

July 27, 2004

Colorado Springs Police Operations Center
ATTN: Luis Velez, Police Chief
705 South Nevada Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

RE: U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Office (COPS) Interoperable
Communications Technology Grant Program 2004

Dear Chief Velez:

On behalf of the *Put Your Agency Name Here*, I would like to offer my support of the proposed grant request the Colorado Springs Police Department is submitting to the U. S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, for the COPS Interoperable Communications Technology 2004 Grant Program. This is a critical and unfunded need for our community.

Homeland Security is a foremost concern of our department. We have numerous Federal installations in our community, and in the event of a terrorist attack or other large-scale disaster, it would be critical for our employees to have a seamless upgraded system of communication interoperability with other regions in the State and Federal agencies. As you know, we currently do not have this capability and local funding simply does not exist to acquire it. By the COPS Office funding this request, they will enable us to achieve statewide interoperability for all Pikes Peak Regional Communications Network (PPRCN) first responders and also enable us to link with the federal radio system. Furthermore, it would allow us to bring the PPRCN and all of its public safety first responder radios into compliance with the surrounding regions, the State of Colorado, and the Federal operating systems by upgrading our APCO 16 System to a Project 25 System.

In lieu of heightened homeland defense, this equipment would help us protect and serve the citizens of the Pikes Peak Region and the State of Colorado. I fully support the Pikes Peak Regional Communications Network's efforts to improve our ability to mitigate and respond to emergencies through this grant application. The Colorado Springs Police Department is an intricate piece of the local community and its ability to maintain safety in an emergency situation is imperative. I support your efforts in obtaining this grant and urge the COPS Office to make every consideration to this application request.

On behalf of the Colorado Springs Fire Department, I thank you for your time and effort towards this grant process. I sincerely hope, for the benefit of our first responders and our community that your agency is successful in this endeavor. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you need any assistance during this process *Put Phone Number With Area Code Here*.

Sincerely,

Enter Name Here
Enter Title Here