

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AMERICAN RECOVERY RE-INVESTMENT ACT UPDATE REPORT
OCTOBER-2009

The Connecticut Department of Public Safety is the direct recipients of two ARRA grant projects. On May 21, 2009 the department received an award for \$584,975.00 dollars from the Department of Justice under the Internet Crime and Prevention Grant Program. On September 23, 2009 the agency received a \$420,000.00 award from the U.S Department of Homeland Security explosive detection response at Connecticut's Ports.

Since receiving the Internet Crime and Prevention Grant in May, the Division of Scientific Services Computer Crime Unit has been tasked with implementing the proposal outlined in the grant. The Computer Crime Unit has begun purchasing the computer equipment and peripherals required to conduct forensic computer examinations under goal 2 of the program. The department anticipates that this equipment will be received in the late fall of 2009. The agency has scheduled its first youth internet safety training program for Friday, October 30, 2009 at the Forensic Science Laboratory in Meriden under goal 3, partnering with the state's regional educational service centers. This internet safety program is a collaborative approach utilizing educational professionals, law enforcement, and prosecutors to provide safety lessons regarding the dangers of the internet to Connecticut's children. This initiative will involve local, state and federal criminal justice stakeholders.

The Connecticut State Police Computer Crime Unit has initiated a program of expanded criminal investigations into internet predators and expanded forensic examinations on computer evidence received from local law enforcement agencies under goal 4 of the program utilizing ARRA funding.

In the fall and early winter of 2009, the Computer Crime Unit will continue to conduct additional internet crime prevention seminars throughout the state protecting Connecticut's youth. Additionally, training classes will be initiated to provide forensic examiner training to local law enforcement officers in the investigative techniques needed to conduct a forensic computer investigation. This training will also include equipping law enforcement officers with the equipment necessary to conduct an investigation.

Although the Department of Public Safety received the Homeland Security explosive detection grant to protect Connecticut ports two weeks prior to the end of the reporting period. The Connecticut State Police Emergency Services Unit have initiated the process to purchase explosive detection devices and equipment that will assist in the detection and neutralizing of explosive devices that would impair Connecticut's ports or maritime facilities. In the next three months the Emergency Services Unit will develop planning and policy directives regarding deployment directives.

The Department of Public Safety was also the sub recipient of two Byrne Justice Assistance Grants administered by the Office of Policy and Management Division of Criminal Justice Policy and Management. The agency received an award to of 1.8 million dollars to fund ten DNA scientists positions at the State Forensic Laboratory through December 2010. Three forensic examiners were added on September 1, 2009, and the remaining seven positions were added on October 1, 2009. These forensic scientists will address DNA backlog in the offender entries into the CODIS databank, as well as working on DNA evidence submitted from law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

The second sub grant the agency received was for the Statewide Narcotics Task Force. The State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation received an award of \$900,000.00. These funds will be utilized as local law enforcement agencies stipends for assignments to the SNTF. These stipends took effect on September 1, 2009 and we will continue to ensure that complex narcotic trafficking rings are identified and dismantled. During the month of September we expended \$28,000.00 dollars from the grant utilizing 928 man hours. During the upcoming months these funds will continue to pay local law enforcement stipends and enhance narcotic investigations throughout the state.

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