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Governor Doyle Announces \$30 Million Investment in Public Safety

Waukesha Receiving \$141,000 to Increase Technology, Improve Community Safety

WAUKESHA – Governor Jim Doyle today announced a \$30 million investment of Recovery Act funds to protect public safety, avoid cuts to police service and reduce future corrections costs. Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds will be used to target youthful offenders, fight drug abuse and trafficking, and reduce the number of offenders entering the corrections system. Governor Doyle also announced that Waukesha County will use \$140,708 of Recovery Act funding to purchase equipment critical to officer and community safety.

“Public safety is a top priority and an essential element of economic recovery,” said Governor Doyle. “Through my budget and investments of Recovery Act funds, Wisconsin will continue to be one of the safest places to raise a family and do business.”

Cities and counties throughout Wisconsin are receiving \$11.2 million in direct law enforcement assistance through the Recovery Act. Law enforcement agencies in Waukesha County will invest \$140,708 in technology improvements and in a study of the rising county justice and corrections costs. The City of Waukesha will use \$77,403 of the \$140,708 grant to purchase a traffic monitoring and speed-control trailer and an intruder alarm system for small businesses. Some of the equipment purchases have been delayed for up to five years because of budget cuts while others are being accelerated because of the Recovery Act funds.

Governor Doyle announced that \$18.8 million in state-directed Recovery Act funds will be used to fight methamphetamine and pharmaceutical drug abuse, improve law enforcement technology and reduce future corrections costs. The investments include:

- \$3.85 million for programs targeting youthful offenders, including truancy, drug and alcohol abuse and violence and gang reduction programs.
- \$3.43 million for treatment and diversion programs for non-violent offenders, in support of the state’s Justice Reinvestment Initiative.
- \$3 million awarded competitively to multi-jurisdictional drug task forces to protect at-risk investigator and prosecutor positions, increase information sharing and target pharmaceutical abuse.
- \$2.7 million for the Department of Corrections to increase offender community supervision and re-entry programs.

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- \$2.2 million in technology investments to improve communications and information sharing among emergency responders and finger-print and Crime Lab technology at the Department of Justice.
- \$800,000 for local law enforcement agencies to purchase equipment and fund innovative community safety programs.
- \$850,000 to fund a minority student internship program and other racial disparity reduction programs.
- \$800,000 for data collection and program evaluation to achieve accountability and measure the impact of Recovery Act funded programs.
- \$300,000 (annually) to monitor and administer programs to meet Recovery Act guidelines.

Through the Governor's budget and with the Recovery Act investments, the most serious offenders will remain incarcerated while non-violent and lower-risk offenders receive increased community supervision. Additional reentry, treatment and diversion programs will help to reduce the number of offenders entering the corrections system and curb the state's rising corrections costs.

Local investments in law enforcement technology will have a long-term public safety impact and will help to boost local, state and the national economy.

For more information on the Byrne/JAG program, visit the Office of Justice Assistance website, www.OJA.wi.gov.