

Texas Dispute Resolution System™

Domestic Relations Office

Texas Rural Mediation Services™



Dispute Resolution Training Institute™

Office of Dispute Resolution

MEMO

To: Judge Curtis Parrish

CC: Commissioner Terence Kovar, Precinct 1; Commissioner Jason Corley, Precinct 2; Commissioner Gilbert Flores, Precinct 3; Commissioner Jordan Rackler, Precinct 4

From: D. Gene Valentini, Director

Date: June 4, 2024

Re: 06-10-2024 Agenda Item: Consider approval of application for the Department of Justice STOP School Violence grant.

The Office of Dispute Resolution requests approval to respond to the Department of Justice's (DOJ) funding opportunity to expand our Juvenile and Peer services. These funds would be utilized to provide a wide range of activities, from peer mediation to diversion and educational curriculum to assist with violence-based prevention for students in rural and underserved school districts across West Texas.

The DOJ will evaluate responses and notify award recipients in September 2024. If awarded by the DOJ, the funding will enable ODR to provide services over the 3-year span of the grant.

Funds will be used to support expenses of the professionals providing the desired services including a special project coordinator and all necessary materials. The full amount requested is \$1,000,000.00 over three years of which 100% is funded by the DOJ. Throughout this process, relationships with Justice Courts and Municipal Courts in the area will be built to be able to plan for sustainability if the grant is not available at the end of this term.