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City of Miami is Awarded Grant to Hire New Police Officers

(Miami, FL October 10, 2014) - The City of Miami was awarded a three year grant totaling \$1,875,000 from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) to hire fifteen new officers which was already anticipated in the FY2014-15 Adopted Budget. COPS has awarded \$123 million in CHP grants to 215 law enforcement agencies to hire or rehire 944 full-time career law enforcement officers. The City of Miami, along with the City of Jacksonville, was ultimately awarded the highest funding in the State of Florida.

Through this competitive program, the COPS office provides funding to hire new officer, rehire recently laid-off officers, or maintain offers scheduled to be laid-off. The COPS Office supports local law enforcement by strengthening community policing by hiring officers. This is particularly important in the current economy as state, local, and tribal law enforcement grantees embrace the challenges of keeping communities safe while maintaining sufficient sworn personnel levels.

With the goal of providing the highest level of public safety and service, the City of Miami Police Department will utilize the funds to pay the salaries of officers to reduce violent crime, with an emphasis on reducing juvenile gang and drug related activities. The City of Miami Police Department will be able to increase sweeps and patrols, perform targeted community alerts and on-going identification of crime concentrations by qualified analysts as well as conducting formal evaluation of effectiveness.

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) is a component within the U.S. Department of Justice dedicated to support the efforts of law enforcement across the country as they develop creative and innovative ways to deal with long-standing community problems and public safety issues. The City of Miami Office of Grants Administration worked closely with the Miami Police Department to ensure this application clearly represented the City's need for additional police officers.

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Approved

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