The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include locus maps, catalog cuts of proposed equipment purchases, quotes, training course syllabus, etc.-

Project Name: Addressing Casino-Linked Domestic Violence in Massachusetts	
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.	
Project Contact	Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>
Name: Nathan Gardner	Name: Kathleen Ceilo
Title: Director of Grants Management	Title: Chief, Gaming Enforcement Division
Department: Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office	Department: Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office
Email Address: Nathan.Gardner@mass.gov	Email Address: Kathleen.Ceilo2@mass.gov
Telephone: (617) 963-2150	Telephone: (617) 963-2499
Address: One Ashburton Place, 20 th Floor, Boston, MA 02108	Address: One Ashburton Place, 19 th Floor, Boston, MA 02108
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your region. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. Please provide documentation or evidence that gives support for the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., casino-related crime statistics, other relevant data, reports, etc.)</p> <p>The Gaming Enforcement Division (GED) of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office (AGO) investigates and prosecutes criminal conduct related to expanded gaming in the Commonwealth and criminal conduct related to the gaming facilities, such as financial crime, organized crime, corruption, and money laundering. GED also monitors the fairness and integrity of the gaming industry, aids the Massachusetts Gaming Commission in consideration and promulgation of rules and regulations, and participates in generating a list of persons to be excluded from licensed gaming facilities. One of GED’s primary responsibilities is to respond to cases resulting from activity at Encore Boston Harbor and MGM Springfield.</p> <p>Since her hire in October 2024, the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) funded by AGO’s active Community Mitigation Fund (CMF) Regional Public Safety award reviewed over 600 reports of possible domestic violence (DV), human trafficking (HT), and/or sexual assault (SA) related to Massachusetts gaming facilities. Prior to the CMF award, GED did not have an employee with specializations in this casework and was not able to devote resources commensurate to the scale of the problem.</p> <p>In just one year and three months, the AAG’s portfolio has grown to 15 investigations and eight charged cases which further supports a causal linkage between the presence of casinos and prevalence of DV/HT/SA crimes. This added capacity is critical to understanding the full scope of the problem, and AGO expects to measure a broader impact of these crimes through data collected during the AAG’s continued tenure.</p> <p>The AAG’s specialization in DV/HT/SA has also allowed her to identify unreported elements of these crimes in other gaming-related cases. In order to both effectively prosecute and better understand the full scope of gaming-related criminal activity, specialized personnel who can investigate complex linkages between co-occurring crimes are essential. AGO expects the number of co-occurring DV/HT/SA crimes identified during</p>	

its current grant period to rise as a result of the AAG's work.

Since October 2024, investigations undertaken by the AAG have identified approximately 50 possible crime victims and an additional ten victims are involved in the AAG's four currently pending indicted cases. While the number of arrests and cases prosecuted are typically presented as primary indicators of crime impact, victim impact is equally important in understanding the scope of a problem. DV/HT/SA casework requires staff with specific skills and training to effectively work with victims who have experienced unique traumas. AGO expects that, through the AAG's continued work and the expansion of resources, many more victims will be identified and further reinforce the scope of gaming-related DV/HT/SA criminal activity.

AGO law enforcement partners continue to indicate that HT occurs in Massachusetts casinos. The AAG's continued work and collaboration with law enforcement partners is critical to better understanding the extent of HT in gaming facilities. This ongoing, long-term project is important for better measurement of the problem and ensuring justice for victims of particularly heinous crimes.

II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion.

