



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
145 N Street NE, Washington, DC 20530

COPS★

March 25, 2016

RE: Upcoming COPS Office Grant Program Solicitation for the FY 2016 COPS Hiring Program (CHP)

Dear Colleague:

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) is pleased to announce that we will soon be accepting applications for the FY 2016 COPS Hiring Program (CHP). This year's COPS Hiring Program has an overarching emphasis on implementing the recommendations of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. The Task Force examined how to strengthen public trust and foster strong relationships between local law enforcement and the communities that they serve, while also promoting effective crime reduction.

Program Details

The FY2016 COPS Hiring Program is open to all state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies that have primary law enforcement authority. This nationwide program is designed to advance public safety through community policing by addressing specific problems, such as public trust, through the hiring of full-time sworn officer positions. Funding is provided directly to law enforcement agencies to hire new and/or rehire career law enforcement officers, and to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Up to \$137 million is available in federal funding for this program in FY 2016, and all awards are subject to the availability of federal funds.

Applicants will be able to select from one of seven broad areas of policing to be the focus of any officers awarded. Priority consideration will be given to applicants who select the "Building Trust," "Homeland Security" or "School-Based Policing" problem/focus areas. Other priority problem/focus areas will be identified in the solicitation documents and listed in the application. All applicants should refer to the [Final Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing](#) for suggested actions to incorporate into their proposed community policing strategy.

Additional Information

We anticipate that the FY 2016 CHP solicitation will open in late April 2016. A follow-up notification will be sent to you when the application period begins. Additional information about this funding opportunity will be made available through the "[Grants and Funding](#)" portion of the COPS Office's website. This information includes the Application Guide (i.e., instructions), Fact Sheet, Frequently Asked Questions, and other important materials about the program's application requirements.

We also encourage you to read the "[Preparing Your Application](#)" document on our website. This document provides helpful information about preparations your agency can make at this time to ensure a smooth application process and minimize the chance of problems or delays.

Please note that all CHP applications will be accepted electronically via a **two-step process through Grants.gov and the COPS Office Agency Portal**. Detailed instructions about how to apply for this program will be placed on the COPS Office website soon, along with information about the solicitation opening date, submission deadline, and other important information.

Thank you for your time and cooperation as the COPS Office prepares for the FY 2016 CHP solicitation opening. If you have questions about this or any other COPS Office grant program, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Davis', written in a cursive style.

Ronald L. Davis, Director

