

Dated: April 21, 2000.

**Thomas Frazier,**  
*Director.*

[FR Doc. 00-11368 Filed 5-5-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Office of Community Oriented Policing Services; FY 2000 Community Policing Discretionary Grants

**AGENCY:** Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services ("COPS") announces the availability of Universal Hiring Program (UHP) grants to pay up to 75 percent of the total salary and benefits for new officers over three years, and up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer, with the remainder to be paid by state or local funds. To qualify for funding, officers must be hired on or after the grant award start date. Funding will begin once the new officers have been hired or on the date of the award, whichever is later, and will be paid over the course of the grant. All policing agencies, as well as jurisdictions seeking to establish new policing agencies, are eligible to apply for this program.

**DATES:** Application deadline for UHP is May 31, 2000. Applications must be postmarked by the deadline date. Additional application deadline dates may be announced later and are subject to available funding. If additional funding is available, applications postmarked after the deadline date may be carried over to the next funding period. Unlike previous fiscal years, funding is limited under the Universal Hiring Program. Because funding is limited, we encourage you to apply early. If your agency previously was awarded funding under the Universal Hiring Program, you may request additional officers at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of an application or for more information, call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at (202) 307-1480 or 1-800-421-6770.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The U.S. Department of Justice Response Center, (202) 307-1480 or 1-800-421-6770. The UHP application and information on the COPS Office are also available on the Internet via the COPS web site at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/cops>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Overview

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-322) authorizes the Department of Justice to make grants to increase deployment of law enforcement officers devoted to community policing on the streets and rural routes in this nation. The Universal Hiring Program (UHP) enables interested agencies to supplement their current sworn forces, or interested jurisdictions to establish a new agency, through Federal grants for up to three years. All policing agencies, as well as jurisdictions seeking to establish new policing agencies, are eligible to apply for this program.

Grants will be made for up to 75 percent of the total salary and benefits for each new officer over three years, and up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer, with the remainder to be paid by state or local funds. Funding will begin once the new officers have been hired or on the date of the award, whichever is later, and will be paid over the course of the grant. Officers must be hired after the grant award start date to qualify for grant funding.

Waivers of the non-Federal matching requirement may be requested under UHP, but will be granted only upon a showing of extraordinary fiscal hardship.

COPS grant funds must not be used to replace funds that eligible agencies otherwise would have devoted to officer hiring in the absence of the grant. In other words, any hiring under UHP must be in addition to, and not in lieu of, officers that otherwise would have been hired. All grant recipients must develop a written plan to retain their COPS-funded officer positions after Federal funding has ended. This plan must be submitted to the COPS Office with your application.

In hiring additional officers under the UHP, agencies may not reduce the scope of their customary screening and training procedures, and must include community policing principles in their training curricula.

An award under the COPS Universal Hiring Program will not affect the consideration of an agency's eligibility for a grant under other COPS programs.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) reference for this program is 16.710.

Dated: April 21, 2000.

**Thomas Frazier,**  
*Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Office of Community Oriented Policing Services FY 2000 Community Policing Discretionary Grants

**AGENCY:** Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department of Justice.

**ACTION:** Revised notice of availability: deadline extension.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services ("COPS") announces the Visiting Fellowship Program (VFP) designed to support training, technical assistance, research, program development and policy analysis to contribute to address crime and related problems in communities across the country.

The VFP is intended to offer researchers, policing professionals, community leaders, and policy analysts an opportunity to undertake independent research, problem development activities, and policy analysis designed to advance community policing in a variety of ways.

Two types of fellowships are available: Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance Fellowships, and Program/Policy Support and Evaluation (PPSE) Fellowships.

Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance Fellowships will offer police practitioners and community leaders the opportunity to participate in a community policing training program that is national in scope. PPSE Fellowships will offer police practitioners, researchers, and policy analysts the opportunity to support innovative community policing programs, to engage in activities to assess the effectiveness of community policing approaches, and to apply policy analysis skills to support the advancement of community policing nationwide.

Visiting fellows will study a topic of mutual interest to the Fellow and the COPS Office for up to 12 months. Residency in Washington, DC, is not required, but visits to the COPS Office are encouraged.

