

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0905

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

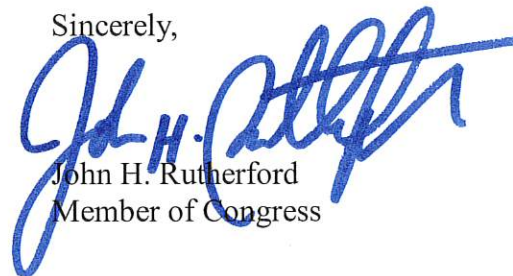
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for emergency response equipment and technology upgrades for St. Johns County's Sheriff's Office in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is St. Johns County, located at 500 San Sebastian Avenue, St. Augustine, FL 32084. The funding would be used for the purchase of essential maritime emergency response equipment for the county's emergency rescue substation.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would equip the substation with critical technology to support integrated maritime emergency response that will significantly strengthen situational awareness on the water. This equipment will boost local law enforcement's ability to handle marine rescue operations and ultimately protect and save lives.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress