



# **COPS** Fact Sheet

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov)

## COPS Office Tribal Resources

"WE WILL MODERNIZE OUR COMPUTER SYSTEMS AND BUY EQUIPMENT FOR VEHICLES, ADD TWO OFFICERS, AND PROVIDE MORE TRAINING. FOR A SMALL DEPARTMENT THESE GRANTS ARE ESSENTIAL"

RICK NORRIS  
FORMER POLICE CHIEF  
WASHOE TRIBE (Nevada)

### Background

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (the COPS Office) created the Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP), Tribal Hiring Renewal Grant Program (THRGP), Tribal Mental Health and Community Safety Initiative (TMHCSI), and the Tribal Court Pilot Program (TCPP) to meet the needs of law enforcement in Native American communities. These programs address quality-of-life issues and cover law enforcement expenses, including hiring and training new community policing officers, training existing forces, and purchasing new equipment, technology, vehicles, and more.

Since 1995, the COPS Office has awarded more than \$314 million to help Native American communities hire more than 1,700 new or redeployed community policing officers. Many of these communities have limited resources and suffer from high rates of crime and violence. In fiscal year 2008, the COPS Office will award nearly \$15 million through TRGP to bolster community policing and homeland security within Native American communities.

### Grant Program Funding Provisions

The COPS Office considers grant requests that reflect the most serious law enforcement needs of an agency that are not funded with state, local, or Bureau of Indian Affairs funds and are linked to the implementation or enhancement of community policing. Funding provisions in fiscal year 2008 included law enforcement training, basic standard-issue equipment, uniforms, technology, and police vehicles. Training includes basic and specialized police training at a state academy or at the Indian Police Academy in Artesia, New Mexico, as well as community policing and computer training. Departments were also encouraged to request funding for computer hardware and software, mobile data terminals, and dispatch and communication systems. Tribes are encouraged to request equipment that will increase their ability to collect crime data. The TRGP covers 100 percent of costs, including basic law enforcement training and equipment, vehicles, and technology. There is no local match requirement for the TRGP grant; therefore, the COPS Office funded agencies that demonstrated the greatest need for federal assistance.

The COPS Office offers a variety of publications, products, and training opportunities to advance community policing and support its grant programs. COPS Office publications and products offer insights of experiences of others in the field that address specific problems, including the following:

- ✓ *Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs, 2nd Edition*
- ✓ *Recruitment, Hiring, and Retention Resources for Law Enforcement CD-ROM*
- ✓ *Law Enforcement Tech Guide for Small and Rural Police Agencies*
- ✓ *Law Enforcement Intelligence: A Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies*
- ✓ *Tribal Law Enforcement CD-ROM*

The COPS Office also sponsors training opportunities and conferences to give law enforcement professionals an opportunity to learn, network, and exchange ideas with colleagues. All COPS Office publications and training opportunities are posted at COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).

## Requirements

Federal regulations require monitoring of the financial assistance provided by the Federal Government to ensure that funds are used properly. In addition to the retention requirement that applies to all COPS Office hiring programs (when such hiring funds are available), supplanting is prohibited. Any use of TRGP funds must be in addition to, not in lieu of, previous funding commitments for law enforcement staffing, training, and/or equipment.

## Contact the COPS Office

For more information about the TRGP and other COPS Office programs and resources, call the COPS Office Response Center at 800.421.6770, or visit COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).