With a Regional Public Safety Grant, GED will extend the employment of the current CMF-funded, full-time Assistant Attorney General (AAG) who will specialize in statewide DV/SA/HT investigations and prosecutions stemming from the establishment and operation of casinos. AGO budgets an approximate 48-week employment period under the FY27 CMF. Because the AAG hire took longer than expected under the FY25 CMF, the FY25 ISA was extended to accommodate additional time needed to incur planned personnel expenses. We expect to request a minor extension of the FY26 ISA for personnel expenses due to a projected underspend on personnel thereby reducing the overall salary request for the AAG position in FY27. may be required to accommodate additional

Prior to the hire of the AAG through the FY25 CMF, GED did not employ staff with the necessary specializations in DV/SA/HT to pursue these cases as a focus area. The AAG has greatly increased the ability of the AGO pursue justice for victims of DV/SA/HT statewide while freeing capacity of existing staff to increase its workload of gambling offenses and other serious crimes relating to gaming facilities.

During the grant term, the AAG will continue to build her HT skillset as evidence indicates that HT criminal activities are present in gaming environments. The AAG has demonstrated that HT activity is occurring in gaming environments through her casework, and she continues to build new investigations in this space. FY27 funding will allow the AAG to continue investigations and further define HT as persistent gaming-related criminal activity.

Continued collaboration with AGO's Human Trafficking Division (HTD) will also allow the AAG to pursue additional investigations and prosecutions statewide. AGO maintains a multidisciplinary team (MDT) that responds to human trafficking through law enforcement efforts, policy development, and community partnerships. HTD's expertise and MDT model are critical to the successful investigation and prosecution of these complex crimes and is vital to appropriately assisting survivors who may have experienced significant trauma.

With assistance from HTD, the grant-funded AAG will continue to review the scope of HT crimes occurring at Encore Boston Harbor, Plainridge Park Casino, and MGM Springfield. The grant-funded AAG will receive additional training and oversight from HTD when working on HT cases in order to effectively pursue justice for survivors. Upon notification of a grant award, GED will extend the AAG employment term through FY27.

Given the unique needs of survivors of DV/HT/SA crimes being investigated by the AAG, GED will also use grant funds to continue the employment of the Victim Witness Advocate (VWA) position in GED hired during the FY26 grant period. The experienced VWA will provide statewide trauma-informed advocacy for victims of DV/SA/HT in gaming environments and will train VWAs from other AGO divisions to work on gaming-related cases. This position's senior level will require a higher annual salary rate than a standard VWA; however, the position will provide an overall cost benefit to MGC as it will allow for training of and case delegation to VWAs on other AGO funding streams. The VWA will be funded at 50% FTE to allow for the scaling of GED DV/HT/SA investigations, and only gaming-related activities will be completed using CMF funding. The remaining salary will be paid with non-grant funds.

With roughly 50 possible or confirmed gaming-related DV/HT/SA victims identified since October 2024, the need for a VWA in GED is significant. Providing advocacy and resources to victims of crime is critical to achieving positive outcomes and justice for victims. Timely contact with victims after a crime was committed and trauma-informed service delivery are necessary to build trust with victims and ensure they feel supported. Without effective supports, victim cooperation can be diminished thereby jeopardizing prosecutions. Even in investigations which don't immediately result in prosecutions, a VWA can be instrumental in helping a victim obtain an abuse prevention order or a harassment prevention order which can decrease criminal activity at the casino by keeping alleged abusers away from the premises. This is especially true of the relatively common occurrence in which casino employees are the victims of DV/HT/SA crimes.

Without the VWA, the AAG cannot effectively prosecute her caseload. Outside this position, VWA resources in GED and the wider AGO Criminal Bureau are extremely limited. In cases where VWA support is available to the AAG, it is not guaranteed that it will be accessible at the outset of the investigation – a time during which victim contact and service provision are most crucial. The VWA will be especially critical to prosecuting the AAG's large Superior Court caseload resulting from Encore-related DV/HT/SA cases.

