

LARSON ANNOUNCES “COPS” GRANTS FOR HARTFORD AND EAST HARTFORD POLICE

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) today announced that the City of Hartford and the Town of East Hartford have both been awarded federal grants under the COPS in Schools program to hire new police officers to work in their public schools. Hartford was awarded \$375,000 for three new School Resource Officers (SROs) and East Hartford was awarded \$500,000 for four SROs. The Cops in Schools program is part of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program administered through the Department of Justice.

“I am very pleased that Hartford and East Hartford have been awarded a combined total of \$875,000 to hire additional police officers for their schools,” said Larson. “These officers will give the students, teachers and the schools themselves the added resources they need to help ensure student safety in the classroom. The School Resource Officers help build respect for law enforcement, improve and maintain school safety, as well as to contribute to the education of students.”

The COPS in Schools program allows local police departments to hire School Resource Officers, who work within schools to teach crime prevention and substance-abuse classes and monitor troubled students. The program combines both law enforcement and education to best serve the students.

Nationally, the Department of Justice awarded grants totaling \$98.4 million to hire 832 new police officers to work in America's schools. Since its creation in 1998, COPS in Schools \$507.5 million to fund and train for than 4509 School Resource Officers.

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