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**NEWS RELEASE**

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

July 28, 2009

**Department Receives \$8.67 Million in COPS Funds**  
*Funding Helps to Secure Officer Positions*

On Tuesday, July 28, the Department of Justice and the COPS Hiring Recovery Program announced that the Metropolitan Police Department will be receiving \$8,678,550 in grant funds. Though this falls short of the \$18 million the Department had requested, the funding secured will allow the Department to maintain the jobs of 50 current Police Officers.

The Department's current authorized strength (i.e. the maximum number of officers allowed) is 1400. However, the Department's Fiscal Year 2010 budget allocation of \$147 million will fund 1,295 officer positions, meaning 105 officer positions were to go unfunded. The Department applied for the COPS Program to fund those 105 officer positions.

Upon receiving notification of the budget challenges and while waiting to receive notification as to the status of the COPS Program application, the Department postponed a planned class for the Police Academy and also began to decrease officer staffing through attrition.

As of today, the Department has 1,343 budget-funded officers. When taking into account both the city budget and the newly announced COPS Program funding, the Department has the ability to sustain 1,345 officer positions.

The Department remains committed to offering the highest quality police-service possible, even in this challenging fiscal environment. The Department has an additional 43 officers who are paid through various grants and/or contracts, bringing the total number of Metropolitan Police Department officers to 1,386 officers as of today—one of the highest officer to citizen ratios in the country.

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