



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

# NEWS

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH – GOVERNOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 21, 2007

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## **Governor Blagojevich announces nearly \$320,000 for in-car police equipment in Southern Illinois**

*Police, sheriff's departments will use new mobile data systems to instantly update police records, enhance public and police safety*

**CHICAGO** — Governor Rod Blagojevich today announced nearly \$320,000 in federal grants to allow Illinois municipal, county, and statewide law enforcement agencies in Southern Illinois to acquire in-car computer data equipment to help improve access to criminal records during traffic stops and enhance public and police safety.

“These grants will help hundreds of law enforcement agencies acquire state-of-the-art technology that will provide them with critical information whenever they make a traffic stop. This will in turn help improve public safety across Southern Illinois,” Governor Blagojevich said.

The funds are part of a \$3.6 million grant administered by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA). Anti-Drug Abuse Act funding will be distributed to 295 police and county sheriff's departments across the state, and Illinois State Police (ISP).

A total of \$319,104 was allocated to agencies in Southern Illinois. Another \$898,676 was granted to ISP for use statewide.

With in-car data entry capability, these systems can provide up-to-the-minute access to information that can ensure both police and public safety. In addition to data access, law enforcement officers can use the terminals for note taking and report writing, as well as wirelessly entering incident, accident, and arrest information. Data entered becomes instantly available to other officers using LEADS.

Funding was allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Some agencies that received funding had no in-car computers and relied on radio communication to obtain vital information during traffic stops and other police situations. Other departments will use the funding to upgrade equipment they already have or purchase additional systems.

“It is important for police to be able to exercise appropriate discretion in handling individuals they confront,” said ICJIA Executive Director Lori G. Levin. “We will continue to develop and support funding initiatives that will keep police safe in their efforts to protect the public.”

The following Southern Illinois police and sheriff’s departments received grant funding:

#### CLINTON COUNTY

Albers Police Department--\$7,158  
Aviston Police Department--\$6,761  
Breese Police Department--\$10,747  
Carlyle Police Department--\$10,821  
Clinton County Sheriff’s Department--\$12,077  
Germantown Police Department--\$7,158  
New Baden Police Department--\$10,275

#### EDWARDS COUNTY

Edwards County Sheriff--\$8,643  
Hume Police Department--\$3,137

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

McLeansboro Police Department--\$12,053

#### MARION

Patoka Police Department--\$5,155

#### PERRY COUNTY

Perry County Sheriff’s Department--\$10,970

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

Steeleville Police Department--\$9,544  
Tilden Police Department--\$10,444  
Sparta Police Department--\$4,650

#### ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Belleville Police Department--\$10,730  
Centreville Police Department--\$10,275  
Fairmont City Police Department--\$9,660  
Fairview Heights Police Department--\$8,992  
Lebanon Police Department--\$11,603  
Lenzburg Police Department--\$5,391  
Marissa Police Department--\$10,595  
Mascoutah Police Department--\$10,344

#### UNION COUNTY

Jonesboro Police Department--\$10,782

WABASH COUNTY

Wabash County Sheriff's Department--\$10,445

WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne City Police Department--\$5,204

WHITE COUNTY

Carmi Police Department--\$10,333

Norris City Police Department--\$12,246

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Cambria Police Department--\$9,491

Cartersville Police Department--\$9,332

Energy Police Department--\$9,332

Herrin Police Department--\$10,839

Hurst Police Department--\$9,661

Johnston City Police Department--\$9,512

Village of White Ash--\$4,744

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