

Hiring Grant 

Opportunities

New Research <

Available Funding

THE BEAT

# Program Funding is Available from COPS

Three grant programs are currently accepting applications for funding. Over \$275 million will be awarded in the fall 2002. All of the funds are to provide assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies. Additional information can be obtained from the COPS web site at www.cops.usdoj.gov or by contacting the Department of Justice Response Center at (800) 421-6770.

www.cops.usdoj.gov

#### **COPS In Schools:**

Spring 2002, No. 18

COPS In Schools (CIS) grants will provide approximately \$121 million in federal funds to state and local communities to hire school resource officers (SROs). Officers hired under this program are dedicated to service in and around schools. The deadlines for applications under the CIS program are May 17, 2002 and June 14, 2002. Those applications received by the May 17th deadline receive priority consideration.

#### **Tribal Resources Grant Program:**

The Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP) will provide \$35 million in federal grants to eligible tribal communities. Funding may be used to hire officers, procure equipment, and train law enforcement officials to meet the unique safety needs of tribal communities. The deadline for applications under TRGP is May 17, 2002.

#### **Universal Hiring Program:**

The Universal Hiring Program (UHP) will provide approximately \$119 million in grants to state and local communities to hire additional law enforcement officers. These grants will provide up to 75 percent of the entry-level salary and benefits for newly hired, additional sworn officers engaged in community policing. The deadlines for applications under UHP are May 24, 2002 and June 21, 2002. Applications for UHP must be received by June 21, 2002. Those applications post marked by May 24, 2002 will be reviewed first and thus afforded special consideration.

### 2002 Legislative Appropriations

Public Safety and Community Policing Grants	
Hiring:	1.01
COPS In Schools (CIS)	\$180,000,000
Universal Hiring Program (UHP)	\$139,000,000
Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE)	\$66,000,000
Community Policing Development:	\$20,662,000
Non Hiring:	
Indian Country	\$35,000,000
Methamphetamine/Drug Hot Spots	\$70,473,000
Crime Fighting Technology	
Law Enforcement Technology	\$154,345,000
Community Crime Prevention	1
Police Integrity	\$16,963,000
Safe Schools	\$23,338,000

President Bush signed Public Law 107-77 on November 28, 2001. By his signature the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies received their appropriations for FY 2002.

This law provides a total budget authority of \$1.1 billion for the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). These funds are designated to assist state and local law enforcement improve public safety by collaborating with their community.

Public Law 107-77 may be viewed in its entirety at <u>www.congress.gov</u>.

### Director's Column

#### Carl Peed, COPS Director



ike many people in law enforcement, Officer John Perry pursued a career in policing because he wanted to serve his city and its citizens. It was this desire to serve that led him to the World Trade Center on September 11th. John Perry was only at police headquarters on that morning to turn in his retirement papers, he was not even on duty.

I learned of Officer Perry and his dedication when I attended his memorial service in New York City. Perry and 60 other local, state, and federal sworn law enforcement officers gave their lives in the service of others. Let us never forget what they did and honor their sacrifice by strengthening our resolve to protect and serve.

Since 1994, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has worked closely with law enforcement professionals to meet the most pressing needs. The result has been the efficient delivery of programs and services that have helped over 12,400 American law enforcement agencies. As state and local law enforcement moves forward in the fight against terrorism, COPS has developed resources that are consistent with the new challenges that confront your departments.

Immediately after September 11th, COPS provided \$10 million in support to the NYPD as they responded to the World Trade Center attack. COPS also brought together law enforcement leaders from departments throughout the country so they could identify and discuss the most critical issues confronting law enforcement in the post 9-11 era. Their mandates were clear and direct. Access to technology, strengthening of the public's trust in local law enforcement, racial profiling, recruiting and training the best possible candidates remained their priorities. However, they were also clear in stating that each of these issues directly impacts their capacity to respond to the threat of terrorism, and they indicated that the sharing of information between law enforcement agencies has become even more critical.

Through Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs), COPS provides training to assist state and local law enforcement agencies as they respond to the threat of terrorism. For example, the Wichita, Kansas RCPI is offering a terrorism response curriculum that includes everything from understanding terrorist ideology to agricultural target hardening. The Fort Wayne, Indiana RCPI is providing training on Domestic Terrorism Preparedness, and the Colorado RCPI is offering a training class titled Anti-Terrorism Awareness for the Line Officer.

COPS has also developed a new publication in the COPS Innovations series. Local Law Enforcement Responds to Terrorism – Lessons in Prevention and Preparedness discusses the types of resources that police can consider in their response to terrorist threats. It also highlights several law enforcement agencies that have used COPS grants to strengthen their response to terrorism.

These are just a few examples of COPS' efforts to provide law enforcement with resources to prevent and respond to threats of terrorism. I encourage you to learn more about the RCPI's offerings and other antiterrorism resources available through COPS by visiting our website at <u>www.cops.usdoj.gov</u>.

Law enforcement professionals know that community policing is a proven method for reducing crime, the fear of crime, and engaging the community in their own protection. A recent study conducted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha confirms the positive impact of community policing and COPS grants. In fact, this report finds that COPS hiring grants have resulted in a reduction of 5.26 violent crimes per 100,000 citizens for each grant dollar awarded. It also finds that COPS grants to engage the community in addressing specific and persistent types of crime, known as innovative grants, have reduced property crimes by 21.63 crimes per 100,000 citizens for each grant dollar.

