LAW ENFORCEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE: November 2005

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Major Events Planning Conference
December 5 - 6 , 2005
Arlington, VA

The 2005 National Summit on Gang Violence
December 7 - 9, 2005
Arlington, VA

2005 National Summit on Emergency Response and Preparedness For Schools
December 15-16, 2005
Arlington, VA

The 2006 National Summit on The Methamphetamine Epidemic
January 18-20, 2006
Las Vegas, NV

Homeland Security Update

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Launches Program to Decentralize First Responder Training

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that it will begin implementing a new Cooperative Training Outreach Program (CO-OP) designed to expand first responder preparedness training across the country by permitting the states to identify and approve institutions within their states, territories or tribal entities that can adopt and deliver the Department's standardized training courses. To read more visit:

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4897

DHS Secretary: Keep Your 10-Codes

The Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has announced that it is no longer necessary for first responders to discontinue using the 10-Code system of verbal communication in order to come into compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Speaking at the Annual Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in Miami Beach, Chertoff said there was a strong response from the law enforcement community against this proposal. "We had a discussion about it. As a result, I have decided that NIMS compliance will not include the requirement of the abolition of 10-Codes in everyday law enforcement communications." For more information visit:

http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=46&id=44881

DHS Receives $2.4 Billion Increase for 2006 Appropriations

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff applauded increased funding and changes to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) organization during a ceremony at the White House where President Bush signed the FY 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations Act. In addition to certain organizational adjustments, the Department's FY 2006 Appropriations provides increased funding for 1,000 new Border Patrol Agents, greater explosive detection technology across transportation networks, and an integrated Preparedness Directorate to enhance coordination and deployment of preparedness assets and training. To read more visit:

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4894

DHS Releases Draft Infrastructure Protection Plan

The Homeland Security Department issued an overarching draft plan for protecting the nation's critical infrastructure and key resources from terrorist attacks. The public has until Dec. 5 to submit comments on the National Infrastructure Protection Plan, according to a notice in the Federal Register. The 175-page plan can be obtained by sending an e-mail to NIPP@dhs.gov. It also has been published by the Federation of American Scientists' Project on Government Secrecy. For more information visit:

http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=32731&sid=28

Performance Management in Policing

Building Training Capacity for Homeland Security: Lessons Learned from Community Policing

A heightened state of awareness of terrorist threats has been woven into the everyday experience of many Americans. Nowhere is this more keenly felt than in law enforcement. As law enforcement acknowledges the challenges of an expanded mission driven by global terrorism and a dual role, responsible both for prevention and response, it is becoming glaringly obvious that training capacity is lacking. Despite training efforts that are dedicated to building isolated skill sets, there is a lack of a coherent training strategy that incorporates all that is involved with intelligence-led policing. To learn more visit:

http://policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&article_id=723&issue_id=102005

San Francisco to Adopt National Incident Management System

At the request of Annemarie Conroy, Director of the Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security, Supervisor Fiona Ma today introduced a resolution to make San Francisco compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). "In the wake of events that occurred in the Gulf Coast, and the lack of coordination between local, state and federal officials, San Francisco is taking the necessary steps to adopt the NIMS," said Annemarie Conroy. For more information visit:

http://www.sanfranciscosentinel.com/news_in_brief/conroy_press_release_050927.shtml

The California Law Enforcement Challenge

California 's law enforcement community must set ambitious goals for traffic safety enforcement and education. Police officers have unprecedented opportunities to prevent a traffic fatality from occurring at the rate of one every two hours, to reduce the number of serious injuries resulting from traffic collisions, and to positively impact the spiraling emergency services and health care costs. The California Law Enforcement Challenge program allows law enforcement agencies to set comprehensive goals, to strive to reach new heights in traffic safety, to share their experiences with others, and to be recognized for their traffic safety accomplishments; in short, to make a difference in the communities their officers serve each day. This competition has no losers - only winners: for saving lives and reducing the frequency and severity of injuries are the true rewards of law enforcement's efforts.

http://www.chp.ca.gov/clec/

Innovative Anti-Drug Program in Alabama

Today, Asa Hutchinson, Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), in conjunction with the

representatives from Mobile and Prichard, Alabama, opened the Integrated Drug Enforcement Assistance (IDEA) Summit. The IDEA program will provide the Mobile/Prichard area with long term support in developing and implementing prevention and treatment programs that will help the communities address underlying needs that make them vulnerable to drug use and trafficking.
"We are proud to be working with the people of Mobile and Prichard. While law enforcement is an effective method of removing drug trafficking organizations, we hope to help extend the results of these efforts by joining with existing community coalitions to reduce demand through prevention and treatment programs," said Administrator Hutchinson.

