



United States Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

**1100 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530**

April 13, 2010

RE: COPS Hiring Program (CHP)
Agency Name: <<Agency Name>>
ORI Number: <<ORI #>>

Dear [LE and GE]:

I am pleased to announce that the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) was recently authorized to open the 2010 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) and will award \$298 million to address the full-time sworn officer needs of state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide and to increase their capacity to engage in community policing. In 2010, COPS will select CHP grantees from the existing pool of approximately 6,000 2009 COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) applications. The COPS Office will not accept new applications for the 2010 COPS Hiring Program, and expects to make fewer than 500 awards with the limited amount of funding available.

Your agency submitted an application last year under CHRP, but did not receive funding. Your application was placed in a pending status and carried forward into FY 2010 in anticipation of additional hiring funds being made available. The COPS Office will now consider your existing application for funding under CHP in 2010. Programmatically, CHP funding is similar to CHRP in that it will cover officer entry-level salary and benefits for three years, has no local matching requirement, and requires that the positions awarded be retained for a minimum of 12 months at the conclusion of 36 months of federal funding for each position. CHP also allows your agency to use awarded funds to hire new officer positions, or to rehire officers who have already been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of state, local, or tribal budget reductions.

In early June, your agency will be invited to provide and submit targeted updates to your application so that your request can be evaluated based on current data. Detailed instructions on updating and submitting your application will be provided at that time. Please be aware that you must provide and submit updated information for your application or it will be eliminated from consideration for 2010 CHP funding. Your agency will have two weeks to submit the updated information.

In the interim, to help prepare your agency for the June application process, the COPS Office encourages you to do the following:

- Verify that your Central Contractor Registration (CCR) has not or will not expire on or before September 30, 2010.¹
- Gather information necessary to update any budgetary items that may have changed since your application was submitted last year, such as current and projected entry-level officer salary and benefits.
- Prepare to update several categories of data that your agency provided in the application section devoted to the need for federal assistance, including UCR reported crime, agency and jurisdictional operating budget, layoff and furlough information, and community foreclosures, unemployment and poverty rates.
- Prepare to describe your agency's current and planned community policing efforts and how they build community partnerships, complement other community initiatives, and lead to organizational transformation.

If you have any questions about your application, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770, or by e-mail at CHP2010@usdoj.gov. Also, please be aware that neither this email nor any future updates you may provide for your pending application in any way indicate that your agency has been or will be awarded CHP funding. We look forward to working with your agency during the CHP application process.

Sincerely,

Bernard K. Melekian
Director

¹ To determine the status of your CCR registration, please visit www.ccr.gov.