

# **Community Policing (COPS)**

FY 2016 Budget Request At A Glance	
FY 2015 Enacted:	\$208.0 million (188 positions)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$0
Program Changes:	+\$95.5 million
FY 2016 Budget Request:	\$303.5 million (188 positions)
Change From FY 2015 Enacted:	+\$95.5 million (+45.9%)

### Mission:

The mission of the COPS Office is to advance public safety through the practice of community policing. By addressing the root causes of criminal and disorderly behavior, rather than simply responding to crimes once they have been committed, community policing concentrates on preventing both crime and the atmosphere of fear it creates. Additionally, community policing encourages the use of operational strategies and the development of mutually beneficial relationships between law enforcement and the community. By earning the trust of the members of their communities and making those individuals stakeholders in their own safety, law enforcement can better understand and address the community's needs and the factors that contribute to crime.

#### **Resources:**

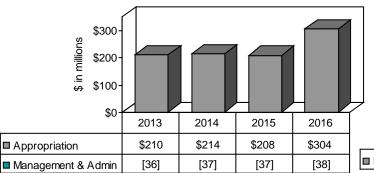
The FY 2016 Budget request for COPS totals \$303.5 million, which is a 45.9% increase over the FY 2015 Enacted level.

## **Organization:**

The COPS Office is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the Attorney General. The COPS Office was established in 1994 to assist law enforcement agencies in enhancing public safety through the implementation of community policing strategies.

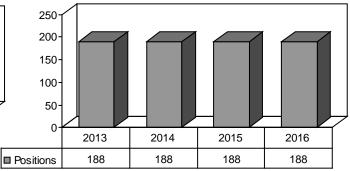
### **Personnel:**

The COPS direct positions for FY 2016 total 188 positions and is the same as FY 2015 President's Budget.



Funding (FY 2013 - 2016)

# Personnel (FY 2013 - 2016)



### FY 2016 Strategy:

Over the past decade, the programs and initiatives developed by the COPS Office have provided funding to more than 13,000 of the nation's 18,000 law enforcement agencies. Approximately 81 percent of the Nation's population is served by law enforcement agencies practicing community policing. To date the COPS Office has funded over 125,000 officers. With funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the COPS Office ensured that over 6,000 additional law enforcement officer jobs were created or saved in law enforcement agencies across the country. The total number of officers that the COPS Office funded from FY 2009 through 2014 was more than 9,000 between its hiring programs and tribal law enforcement programs.

More than 700,000 law enforcement personnel and community members have been trained on community policing topics including crime control strategies, police ethics and integrity, terrorism prevention and preparedness, school safety, partnership building, problem-solving and crime analysis.

In FY 2016, the COPS Office will continue to fulfill its mission of advancing the practice of community policing by:

- Funding additional officers to address community policing challenges;
- Continuing to support innovative programs that respond directly to the emerging needs of state, local, and tribal law enforcement in order to shift law enforcement's focus to preventing, rather than reacting to crime and disorder within their communities;
- Developing state-of-the-art training and technical assistance to enhance law enforcement officers' problem-solving and community interaction skills;
- Promoting collaboration between law enforcement and community members to develop innovative initiatives to prevent crime;
- Providing responsive, cost-effective service delivery to the COPS Office's grantees to ensure success in advancing community policing strategies within their communities; and
- Supporting evidence-based community policing practices that have proven to be effective, can be easily replicated by a broad cross-section of law enforcement agencies, and are sustainable.

## FY 2016 Program Changes:

#### COPS Hiring Program: \$69.5 million and 0 positions

This request provides a total funding level of \$249.5 million. Within this total amount, \$15.0 million will be dedicated specifically towards hiring of tribal law enforcement officers, \$20.0 million will be for community policing development activities, and \$5 million will be used for incentive grants to improve diversity in law enforcement. The \$20 million budget request for the Community Policing Development (CPD) Program will permit the COPS Office to expand and conduct additional applied research, demonstration, and micro-grant projects that promote changes in American law enforcement consistent with the Department's priority goals. An increase in CPD funding would also allow the COPS Office to establish a new Community Oriented Policing Management Education and Development Program. The FY 2015 Enacted level for this initiative is \$180.0 million.

# **Collaborative Reform Initiative:** \$20.0 million and 0 positions

This request is a separate line-item for this program. The Collaborative Reform Initiative enables the COPS Office to partner with law enforcement agencies that may need assistance on a wide variety of criminal justice issues that range from use-of-force practices, to the deployment of crisis intervention teams, to building trust with the communities served. The program provides assistance to agencies in enhancing and improving their policies and procedures, systems, and culture. This program has been implemented in Las Vegas, Nevada and is currently operating in Spokane, Washington, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Fayetteville, North Carolina, Baltimore, Maryland and St. Louis County, Missouri. The FY 2015 Enacted level for this initiative is \$5.0 million as a set-aside within the COPS Hiring Program.

**Countering Violent Extremism:** \$3.0 million and 0 positions This new initiative funding will be used to provide awards of approximately \$500,000 to enhance the ability of law enforcement agencies nationwide to partner with local residents, business owners, community groups, and other stakeholders on homeland security initiatives by leveraging established community policing approaches to counter violent extremism through multiple demonstration projects. Additionally, this program will fund a single award for coordination, evaluation, and technical assistance efforts across the funded demonstration sites. This is a new program for FY 2016.

#### Meth Lab Cleanup: \$4.0 million and 0 positions

The requested enhancement will provide a total of \$11.0 million for this program to be available to reimburse DEA to support meth lab clean-up efforts. The increase will be used to fund the anticipated number of cleanups in FY 2016. The FY 2015 Enacted level for this initiative is \$7.0 million.

#### Tribal Law Enforcement: \$20.0 million and 0 positions

The request is to re-establish this program as a separate line-item. Additionally, \$15.0 million will be available from the COPS Hiring Program specifically towards hiring tribal law enforcement officers, for a total of \$35.0 million to support Indian Country. Funding for this program is used for hiring of law enforcement officers, training, and equipment and anti-methamphetamine activities in tribal communities. The FY 2015 Enacted level for this initiative is \$33.0 million as a set-aside within the COPS Hiring program.

#### **Offsetting Decreases**

# **Regional Anti-Gang Task Forces:** -\$7.0 million and 0 positions

The FY 2016 budget request for COPS includes Regional Anti-Gang Task Forces program elimination of \$7 million.

# **Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces/Anti-Drug Program:** -\$7.0 million and 0 positions

The FY 2016 budget request for COPS includes Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces/Anti-Drug Program elimination of \$7 million.

**Anti-Heroin Task Forces:** -\$7.0 million and 0 positions The FY 2016 budget request for COPS includes Anti-Heroin Task Forces program elimination of \$7 million.

**Cancellation - COPS:** The Budget proposes to cancel \$10.0 million in prior year unobligated balances.