



## Sheriff's Department • Simpson County, Mississippi

**PAUL MULLINS**  
SHERIFF OF SIMPSON COUNTY

The Honorable Michael Guest  
U.S. House of Representatives  
450 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

*Re: Simpson County Sheriff's Office Fleet Modernization Initiative (DOJ Byrne Discretionary Grant Program)*

Dear Congressman Guest:

I'm writing to ask for your help with a Community Project Funding (CPF) request to secure funding through the U.S. Department of Justice Byrne Discretionary Grant Program to purchase six (6) new patrol vehicles for the Simpson County Sheriff's Office.

As you know, Simpson County sits along Highway 49, which is one of the busiest roadways in our state and a main route to and from the Gulf Coast. Our deputies patrol Highway 49 every day and respond to wrecks, emergencies, and calls for help along this corridor, as well as throughout the rest of our mostly rural county.

Right now, we simply do not have enough local money to replace worn-out patrol cars. Our fleet is old, and many vehicles are far past the point when they should have been replaced. We even still have a few Ford Crown Victoria patrol cars on the road. Those cars have not been produced in years, and parts are getting harder and more expensive to find. Breakdowns and constant repairs mean fewer cars available for patrol and slower response times when people need us.

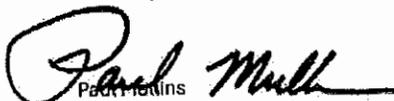
Highway 49 also brings serious public safety challenges. According to the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, this route is being used for criminal activity, including drug trafficking and human trafficking. To keep up with these threats and keep our communities safe, our deputies need reliable vehicles they can count on every day.

Funding for six new patrol vehicles would help us:

- Keep more deputies in service instead of in the shop for repairs
- Improve response times for emergencies across the county and on Highway 49
- Provide safer, more dependable vehicles for our deputies and the public
- Strengthen our ability to patrol and respond to crime along this major corridor

This initiative is widely supported throughout the county and has the full support of the board of supervisors. Thank you for your time and for your continued support of Mississippi communities. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you, or your staff, may have.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Mullins  
Simpson County Sheriff

1496 SIMPSON HWY. 149 • MENDENHALL, MS 39114  
OFFICE 601-847-2155 • FAX 601-847-2156 • DISPATCH 601-847-2921

**SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

**Mitchell Chatman**  
District One

*Office of the*

**Charlie Westmoreland**  
District Five

**Danny Craft**  
District Two

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Danny Welch**  
Attorney for the Board

**Wayne Womack**  
District Three

*Post Office Box 308  
Mendenhall, MS 39114  
Telephone (601)847-1418 • Fax (601)847-7004*

**Charlie Welch**  
County Administrator  
Comptroller

**Donny Welch**  
District Four

**Tim Gray**  
Chancery Clerk

The Honorable Michael Guest  
450 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Simpson County Sheriff's Office Fleet Modernization Initiative  
(FY 2027 DOJ Byrne Discretionary)

Dear Congressman Guest:

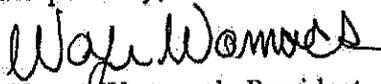
On behalf of the Simpson County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully request your support for Simpson County's FY2027 Community Project Funding (CPF) request through the U.S. Department of Justice Byrne Discretionary Grant Program. This request, the Simpson County Sheriff's Office Fleet Modernization Initiative, seeks funding to purchase six (6) new patrol vehicles for the Simpson County Sheriff's Office. This project is Simpson County's number one priority for FY2027 funding. The Sheriff's Office fleet is reaching a critical point, with many vehicles at or beyond the end of their useful life. Some deputies are still operating older Ford Crown Victoria vehicles that are well past their intended lifespan and are no longer in production, which makes keeping them on the road more difficult and expensive each year. At the same time, Simpson County does not have sufficient general fund resources to replace six vehicles quickly enough to meet the need.

Reliable patrol vehicles are essential for public safety in Simpson County. Deputies respond to calls across a large geographic area, including very rural parts of the county where distances are long and dependable transportation can make the difference in an emergency. The Sheriff's Office also regularly patrols and responds to calls along U.S. Highway 49, one of the most heavily traveled highways in Mississippi. Whether the call involves a crash, a roadway hazard, or a crime in progress, deputies must be able to respond quickly and safely. This request is not a luxury, it is a basic operational need.