GED will use grant funds to send five staff to a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and/or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. A conference being considered is the Conference on Crimes Against Women (CCAW) in Dallas, TX although final selection will depend on the specific needs of attendees in FY27. Conferences and trainings are critical skill-building opportunities for GED staff, including the grant-funded AAG and VWA, to develop expertise in DV/HT/SA. Given increased caseloads and the finite term of the grant, the grant-funded AAG will not be able to handle all DV/HT/SA in perpetuity. Training additional GED staff in DV/HT/SA is critical to ensure they are equipped to handle the unique nature of these cases in the long term while establishing sustainability for the DV/SA/HT capacity-building goal of GED's grant program. The staff being trained are directly tied to increased caseloads associated with casinos. Budgeted expenses include conference registration, lodging, airfare, meals, and ground transportation in accordance with AGO Travel Policy.

The Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office (AGO) maintains a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Our current provisional rate is 25% of all salary and fringe expenses. The Massachusetts Office of the Comptroller charges the NICRA on applicable state ISA expenses. Please see our attached Waiver Form for additional information.

Proposed MGC Grant Budget

Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.

Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
Assistant Attorney General Salary Direct Cost Position necessary to investigate and prosecute DV/HT/SA. Annual rate of \$95,073, 0.93FTE. Anticipated FY26 grant extension will fund part of the FY27 grant term.	Remaining 46 weeks of FY27.	0.93FTE	\$88,559.02
Victim Witness Advocate Salary Direct Cost Position necessary to investigate and prosecute DV/HT/SA and assist victims associated with gaming-related DV/HT/SA casework. Annual rate of \$90,000. Position is 50% dedicated to project. Anticipated FY26 grant extension will fund part of the FY27 grant term.	Remaining 13 weeks of FY27.	0.125FTE	\$11,250.00
Assistant Attorney General Fringe Direct Cost FY25 rate @ 45.06% used for calculation. CTR FY26 fringe rate not yet available. Massachusetts employee fringe rate (including payroll tax) charged on AAG Salary expenses.	Remaining 46 weeks of FY27.	0.93FTE	\$39,904.69
Victim Witness Advocate Fringe Direct Cost FY25 rate @ 45.06% used for calculation. CTR FY26 fringe rate not yet available. Massachusetts employee fringe rate (including payroll tax) charged on AAG Salary expenses.	Remaining 13 weeks of FY27.	0.125FTE	\$5,069.25
Registration Fee DV/SA/HT Training/Conference	To be incurred during FY27 term	5.00	\$4,000.00

<p>Direct Cost</p> <p>Five GED staff including the grant-funded AAG and VWA will attend a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. Price estimated based on the Conference on Crimes Against Women (CCAW) in Dallas, TX. Line item is for the conference registration fee and directly supports personnel.</p> <p>Conference registration: \$800.00/person x 5 staff = \$4,000.00.</p>			
<p>Airfare DV/SA/HT Training/Conference Direct Cost</p> <p>Five GED staff including the grant-funded AAG and VWA will attend a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. Price estimated based on the CCAW in Dallas, TX. Line item is for the conference round trip airfare and directly supports personnel.</p> <p>Airfare: \$900.00/person x 5 staff = \$4,500.00</p>	<p>To be incurred during FY27 term</p>	<p>5.00</p>	<p>\$4,500.00</p>
<p>Lodging DV/SA/HT Training/Conference Direct Cost</p> <p>Five GED staff including the grant-funded AAG and VWA will attend a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. Price estimated based on the CCAW in Dallas, TX. Line item is for the conference lodging and directly supports personnel. Line item uses GSA lodging rates as a baseline.</p>	<p>To be incurred during FY27 term</p>	<p>5.00</p>	<p>\$4,000.00</p>

