

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Notice of Availability of Funds

Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) hereby announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

a. Name of program: Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program.

b. Purpose: The Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program provides funds to local law enforcement and correctional agencies to purchase body armor for their eligible officers. N.J.S.A. 52:17B-4.4; N.J.A.C. 13:80A.

c. Amount of money in the Fund: Under N.J.S.A. 52:17B-4.4, the Legislature established the Body Armor Replacement Fund as a non-lapsing, revolving fund that is financed through the imposition of a \$1.00 fee added on all motor vehicle and traffic violation fines and penalties and on all forfeitures of bail. In the State Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, the amount of money available in the fund was generated from fines and penalties collected between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. In FY 2017, DCJ anticipates that approximately \$3,322,716 million will be available for grant funds. The grant program is designed to create a five-year vest replacement cycle, to the

extent practicable, for participating agencies. Every eligible agency that timely files an application will receive a base grant award of \$500.00 plus a pro rata share of the remaining available funds. The amount of each agency's pro rata share will depend upon the number of each agency's eligible officers in relation to the total number of eligible officers, Statewide, as established from all of the annually filed applications. No matching funds are required.

d. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program: Local (municipal and county) law enforcement and correctional agencies that employ full-time, sworn, and permanently appointed correctional and law enforcement officers who have the power to arrest and who regularly exercise police powers regarding the enforcement of the general criminal laws of this State may apply. The following State agencies that employ eligible troopers, officers, investigators, probation officers, and correction officers can apply: the Division of State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the State Department of Corrections, the State Parole Board, and the Juvenile Justice Commission.

e. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding: To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant agency must timely file a completed application online, request body armor for its eligible officers, and certify that it will utilize grant funds to purchase body armor for its eligible officers. To promote officer safety, the 2017 Body Armor Replacement Fund Program will ask each agency applying for grant funds if it has a written mandatory body armor wear policy for uniformed officers engaged in patrol or field operations.

f. Procedures and address for eligible organizations to apply: Applicants must complete a Body Armor Replacement Program Grant Application between **July 10, 2017 and August 31, 2017**. Applications are only available online at the following website: https://www6.state.nj.us/lps/LPS_BodyArmor/bodyarmor.htm. A first-time applicant needs to set up an online account before it can complete an application online. For first-time applicant assistance or for other questions, applicants should telephone the Division of Criminal Justice, Program Development Section, at (609) 292-1462, Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

g. Deadline by which applications must be submitted: All applications must be completed and filed online before 5:00 P.M., **Thursday, August 31, 2017**.

h. Date of award notifications: Award notifications will be made on or about October 31, 2017.