

July 28, 2009

\$5,071,757 in Grants Awarded to Support 28 Officers in New Mexico's 2nd and 3^d Congressional Districts

Washington, DC – Today, Representatives Ben Ray Luján and Harry Teague announced \$5,071,757 in funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to hire or rehire 28 law enforcement officers in the 2nd and 3rd Congressional Districts of New Mexico. The Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) is making the grant to 1,046 law enforcement agencies in all 50 states to create and preserve jobs.

“At a time when many law enforcement agencies are struggling with budget cuts, these grants will provide assistance to hire and rehire police officers,” said Congressman Ben Ray Luján. “These funds mean keeping police officers on the streets to help keep communities throughout New Mexico safe—while providing an economic boost to our state.”

“Support for our local law enforcement is long overdue, today’s announcement is a great

example of how the Recovery Act is helping our communities in several ways,” said Congressman Harry Teague who worked with local agencies through the application process. “Helping our police departments hire more staff will not only create jobs but it will also help to keep our communities safe.”

According to the United States Department of Justice, CHRP provides funding to address the full-time sworn officer needs of state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide. CHRP grants go directly to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. CHRP grants will provide three years of 100 percent funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for newly-hired, full-time sworn officer positions (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off--or are scheduled to be laid off--as a result of local budget cuts.

For more information, visit the COPS website at www.cops.usdoj.gov .

City

Officers Awarded

Award Amount

City of Belen

1

\$186,037

Espanola Police Department

1

\$174,631

Farmington Police Department

5

\$1,065,130

Gallup

3

\$490,404

Las Cruces Police Department

8

\$1,518,784

Mora County Sheriff's Department

1

\$94,244

Village of Santa Clara

1

\$63,199

City of Santa Fe

8

\$1,479,328

State Total

28

\$5,071,757