



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Strong Women, Families, and Communities  
Erin Murphy, Chair

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

February 6, 2025

Dear Councilors,

The Committee on Strong Women, Families and Communities was referred the following docket for consideration:

***Docket #0293, Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of One Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Two Cents (\$145,687.72) in the form of a grant, for the FY24 Violence Against Women's Act, a STOP Grant, awarded by the United States Department of Justice, passed through the MA Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, to be administered by the Police Department.***

This matter was sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and referred to the Committee on January 29, 2025.

### ***Summary of Legislation***

***Docket #0293*** authorizes the City to accept and expend the amount of \$145,687.72 in the form of a grant (a STOP grant, awarded through the Violence Against Women Act) for a Civilian Domestic Violence Advocate who provides services for victims in Jamaica Plain and Spanish-speaking victims citywide, and also supports overtime for all Civilian Domestic Violence Advocates citywide.

### ***Information Received at Hearing***

The Committee convened a hearing on Thursday, February 6, 2025 to discuss Docket #0293. Testimony was presented by representatives from the Administration: Jenna Savage, Deputy Director of Research and Development, Boston Police Department (BPD) and Nicole LaPointe, Lieutenant Detective, Boston Police Department. Representatives from BPD gave a comprehensive overview of how the funds will be utilized. They spoke on the collaborative effort between various community groups, the use of language line services for non-English speakers, and the ongoing work to ensure comprehensive support for all domestic violence victims in Boston. The grant will fund a Civilian Domestic Violence Advocate to assist victims in Jamaica Plain, as well as Spanish-speaking victims citywide, while also supporting overtime for all Civilian Domestic Violence Advocates throughout the city. The panelists highlighted the significance of this grant and its positive impact on the department's efforts to support victims of domestic violence.

### ***Committee Chair Recommended Action***

As Chair of the Committee on Strong Women, Families and Communities I recommend moving the listed docket from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At this time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that this matter **OUGHT TO PASS**.

Erin Murphy, Chair  
Committee on Strong Women, Families and Communities