



News from: **City of Oakland**

Press Release:

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Oakland wins federal grant for 15 police officers

OAKLAND – A new federal grant will help bring 15 additional police officers to Oakland neighborhoods, Congresswoman Barbara Lee announced today.

The new grant is the fourth awarded to Oakland from the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office. Oakland is being awarded a grant of \$1.875 million. Grants were also awarded to the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office and the City of San Leandro, providing East Bay communities with funding for a total of 27 officers.

“I am pleased to announce this new federal funding for 27 community-oriented law enforcement officers in our communities,” Congresswoman Lee said. “Especially at this time when departments face high resource constraints, these federal grants help address public safety and promote community-oriented policing.”

Mayor Jean Quan and Chief of Police Sean Whent will hold a media availability at 2 p.m. today on the steps outside City Hall.

“Oakland is making major progress reducing our most violent crimes and the city is on track to our lowest homicide rate since 1999,” Mayor Jean Quan said. “This would not be possible without the incredible resources and support we have received from Congresswoman Barbara Lee, COPS Director Ron Davis, and all our federal partners. Their commitment is making Oakland safer, and we owe them great thanks. These vital resources will be put to good use, strengthening programs and strategies with proven track records at reducing crime and saving lives in Oakland.”

“I would like to thank the COPS Office for this funding,” Police Chief Sean Whent said. “We have made encouraging progress in reducing violent crime in our city, and these new officers will allow us to make even further strides in our effort to significantly reduce gun crime in Oakland.”

Including this grant, COPS funding will have helped fund 91 Oakland officers over four individual grant awards since 2009.

The news comes just two days after OPD welcomed 20 new officers from academies, bringing the OPD’s total force of sworn officers up to 684. An OPD academy scheduled to graduate by the end of October is projected to boost the department above 700 officers.

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