



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*Office of Community Oriented Policing Services*

Office of the Director  
1100 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

May 19, 2010

Dear Colleague:

The COPS Office is pleased to announce the availability of funding under the **COPS Secure Our Schools (SOS) 2010** grant program. Approximately \$16 million is available in FY 2010 to provide funding to law enforcement agencies to assist with the development of school safety resources and provide improved security at schools and on school grounds. This program will fund up to 50% of the total cost to implement one or more of the following options: placement and use of metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures; security assessments; security training of personnel and students; coordination with local law enforcement; and/or any other measure that may provide a significant improvement in security.

All local, state, and tribal law enforcement agencies that have primary law enforcement authority within a partner primary or secondary school are eligible to apply. An agency with primary law enforcement authority is defined as the first responder to calls for service for all types of criminal incidents within the partner school(s). Primary and secondary schools are defined as kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. As noted above, there is a 50% local cash match requirement under this grant program.

The online application system for FY 2010 applicants will be available on or around June 2, 2010 through the COPS Office website: [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov). **There will be two deadlines for the FY 2010 Secure Our Schools program. The deadline for priority consideration will be June 21, 2010, and the second and final deadline will be July 2, 2010.** Please note that applications will only be accepted through the COPS website this year.

The funding for this program is competitive, and as such it is recommended that interested law enforcement agencies use this time prior to the opening of the solicitation to contact and develop partnerships with area schools that need to enhance or improve school safety and security equipment and/or measures.

### ***Preparing Your Application***

The COPS Office wants to ensure that your agency has sufficient time to complete your SOS application once the program opens in early June. We strongly recommend that your agency begin preparations for submitting your application at this time. To minimize delays in submitting your application, please take some time before early June to address the following items:

- Visit the "Account Access" portion of the COPS website at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov) to determine if your agency currently has an active online account and/or how to create one. If you do not remember your password, you can use this site to have a password reminder sent to you.
- If you need assistance with creating an account and/or system access, or you would like to verify your agency's correct ORI number, call 1.800.421.6770 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, or e-mail [askcopsr@usdoj.gov](mailto:askcopsr@usdoj.gov).
- Once logged into "Account Access," your agency will be able to add additional user accounts and also update your agency contact and address information. Please take this time to ensure that your agency's Law Enforcement Executive, Government Executive, and point of contact information are current with our office.
- A Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number is required to submit applications for COPS funding. A DUNS number is a unique nine or thirteen-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for

identifying and keeping track of entities receiving federal funds. Visit [www.dnb.com/us](http://www.dnb.com/us) to obtain or verify your number.

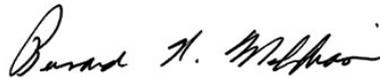
- Additionally, all applicants are required to maintain current registrations in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. The CCR database is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. Please note that applicants must update or renew their CCR at least once per year to maintain an active status. To register or to verify that your CCR registration has not or will not expire on or before September 30, 2010, please visit [www.ccr.gov](http://www.ccr.gov).
- You will be required to provide the unique Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) identification number assigned to your agency. The GNIS database is maintained by the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior. To look up your GNIS Feature ID, please visit their website at: <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/index.html>.

The COPS Office has also developed an additional site – <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2368> – to provide more detailed information regarding the 2010 SOS program, including a summary of various application sections. Application information found at this site includes:

- Project Narrative Questions
- School Safety Assessment/Assurance Questions
- Sample Budget Narrative
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Description
- Community Policing Narrative Questions

The COPS Office looks forward to working with your agency. If you would like more information or require technical assistance during the solicitation process, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at 1.800.421.6770.

Sincerely,



Bernard K. Melekian  
Director