

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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WICHITA COMMUNITY POLICING FUND UPDATE

Washington -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole today made the following statement after receiving encouraging news from the United States Justice Department that Wichita will likely receive \$1 million to help fight crime and violence:

"I am pleased to report that my office has received assurances from the Justice Department that Wichita's community policing grant will be funded at the full \$1 million level that was included in the Senate's appropriations bill. Although the language earmarking the funds was weakened by the House in conference, the Justice Department has now committed to providing the funding to the city of Wichita for it's first-rate efforts to combat crime and provide safe communities."

"Wichita deserves this funding to help develop community-style policing that will promote better police-neighborhood relations, reduce the incidence of street crime and violence, and help safeguard the city's residents."

The \$1 million grant will be funded through the Department of Justice's grant funds for community policing. The award will likely be official in the Spring after the city of Wichita and the Justice Department have completed the application process. Wichita's Integrated Teams or "IT Program" would involve community volunteers and leaders working together with local law enforcement officials to target problem areas in Wichita, establish neighborhood watch groups, and involve children and teenagers in recreation and job training activities.

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