

National Sheriffs' Association Newsletter: Capitol Watch

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On Capitol Hill

Congress resumes legislative business following a two-week recess.

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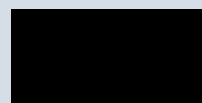
REMINDER: NSA 2011 Annual Conference Next Month

Congress Passes FY11 CR Funding Package

On April 15, Congress passed the FY11 CR (Continuing Resolution) to fund the government for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Unfortunately, the FY11 CR does not contain good news for law enforcement funding. Critical state and local law enforcement funding under the Department of Justice and the

News & Updates



Save the Date!

NSA 2011 Annual
Conference
June 18-22, 2011

America's Center
St. Louis, MO

For more information,
go to www.sheriffs.org

If you have any
questions, please
contact Stephanie
Garlock at
sgarlock@sheriffs.org
or (703) 838-5316.

Department of Homeland Security have experienced cuts. In regards to the Department of Justice, 17% of funding is cut from all OJP and COPS Programs, meaning Byrne JAG, COPS Hiring, and SCAAP will sustain cuts of 17%. In regards to the Department of Homeland Security, the SHSGP (State Homeland Security Grants Program) program experienced a 24% cut (meaning LETPP will also experience a cut); the USAI (Urban Security Area Initiative) program experienced a 18% cut – however, the new proposal does not limit the number of USAI cities to 25 as previously attempted; and Operation Stonegarden received an 8% cut.

Below, please find the final numbers for the FY11 CR highlighted in yellow:

<u>Program</u>	<u>FY11 CR Compromise</u>	<u>FY10 Amt.</u>
Byrne JAG (Total \$519M before line items) <i>*Bullet-Proof Vest Partnership</i> <i>*S&I Anti-Terrorism</i>	\$431M	\$519M
Byrne Discretionary	\$0	\$185.268M
Byrne Competitive	\$33.2M	\$40M
SCAAP	\$275M	\$330M
COPS Program OVERALL	\$495.925M	\$791.608M
COPS Technology Grants	\$0	\$170.223M
COPS Hiring <i>*Non-Sworn LE Personnel</i> <i>*Tribal Police</i> <i>*College Loan Repay for New Officers</i>	\$248M	\$298M
Community Policing	\$10M	\$12M
Secure Our Schools	\$13.3M	\$16M
Meth Hot Spots <i>*Programs</i> <i>*DEA Clandestine Lab Clean-up</i> <i>*Indian Country Meth</i>	\$12.4M *\$0 *8.3M *4.1M	\$40.385M *\$25.385M *10M *5M
HIDTA	\$239M	\$239M
DNA-related and forensic	\$133.6M	\$161M
RISS (Regional Information Sharing System)	\$45M	\$45M
MIOTCRA	\$10M	\$12M
State Homeland Security	\$725M	\$950M
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$725M	\$887M
Operation Stonegarden	\$55M	\$60M
CEDAP	\$0	\$0

DEA METH FUNDING: Further bad news: in regards to the DEA state and local clandestine lab funding, this is a more complicated issue. While the CR compromise has included the funding for the state and local law enforcement clean-up, it is subject to the 17% cut that was experienced by the COPS Office as a whole and is provided at an annualized rate for the remaining months of the budget, so there is only a few million available for the remaining FY11 months. We understand that this funding will NOT be enough to sustain the program for the remainder of FY11 and that once again, there will be a shortfall and funding will **once again run out WELL BEFORE** the end of FY11.

This is a significant issue that NSA, along with our law enforcement partners, continues to actively and aggressively work on, particularly in the regards to the FY12 budget where the President's budget did not provide any funding for this program. **On this front, NSA needs your help. We need stories from sheriffs on how the lack of this funding is affecting them in their counties. Please send these stories/examples to Stephanie Garlock at sgarlock@sheriffs.org.** We need to continue to show to Congress that without this funding, sheriffs and local law enforcement agencies are NOT ABLE to clean-up meth labs in their communities and these labs are piling up.

It is unfortunate that we do not have better news to share regarding the FY11 numbers. These numbers appear to be indicators of the battle we face in FY12 and NSA will continue to work with our partners to do all that we can to urge Congress on the importance of law enforcement funding and protect/preserve the funding. NSA will continue to need the help from the state associations and sheriffs to speak with Congress and relay how critical state and local law enforcement funding is to your state and community.

NSA will continue to keep sheriffs updated on the FY12 appropriations cycle and provide information as we move forward. For questions, please contact Stephanie Garlock at sgarlock@sheriffs.org or (703) 838-5316.

**COPS Hiring Program Grant Solicitations
Now Open**

The FY11 COPS Hiring Program grant solicitation officially **opened May 2**. The application deadline will be **May 25, 2011, at 8:59 PM, EDT**.

Please note that applications for this program must be submitted in two parts. First, applicants must apply online via www.grants.gov to complete the SF-424, which is a government-wide standard form required for competitive grant application packages. The SF-424 is intended to reduce the administrative burden to the Federal grants community, which includes applicants/grantees and Federal staff involved in grants-related activities.

Once the SF-424 has been submitted, you will receive an e-mail from the COPS Office with instructions on completing the second part of the CHP application through the COPS Office Online Application System found on the COPS Office website at www.cops.usdoj.gov.

Additionally, there is a new application for the FY11 COPS Hiring grant. The new COPS application will now focus on two key sections:

- 1) The Community Policing Plan (both current and future)
- 2) Community Need (fiscal health and crime data).

For further detailed information regarding the new application, please click [HERE](#) or visit www.sheriffs.org, on the Government Affairs page, under Legislative Issues.