**DATES:** The application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2000. Applications must be post marked by May 15, 2000 to be eligible for consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of an application or for more information, call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770. Application kits are also available on the COPS Office web site at <http://www.usdoj.gov/cops>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770, or the COPS web site at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/cops>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Overview**

The United States Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has been charged with the implementation of the Public Safety Partnerships and Community Policing Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 3976dd). Under this law, the COPS Office provides grants, cooperative agreements, and technical assistance to increase police presence, improve police and community partnerships designed to address crime and disorder, and enhance public safety. The VFP, which complements the COPS Office's efforts to add 100,000 officers to our nation's streets and support innovative community policing, is one of a wide variety of policing programs supported under this law.

The VFP is intended to offer researchers, policing professionals, community leaders, and policy analysts an opportunity to undertake independent research, problem development activities, and policy analysis designed to advance community policing in a variety of ways.

Two types of fellowships are available: Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance Fellowships and Program/Policy Support and Evaluation (PPSE) Fellowships.

Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance Fellowships will offer police practitioners and community leaders the opportunity to participate in a community policing training program that is national in scope. Fellows will work to broaden their knowledge of a training area that is directly related to community policing. The experience is intended to encourage the further development, enhancement, or renewed exploration of a particular training expertise that supports community policing. Fellows will deliver this expertise innovatively as well as provide technical assistance to others. Under Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance Fellowships, Fellows may pursue initiatives designed to: (1) Improve police-citizen cooperation and communication; (2) enhance police relationships within the criminal justice system, as well as at all levels of local governments; (3) increase police and citizens' ability to innovatively solve community problems; (4) facilitate the restructuring of agencies to allow the fullest use of departmental and

community resources; (5) promote the effective flow and use of information both within and outside of an agency; and/or (6) improve law enforcement responsiveness to members of the community.

PPSE Fellowships will offer police practitioners, researchers, and policy analysts the opportunity to support innovative community policing programs, to engage in activities to assess the effectiveness of community policing approaches, and to apply policy analysis skills to support the advancement of community policing nationwide. The experience is intended to encourage the further development, enhancement, or renewed exploration of program, policy, and evaluation issues that support community policing. This work will be shared with policy makers and practitioners through a variety of forums. Under PPSE Fellowships, Fellows may pursue a wide variety of initiatives. Topic areas of particular interest to the PPSE Division include, but are not limited to, the following goals: (1) Improve the ability of policing agencies and community organizations to collect different types of information that will aid in collaborative problem solving efforts; (2) enhance current knowledge of how policing agencies evolve while implementing community policing; (3) enhance current knowledge about how various policing agencies utilize information technology to support crime reduction and community policing efforts; and/or (4) enhance current knowledge of or improve the ability of policing agencies to implement community policing and problem solving in other ways.

Visiting Fellows will study a topic of mutual interest to the Fellow and the COPS Office for up to 12 months. Residency in Washington, DC, is not required, but visits to the COPS Office are encouraged.

Grants or cooperative agreements under the VFP may support salary, fringe benefits, travel essential to the project, and miscellaneous supplies or equipment in support of the project. Reasonable costs for research assistants or support staff will also be considered. Reasonable relocation expenses and the cost of temporary housing also may be permitted in cases of relocation from a Fellow's permanent address.

Under the VFP, the COPS Office may award grants or enter into cooperative agreements with individuals, public agencies, colleges or universities, nonprofit organizations, and profit-making organizations willing to waive their fees.

Receiving a grant or cooperative agreement under the VFP will not affect

the eligibility of an agency to receive awards under other COPS programs.

The selection process is expected to be highly competitive.

(The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) reference for this program is 16.710.)

Dated: April 21, 2000.

**Thomas Frazier,**

*Director.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act**

Notice is hereby given that on April 26, 2000, a proposed Consent Decree in *United States v. Harvey GRQ, Inc., et al.*, Civil Action No. 00 C 2505, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

The Consent Decree settles an action brought under section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. 9601, *et seq.*, ("CERCLA") for the recovery of past costs incurred by the United States in responding to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances at the Harvey GRQ Site, located in the Villages of Harvey and Dixmoor, Illinois. The proposed settlement set forth in the Consent Decree addresses the liability of four defendants in this action, each of which has been named as an owner and/or operator of the Site. Under the terms of the proposed decree, the settling defendants will pay the United States a total of \$700,000 in settlement of the United States' past costs claims against them.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the Consent Decrees. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States v. Harvey GRQ Inc., et al.*, D.J. Ref. 90-11-3-06600.

The Consent Decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney, Northern District of Illinois, 219 S. Dearborn St., 5th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60604, and at United States Environment Protection Agency Region V, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. A copy of the proposed consent decree may also be obtained by