http://www.dea.gov/pubs/states/newsrel/neworleans121102.html

Officer Recruitment, Retention, and Training

Sheriff Struggling to Find Qualified Applicants for Jobs

The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office is "struggling big time" said Sheriff Tony Estrada, and the problem is not from a surge in crime. The major problem that Estrada said he is facing is a lack of recruitment for three departmental positions that have remained vacant for too long. "We're having problems finding qualified people in detention, communication and patrol," said Estrada who blames the problem on applicants who are failing background checks. Most of these applicants he says are locals from Santa Cruz County. To read more visit:

http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2005/10/13/news/news3.txt

Asheville Police Take Action to Relieve Officer Shortage

The Asheville Police Department and the city's human resources department are working to fill officer vacancies and become more competitive in recruitment, according to a presentation given to City Council on Tuesday. Asheville is short 29 officers on the street, which has cut the amount of time officers have for community policing, but has not hindered their ability to respond to emergency calls, Police Chief Bill Hogan said. Those numbers should improve by spring when 15 officers graduate from the city's cadet academy. For more information visit:

http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20051019/NEWS01/51018019/1001

Firefighter Exam to Replace Eligibility List

City Hall is finalizing plans to hold Chicago's first firefighters entrance exam in more than a decade to replace a disputed eligibility list that has raised the average age of recruits to nearly 38, an influential alderman said Monday. Top mayoral aides believe the graying of rookie firefighters is at least partly to blame for the $13.2 million in overtime racked up by the Chicago Fire Department through Sept. 30, up from $11.6 million during the same period a year ago. To read more visit:

http://www.suntimes.com/output/news/cst-nws-fire18.html

2006 Diversity Recruitment Summit for Law Enforcement, February 16th and 17th

The Performance Institute will host the 2006 Diversity Recruitment Summit Law Enforcement Summit in Washington, DC. This is an excellent opportunity to learn to develop a marketing plan for your agency to target diverse and qualified new officers. Learn from national experts how to effectively market to ensure that your department does not suffer from the national decrease in applicants and new hires. For more information or to register visit:

www.performanceweb.org/CENTERS/Law_Enforcement/

Recruiting Replacements: How to Revitalize an Aging Force

With so many baby boomers retiring at once, police hiring is going through a period of transition. Law enforcement agencies throughout the country are facing a major challenge in the recruitment of qualified peace officers. The baby boomer generation—many of them hired after service in Vietnam—is in the midst of retirement planning. Younger people are more skeptical about police work because of negative publicity and the allure of a rebounding economy with job offers from the private sector. The Bureau of Labor Statistics includes police officers on its listing of jobs dominated by workers over the age of 45. While workers in other industries are considering staying on the job past retirement age, police officers typically wait until their optimal point of pension benefits and go into retirement as soon as they possibly can. To read more visit:

http://www.policeone.com/writers/columnists/PoliceMagazine/articles/114037/

Managing Risk and Liability

Liability Issues in Pepper Ball and Other "Non-Lethal" Weapons

The recent pepper ball related death of 21-year-old Victoria Snelgrove in Boston, caused that city's police department and many others around the country to reflect on the uses of what is referred to as compressed air guns which fire various types of "OC" pepper ball projectiles. In the case of Boston, it was reported that the city almost immediately ceased using the HN Herstal FN 303 and replaced it with a Jaycor brand pepper ball gun. Other governmental entities are re-evaluating not only the brand of pepper ball guns they are using, but also the training and placement of pepper ball guns on their use of force continuums. For the rest of the story visit:

http://www.policeone.com/writers/columnists/JohnMakholm/articles/94375/

Forensic Contingency Planning: Where to Start

Does your organization have a digital forensic evidence-gathering plan? Such evidence is essential for investigating information-security breaches. In general, it's also "a significant means of reducing risk." notes Pauline Neville-Jones, chair of the Information Assurance Advisory Council (IAAC), a private group composed of corporate leaders, public policy makers, law enforcement experts, and security researchers. For more information visit:

http://www.esj.com/security/article.aspx?EditorialsID=1541

Preparation, Regulation Key to Hazmat Control

It could have just been a fender bender. A delivery van rear-ended a school bus in the middle of a road near Harlon Block Park. The driver of a pickup truck did not see the accident in front of him and ran into the van, sandwiching it between the bus and the van. But it was not just a common vehicle accident. The delivery van was carrying nuclear medical isotopes, creating an entirely new problem for rescue workers. If the scenario had actually happened, the isotopes could have sent radioactive radiation into all three vehicles. To read more visit:

http://www.themonitor.com/SiteProcessor.cfm?Template=/GlobalTemplates/Details.cfm&StoryID=9766&Section=Local

Houses Passes Ban on Gun Liability

The House yesterday voted to shield companies that make and sell firearms from lawsuits by the victims of shootings, sending the legislation to the White House and handing the nation's gun lobby a paramount victory it has sought for years. The House's 283 to 144 vote, less than three months after the Senate approved identical legislation, delighted President Bush, who portrayed it as part of the administration's drive to "stem frivolous lawsuits" and said he will sign it into law.