This initiative also has strong support from local residents and business owners who depend on the Sheriff's Office for fast, reliable response and a visible presence throughout the county.

Thank you for your service to Mississippi and for your continued attention to the needs of counties like ours. We would be grateful for your favorable consideration of this request and for any assistance your office can provide during the FY2027 appropriations process. Please let us know if we can provide additional information.

Respectfully,

  
Wayne Womack, President  
Simpson County Board of Supervisors

ENCLOSURE:

**Jeff Jennings**

Business Owner – NAPA Auto Parts  
Magee & Mendenhall, Simpson County, Mississippi

March 3, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

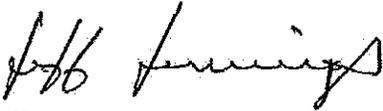
My name is Jeff Jennings, and I am a business owner serving Magee and Mendenhall in Simpson County. I am writing this letter in support of the Simpson County Sheriff's Office as they apply for funding to purchase new vehicles for their department.

Through my business with NAPA Auto Parts, I have supplied parts to the Sheriff's Office and have seen firsthand the amount of upkeep required to keep their older vehicles on the road. On many occasions, the department has had to put time and resources into maintaining aging vehicles just to keep them operational. While repairs help in the short term, older vehicles naturally break down more often and can affect reliability when deputies need to respond quickly.

I believe adding new vehicles to the fleet would help improve response times and reduce the amount of downtime caused by ongoing repairs. From my perspective as both a vendor and a local business owner, dependable vehicles benefit not only the department but the entire community by helping ensure officers have equipment they can rely on every day.

I support the Sheriff's Office in their efforts to secure funding and believe this investment would make a positive difference for Simpson County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Jennings". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jeff Jennings  
Business Owner, NAPA Auto Parts

The Honorable Michael Guest  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Mississippi's 3rd Congressional District  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Guest:

My name is Esther Richardson, and I live in a rural part of Simpson County, Mississippi near Harrisville. I am writing to ask you to support the Simpson County Sheriff's Office request for funding to purchase six new patrol vehicles. In rural areas like ours, we depend heavily on the Sheriff's Office, and reliable vehicles can make a real difference when we need help quickly.

Many of us live miles from town, and when there is an emergency, whether it's a wreck, a medical call, a break-in, or a domestic situation, response time matters. Deputies are often covering large areas, and they also spend a lot of time patrolling and responding to calls along Highway 49, one of the busiest highways in the state. Without reliable patrol cars, fewer deputies are able to patrol.

I understand the Sheriff's Office fleet is old and replacing those vehicles with dependable units would help keep deputies on the road, improve response times, and make both the public and the deputies safer. It would also strengthen law enforcement efforts along Highway 49.

Thank you for considering this request and for supporting public safety in communities like ours. I respectfully ask you to support Simpson County's application so our Sheriff's Office has the reliable transportation it needs to protect residents across the county.

Sincerely,



Esther Richardson

2568 Simpson Hwy 469

Dennis Amman  
609 Mangum Avenue  
Mendenhall, MS 39114

March 03, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dennis Amman, and I am a resident of Simpson County. I am writing this letter to show my support for the Simpson County Sheriff's Office as they apply for funding to purchase new vehicles for their department.

As someone who lives and works in this community, I understand how important it is for our law enforcement officers to have reliable equipment they can depend on every day. Deputies are often required to respond quickly to emergencies across the county, and dependable vehicles play a major role in allowing them to do their jobs safely and effectively.

Older vehicles can become costly to maintain and are more likely to experience mechanical problems, which can slow response times and create unnecessary challenges for the department. Investing in newer vehicles would help reduce breakdowns, improve reliability, and allow deputies to focus more on serving the public rather than dealing with equipment issues.

I believe supporting the Sheriff's Office in upgrading their fleet is an investment in the safety and well-being of our entire community. Reliable transportation helps ensure consistent service and gives residents confidence that help will arrive when it is needed.

I fully support the Simpson County Sheriff's Office in their efforts to secure this funding and appreciate the work they do every day for the citizens of Simpson County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Amman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dennis Amman  
Simpson County Resident