Now more than ever, community policing works. Preventing terrorist acts requires law enforcement to have an intricate understanding of the people and patterns within the communities that they serve. The trust and partnerships that law enforcement builds with communities through community policing is critical. These relationships that have lead to the decrease in crime can now also help communities address new fears and new threats.



# COPS Hiring Opportunities

COPS In Schools

#### Appropriations in 2001: \$180 million Requests received in 2001: \$324 million

The COPS office has awarded over \$567 million to fund the hiring of more than 4,900 School Resource Officers (SROs) through the COPS In Schools (CIS) program. School Resource Officers serve in a variety of roles including that of a law enforcement officer, law-related educator, and counselor/problem solver/community liaison. SROs play an important role in intervention and prevention programs that lead to the reduction of negative at-risk factors and still promote positive factors in the lives of youths at risk of delinquency. CIS grants are awarded to law enforcement agencies, to pay for entrylevel salaries and benefits of newly hired additional SROs to be deployed to work in and around primary and secondary schools. COPS grants fund up to \$125,000 per officer over a three year grant period.

Through this program, grantees must enter into a collaborative partnership with a school or school district into which the SRO(s) will be deployed. An integral component of the CIS program is the COPS in Schools: Keeping Our Kids Safe training. The SRO(s) and one school administrator are required to attend the comprehensive team-based training. The three-day training provides the SRO(s) and the school administrator with a comprehensive understanding of issues related to the development of a safe and a healthy learning environment for youth through a school safety plan. Up to \$1,100 per required participant is provided by the COPS Office for approved travel, per diem and lodging. This training is hosted throughout the country.

Making Officer Redeployment Effective

> Currently available funds: \$66 million Requests received in 2001: \$300 million

The objective of the Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE) program is to increase the time available for community policing by funding the purchase of technology and equipment to enable a department to operate more efficiently. MORE grants cover up to 75 percent of the total cost of technology and certain equipment over a one-year period. Agencies receiving grants are required to provide a minimum local funding match of 25 percent.

Currently, COPS has 1,200 pending applications totaling \$150 million in grant funding. Due to the overwhelming response to this program, new applications are not being accepted in fiscal year 2002. This year, COPS is asking some departments with pending applications to submit updated requests focusing on issues that may have arisen since September 11th like enhanced interoperability with data systems and



partnerships with emergency service agencies.

Agencies with questions on the status of their application(s) should call the Department of Justice Response Center at 800-421-6770 and ask to speak with the Grant Program Specialist assigned to their state.

Universal Hiring Program

Currently available funds: \$139 million Requests reviewed in 2001: \$380 million

The Universal Hiring Program (UHP) provides grants to state and local law enforcement agencies to increase the number of officers available to patrol communities. UHP enables agencies to supplement their current sworn force through three year grants that provide up to 75 percent of the total salary and benefits of new officers (not to exceed \$75,000 per officer). There is a 25 percent local funding match.

UHP grant funds must not be used to replace local funds that would have otherwise been devoted to the hiring of sworn officers. The hiring of officers must be in addition to, and not in lieu of, officers that would have otherwise been hired with local funds. All grant recipients must develop a written plan to retain COPS-funded officer positions for at least one full local budget cycle after federal funding has ended.

## COPS remembers Tony Sutin....

On January 16, 2002 Tony Sutin was fatally shot in his office as Dean of Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Virginia. We at COPS remember Tony, Deputy Director and General Counsel of the COPS Office from 1994-1997, as the driving force behind the programs and policies that have become the hallmark of this Office. We loved him and we will miss him.



### Community Oriented Policing Services Has "Positive Effect"

*"COPS grants are clearly an important factor in the recent reduction of violent and property crime rates experienced in the United States during the latter half of the 1990s."* 

- Jihong Zhao, Ph.D

A recent research report conducted at the University of Nebraska at Omaha reviewed the impact of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant programs on reducing crime throughout the country.

Jihong Zhao, Ph.D., a professor of Criminal Justice, conducted *A National Evaluation of the Effect of COPS Grants on Crime From 1994 to 1999* in December of 2001. It indicates that COPS hiring grants have resulted in significant reductions in crime rates in cities with populations exceeding 10,000. According to U.S. Census Bureau data, this represents cities and towns that are home to over 90 percent of the people living in the United States.

The study found that an increase in one dollar of innovative grant funding per resident has contributed to a decline of 12.26 violent crimes and 43.85 property crimes per every 100,000 person. "This report demonstrates the positive effect that federal COPS grants have on decreasing violent and property crime," said Zhao. The full report can be accessed through the University of Nebraska website at:

http://www.unomaha.edu/uac/release/cops.pdf

On the Beat SPRING 2002 No. 18 For more information or to receive a free copy of this newsletter, write to the COPS Office, Attn: On the Beat, 1100 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530, or visit our Website at *www.cops.usdoj.gov* 

You may also call the US Department of Justice Response Center at 1.800.421.6770 Within the Washington area, call 202.307.1480

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