Leading proponents of gun control immediately vowed to challenge the law's constitutionality. To read more visit:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/10/20/AR2005102000485.html

Wrongful Death Suit Against TASER Dismissed

TASER International announced that because the coroner admits his comments regarding a man's cause of death were reckless, a stipulation for dismissal with prejudice was filed by the parties in the James Borden wrongful death lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. This is the fifth wrongful death or injury lawsuit that has been dismissed against TASER International in the past 18 months, with one additional dismissal pending. On November 6, 2003, Mr. James Borden died while in police custody in Indiana. On November 7, 2003, Dr. Roland M. Kohr, M.D. performed an autopsy on Borden. Kohr's inclusion of electrical shock by a TASER device as a contributory cause of Borden's death resulted in significant public criticism of TASER devices in media reports as well as the filing of this litigation against TASER International, Inc.

http://www.policemag.com/t_newspick.cfm?rank=75662

Law Enforcement Grant News

COPS Office Awards $12M to Support Law Enforcement Training

The U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) today awarded $12 million in funds to support a national network of Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPI). The RCPIs are strategically located throughout the country and offer innovative community policing training and technical assistance resources to state, tribal and local law enforcement officers, community leaders, and government officials. To learn more visit:

http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=1606

Oregon Awarded $875,000 for Battle Against Methamphetamine

U.S. Senators Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) and Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) today announced that a number of Oregon community-based anti-methamphetamine programs will soon receive Federal funding as part of appropriations legislation to be approved by Congress this week. Additionally, the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund and oceanic observation research efforts at Oregon State University (OSU) are slated to receive funding. The Federal dollars approved for the projects were included in the combined FY 2006 Commerce/Justice/Science (CJS) funding bill from the Senate and the Science-State-Justice-Commerce funding bill from the House; the legislation will next move to the White House for signature into law.

Department of Justice Announces more than $24 Million in Finding to Promote Anti-Gang Initiative

The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) today announced more than $24 million to support a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum through the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.) and highlighted OJP anti-gang initiatives at the National Youth Gang Symposium. To learn more visit:

http://www.ojp.gov/pressreleases/OJJDP05023.htm

Bush Administration Expands Funding to Battle Meth Epidemic

Top officials from the Bush administration announced new efforts to battle methamphetamine abuse, including a training

laboratory for police agencies and $16.2 million in grants to focus on treatment of addicts.
Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, Health and Human Services Secretary Mike Leavitt and drug czar John Walters made the announcement Thursday at the Davidson County Drug Court and Treatment Center, the only drug court in the nation with a treatment and residential facility attached. For more information visit:

http://abcnews.go.com/Health/Drugs/wireStory?id=1053159

Senate Approves Witness Protection and Gang Prevention Legislation

The Massachusetts Senate unanimously approved an anti-gang initiative that includes a statewide witness protection program and an $11 million grant program to fund collaborative regional anti-gang efforts that focus both on increased law enforcement activities as well as youth violence prevention programs. The bill, which was supported by state Sen. Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr. (D-Pittsfield), includes increased penalties for using grand jury transcripts to intimidate a witness and cracks down on the practice of "community guns" - a phrase used to describe when gang members pass around a loaded gun to commit crimes. To learn more visit:

http://www.iberkshires.com/story.php?story_id=18381

Spotlight: Oregon's Cutting-Edge Meth Policies

Oregon Governor Kulongoski Directs Board of Pharmacy to Restrict Access to Meth Ingredients; Announces Task Force Recommendations to Crush Meth

Governor Ted Kulongoski today announced that he has asked the Oregon Board of Pharmacy to enact an emergency administrative rule restricting the sales of Pseudoephedrine and Ephedrine, key ingredients used in making Methamphetamine. The governor made the announcement in a press conference with Attorney General Hardy Myers and Salem Chief of Police Walter Myers, where he reported on the key recommendations of his Methamphetamine Task Force. To learn more visit:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/news/2004news/2004-1004.html

Oregon Attorney General to Keynote National Conference on Methamphetamine

Hardy Myers, Attorney General of Oregon, will outline Oregon's actions to combat Methamphetamine Abuse for a national audience of Law Enforcement and Social Service professionals at the 2005 National Summit on the Methamphetamine Epidemic. Mr. Myers has spearheaded Oregon's efforts to combat the production and use of this harmful drug, and will share his experiences with those assembled. For more information visit:

www.performanceweb.org/methabuse

Combating Meth in Eastern Oregon

Securing a Drug Enforcement Administration presence in Eastern Oregon is a key to helping combat methamphetamine in Eastern Oregon, said Rep. Greg Walden, who on Friday brought Rep. Mark Souder, R-Ind., chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, to Pendleton for a congressional hearing. Walden, R-Ore., brought the hammer down on Rodney Benson, special agent in charge for the DEA's Seattle field division, who testified at the hearing, because there isn't a single DEA field office or agent east of Bend. The closest DEA agent to Umatilla County is in the Tri-Cities or in Portland. To read more visit:

http://www.eastoregonian.info/main.asp?SectionID=13&SubSectionID=350&ArticleID=44795&TM=11695.56

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