LEGISLATIVE PUSH: Cosponsors Needed for D Block Legislation

NSA continues to strongly encourage sheriffs to reach out to their Members of Congress, both in the House and Senate, and urge them to become cosponsors to **S. 28-the Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act of 2011 (introduced by Sen. Rockefeller, D-WV)** and **H.R. 607 – the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011 (introduced by Rep. King, R-NY, and Rep. Thompson, D-MS)**. These bills not only allocate the D Block to public safety, but provide the funding necessary to create and implement the nationwide public safety interoperable mobile broadband network.

The fight is far from over. Until Congress passes legislation to allocate the D Block to public safety, the D Block still has the

potential to be auctioned off. We need your help to secure Congress' support for the allocation of the D Block to public safety.

To obtain sample letters of support on both bills or for talking points on the D Block issue, please click [HERE](#) or contact Stephanie Garlock at sgarlock@sheriffs.org or (703) 838-5316.

LEGISLATIVE PUSH: Cosponsors Needed for Hatch Act Reform Bill

Sheriffs: It is imperative that you continue to urge your U.S. House of Representatives to become cosponsors of **HR498 – the State and Local Law Enforcement Hatch Act Reform Act of 2011. Please remember:** the stronger the support from Members of Congress, the greater the ability to pass the legislation. **A sample letter of support and fact sheet on the bill can be found [HERE](#).**

Currently, there are 19 cosponsors; however, many more are needed in order to swiftly move the bill through the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee – the Committee of bill jurisdiction.

NSA is working with Rep. Latta to move the legislation forward in the 112th Congress. Your continued support is **VITAL** to our success.

New Changes to the BJA Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant

Due to the increase in the number of law enforcement officer deaths, coupled with our renewed efforts to improve officer safety, beginning with FY11, **in order to receive Bulletproof Vest Program (BVP) funds, jurisdictions must certify, during the application process, that all law enforcement agencies benefitting from the BVP Program have a written "mandatory wear" policy in effect.**

The policy must be in place for at least all uniformed officers before any FY11 funding can be used by the agency. However, BJA (Bureau of Justice Assistance) gives **WIDE** latitude to the law enforcement agency when developing and implementing a mandatory wear policy. This policy **ONLY** applies to BVP funding – if an agency wants to receive BVP funding, they must have a “mandatory wear” policy in place.

Further information regarding this new change, along with a detailed FAQ document can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bvpbasi/>.

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Nominations Open May 31

Beginning May 31, 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance will begin accepting nominations for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor (MOV). The MOV is the highest national award that can be bestowed on civilian public safety officers and is awarded by the President of the United States to officers who have exhibited extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty.

To be considered for the 2010-2011 MOV, an officer must be nominated for actions that occurred between June 1, 2010 and May 31, 2011. Nominations must be submitted online by the chiefs or directors of the officer’s employing department and must be received by DOJ no later than 8:00 p.m. eastern time on July 31, 2011. The Medal of Valor Review Board, comprised of current and former state and local public safety officials, will consider all nominations meeting submission requirements and recommend award recipients.

Should you have any questions regarding the MOV nomination process, please contact Mr. Kevin A. Jenkins, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist at

Kevin.Jenkins@usdoj.gov or at (202) 514-0907.

With your help, DOJ hopes to encourage public safety agencies across the country to nominate officers who have displayed exceptional courage in the performance of their duties. For additional information about MOV, please visit www.medalofvalor.gov.

National Police Week 2011

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy designated May 15th of year National Peace Officers Memorial Day, with the week in which May 15th falls designated as National Police Week. National Police Week was established to honor the brave men and women throughout the United States who were killed in the line of duty protecting and serving their communities.

National Police Week is a solemn occasion which brings tens of thousands of law enforcement officers to the nation's capitol. This year, the official dates for National Police Week are May 15-21; however, many of the remembrance events being held in Washington DC will take place May 13-16, including the Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial; the National Police Survivors' Conference; and the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service in front of the United States Capitol.

Additionally, the staff from the National Sheriffs' Association invite you to join our team and participate in the 5th Annual National Police Week 5K. The 5K is an event that supports Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS) and the Officer Down Memorial Page (ODMP), which honors and supports fallen law enforcement officers and their families.

The race will be held on Saturday, May 14th at 9AM. The course takes you through downtown DC along Capitol Hill and the U.S. Supreme Court.

If sheriffs or their staff are planning to be in town for National Police Week, NSA invites you to sign-up for the race, join the National Sheriffs' Association team, and run with us! Please find the enclosed link to register for the race:

<http://www.active.com/running/washington-dc/national-police-week-5k-date-approved-by-washington-dc-2011>. If you have any questions about the race, please feel free to contact

Stephanie Garlock at sgarlock@sheriffs.org or (703) 838-5316

NSA 2011 Annual Conference Fast Approaching

The National Sheriffs' Association 2011 Annual Conference will be held from June 18-22 at the America's Center in St. Louis, MO.

Keynote speakers for Annual are:

Opening General Session (Sunday, June 19)

- **Bob Delaney, NBA Referee and former NJ State Trooper**

General Session II (Monday, June 20)

- **John R. "JV" Venable, commander of the USAF Flight Demonstration Team Thunderbirds 2000-2001.**

Additionally, a variety of important seminars will be held during the conference, ranging from utilizing the media; body armour; first responder family preparedness; immigration

Furthermore, NSA's Annual Banquet will take place on Wednesday, June 22. The banquet is the finale to the Annual Conference. Events during the banquet include the swearing in of the newly elected NSA Board Members and NSA President.

For more information on NSA's 2011 Annual Conference including registration, hotels, and full conference agenda, please visit www.sheriffs.org on the Conference page.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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