Lodging: \$200.00/night x 4 nights x 5 staff = \$4,000.00			
Meals DV/SA/HT Training/Conference Direct Cost Five GED staff including the grant-funded AAG and VWA will attend a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. Price estimated based on the CCAW in Dallas, TX. Line item is for the 3 staff meals per day during a 5-day trip and directly supports personnel. Meals: \$50/day x 5 travel days x 5 staff = \$3,750.00	To be incurred during FY27 term	5.00	\$3,750.00
Ground Transportation DV/SA/HT Training/Conference Direct Cost Five GED staff including the grant-funded AAG and VWA will attend a conference or training related to DV/HT/SA and or gaming-related criminal law enforcement. Price estimated based on the CCAW in Dallas, TX. Line item is for the roundtrip transportation via rideshare/tax to and from the airport and hotel. Line item directly supports personnel. \$100 roundtrip fare x 5 staff = \$500.00	To be incurred during FY27 term	5.00	\$500.00
Administrative Costs/ Indirect Costs 25% of direct costs. \$144,782.96 (salary + fringe direct cost base) x 25% indirect cost rate = \$36,195.74 Indirect costs auto-charged by CTR.	Incurred as a function of salary and fringe draws during FY27 term	1.0	\$36,195.74
	TOTAL:		\$197,728.70

Part C - Workforce Development- The application should include sufficient backup information for the review team to fully understand the project(s). This information could include other relevant workforce statistics and economic models.

Project Name: _____			
Please provide below the contact information for the individual managing this aspect of the grant.			
Project Contact		Additional Project Contact <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Name:		Name:	
Title:		Title:	
Department:		Department:	
Email Address:		Email Address:	
Telephone:		Telephone:	
Address:		Address:	
<p>I. Please use the space below to identify the impact of the gaming establishment on your region. Please demonstrate the significance of the workforce need faced by the region, related to the operation of a gaming establishment. You may use the impacts identified in the FY 2026 Guidelines relevant to this category. Please provide documentation or evidence that supports the determination that the operation of the gaming facility caused or is causing the impact (i.e., surveys, data, reports, etc.).</p>			
<p>II. Please describe the project in detail and how the proposed project will address the impact indicated above. Please include a breakdown of the proposed scope of work, the scope should be sufficiently detailed to allow the review team to understand the steps required for project completion. Please describe the deliverables, including the number of individuals to be served, number of hours, projected outcomes, location of program, cities and towns served.</p>			
<p>Proposed MGC Grant Budget</p>			
<p>Please use the following table to outline the project budget. Please include as an attachment any requests for proposals, quotes, or estimates that would quantify the costs associated with the mitigation.</p>			
Description of Purchase/Work	Timeline	QTY	Budget
	TOTAL:		



**APPENDIX F – BD-26-1068-1068C-1068L-121911
REGIONAL AGENCY BLOCK GRANT FY 2027
WAIVER FORM**

Applicants may request a waiver of a condition set forth in the Application for the Commission’s consideration. All requests for waivers or variances shall be submitted with the Application. The Commission may in its discretion waive or grant a variance from any provision or requirement contained in the FY 2027 Guidelines.

Applicant: Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office
Program Manager: Nathan Gardner
Email: Nathan.Gardner@mass.gov
Telephone: (617) 963-2150
Address: One Ashburton Place, 20th Floor, Boston, MA 02108

<p>I. Programmatic Requirement Variance Request: <i>A regional agency may request a waiver from any application requirement. Regional Agency waivers will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and applicants will be notified of the Commission’s decision.</i></p>
<p>Basis of Waiver Request: The Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office (AGO) requests a waiver for indirect costs incurred on an award due to its Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.</p> <p>The AGO’s current provisional NICRA is 25% of all salary and fringe expenses, and the rate is active through 6/30/2027. The Massachusetts Office of the Comptroller (CTR) charges the AGO’s NICRA on the AGO’s state ISAs. Upon first applying for Regional Agency Block Grant, the AGO was unaware that the NICRA would be applicable to state ISAs. Since this discovery, the AGO has held discussions with MGC in which it was determined that a Regional Agency Block Grant waiver would be needed for any NICRA expenses charged to active and future Regional Agency Block Grant awards. The rationale for this decision was that it was unlikely that CTR would approve an indirect costs waiver on a state ISA as waivers are typically only given when federal language prohibits the charge of indirect costs as part of a federal grant agreement.</p>