

## LARSON ANNOUNCES COPS GRANT FOR ROCKY HILL

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HARTFORD-U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) announced today that the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program under the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded a grant of \$75,000 to the Rocky Hill Police Department. The grant, which was made under the Universal Hiring Program (UHP), will pay for up to 75% of an officer's salary for the next three years, allowing the department to hire a new officer.

"Since its inception, the COPS program has helped to put more than 100,000 new police officers on the streets, and I believe that its impact can be seen in the dramatic drop in crime over the last few years," said Larson. "I am very pleased that the Rocky Hill Police Department has been awarded the money for an additional officer. The funding to hire additional officers gives departments the added resources and strength they need to help make our families, our homes, and our streets more safe."

Since its creation in 1994, the COPS program has provided the First District with a total of \$17 million dollars to hire 294 officers. Between 1998 and 2000, the District received more than \$7.7 million dollars and hired 142 officers.

The grant was part of a total of \$112 million dollars that went to 369 cities and towns across the country that will go to hiring 1,433 new officers. To date, the COPS program has awarded roughly 31,000 grants to more than 12,000 law enforcement agencies, which has allowed more than 110,000 new officers to be hired.

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