

## **Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY 2009 Local Solicitation.**

### **Salisbury Police Department**

Under this grant the City of Salisbury and Wicomico County Maryland are eligible for \$81,119 in federal funds. This is further broken down to \$19,340 for Wicomico County and \$61,779 for the City of Salisbury. The City of Salisbury intends to utilize 100% of this funding toward technology. These funds will be used primarily for three projects. 1) Video Surveillance, 2) Information Portal, 3) Computer Hardware.

#### Video Surveillance

Expanding on a project that will be started with JAG Recovery funds, video cameras will be deployed to high crime areas. With the JAG Recovery funds, a wireless backbone will be established allowing for cameras to be located remotely, yet viewed and video stored at SPD HQ. The JAG FY09 grant will allow for the purchase of cameras and assorted required hardware/software and installation of cameras on utility poles, buildings etc. The location of these cameras will occur in high crime areas and will allow for a more efficient use of limited manpower available to this agency. An officer can be viewing these cameras from HQ and direct patrol/special operation officers to suspects. Disturbance/Fight calls can be seen by dispatch before the officer arrives, enabling them to give valuable updated information to arriving officers. Street level drug transactions can be viewed allowing for greater enforcement over a larger area as compared to if one were to set a surveillance point at each location involving several officers.

#### Information Portal.

Officers today have vast amounts of information they are exposed to on a daily basis. BOLO's, wanted persons/vehicles, crime bulletins, gang information, the list goes on. This does not include all the officer safety information they must keep up to date on. We will use some of these funds for the development of a Microsoft Sharepoint information portal. This portal can be thought of as Google web site on steroids. Officers will have access to this portal from their laptop or desktop. On the home page will be certain information that will be mandatory, e.g. wanted violent individuals, messages from the Chief etc. The officer can then customize the remainder of the page for their use. For example a detective may want to see recent pawned LCD televisions, special operations officer may want to see most recent verified gang members and a patrol officer may want to see want to see most recent warrants in their patrol area. This site will efficiently organize all documents and will be searchable. An example would be searching for a document on gang tattoos at 3 a.m., searching for most likely hiding spots in a 2007 Ford Mustang while on a traffic stop.

#### Computer Hardware

As we progress with technology, some existing hardware must be upgraded or replaced. This would include servers, desktops, routers etc. A portion of this grant will fund this upgrade.

## Wicomico County Sheriff's Office

The WCSO also intends to use this funding to further enhance their technology. They intend to use these funds for three projects. 1) In-Car video, 2) Radar units and 3) Taser.

### In-Car Video

Thru previous grants and forfeitures the WCSO has started placing video cameras in their patrol vehicles. These cameras provide very valuable evidence for the officer when preparing their case for court. In today's society video evidence is the expected norm. In addition, this video produced at the time of the actual occurrence, accurately depicts the suspects actions, demeanor etc. which often is completely opposite to what they display in court.

### Radar Units

The WCSO is taking on more law enforcement responsibilities in non-municipal areas of the county. With these increased tasks there arise a need for increases traffic enforcement. As such the radar unit will be utilized.

### Taser Unit

Often times a deputy will respond to a call for a disorderly subject and will need to take action on that subject. The deputy has at their disposal their hands, mace, baton and firearm. There are times where it would safer for everyone involved if a tool like the taser were used. This device will be used in the patrol division. There are times where the individual is very combative and use of hands/mace/baton will not be effective. The use of the firearm would not fall within department guidelines for discharge and a taser would allow for apprehension without serious injury to anyone involved.