

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Anchorage****Federal Tax ID: 92-0059987****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Anchorage - Police Department Tasers

State Funding Requested: \$47,292
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (16-32)****Brief Project Description:**

Purchase additional hand held Tasers and Taser shotguns for the Anchorage Police Department.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$47,292
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$47,292)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

N/A

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

In 2010, law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty increased 37% over 2009. From Anchorage to Hoonah, law enforcement agencies all across Alaska felt the increase in violence against officers rise in 2010. On average, a police officer is killed in the line of duty every 53 hours. While we wait for the US Justice Department to complete the annual Uniformed Crime Report for 2010, we can look to the 2009 report for some startling details and some clues on how to deal with this problem.

The public's attention is focused on officers killed in the line of duty, but the more likely risk to officers is that of being assaulted. In 2009, law enforcement agencies reported more than 57,000 assaults on police officers nationwide, over 15,000 of these assaults resulted in injuries to the officers. These assaults frequently involved weapons and it should be no surprise that these assaults occur during hours of darkness and under some pretty tough conditions.

Law enforcement officers can reduce their risk of being assaulted and also minimize the likelihood of injuries (or death) through a combination of training, modern equipment and response protocols. If an assault on an officer does occur, our entire community is best served by the successful apprehension and prosecution of the perpetrator. Apprehending violent or resistant persons is always very challenging and can easily result in serious injuries. In the last 20 years, law enforcement agencies have begun to rely on a number of new tools to help manage these situations.

One such tool is the Taser. The use and effect of Tasers is sometimes misunderstood by the public. Tasers have proven to be safe and extremely efficient in thousands of training and field applications. Tasers, like other less-than-lethal tools, have reduced injuries to suspects and officers alike, while increasing the overall effectiveness of police service in a critical and risky component of the profession.

Total Project Snapshot Report

2011 Legislature

TPS Report 56299v4

Currently, the Anchorage Police Department (APD) has deployed only 140-150 Tasers, resulting in a deployment rate of about 35%. For comparison, the Alaska State Troopers have adopted a 100% deployment of Tasers as have many other agencies in Alaska and the lower-48. APD's current deployment is appropriately concentrated with uniformed patrol and SWAT, but we would like to expand that deployment to plain clothes officers, SRO's and other units as well as increasing the concentration within the patrol force.

Additionally, the APD currently has no stand-off less lethal capability inherent to the patrol force, except for that which is available through on-duty SWAT personnel. Recent developments have allowed Taser cartridges to be fired through a shotgun. This allows for increased range and safety for the officer and suspect. In those situations where a person may be armed with a non-firearm dangerous instrument, such as a knife, hammer or bat, the maximum 25 ft. operational range of the handheld Taser is inadequate. The shotgun Taser has a maximum operational range of 90 feet, greatly increasing the reactionary gap that is so vital in these high risk encounters. There are numerous scenarios that patrol officers face every week where the stand-off capacity of the shotgun Taser would be invaluable.

With the purchase of 36 hand held Tasers and 6 Taser shotguns, APD would greatly increase the deployment ratio and capability of it's less lethal program. The total cost for this program would be \$47,292, and would include all hardware as well as all training and field cartridges required for initial deployment.

The cost and specifications are broken down in the following table:

Quantity /Item	Description	Cost
36 x Tasers	X26 Hand Held Taser, Yellow & Black w/Blade Tech Holster	\$29124
35 x Cartridge Clip Holders	Duty Taser Cartridge Holders, Duty Belt Clip	\$700
120 x Taser Live Cartridges	(Live Training Cartridges Req'd For Training)	\$3000
200 x Taser Training Cartridges		\$4400
6 x Taser Elect. Download Units	Units allow download of Taser data stored in field unit. Data provides details of field deployments.	\$480
6 x Mossberg Taser Shotguns 12 Ga.	Pupose Built Taser Shotguns, Guns will only fire Taser Projectiles(Price Includes Shipping)	\$3894
6 x Shotgun Taser Training Packs	Taser Training Rds., Ea. Pack Contains 5 Training Rounds For Operator Initial Training	\$600
6 x Shotgun Taser Live Packs	Taser Live Rds., Ea. Pack Contains 5 Live 12 Ga. Rounds for Field Deployment, Price Includes \$100HAZMAT Shipping Fee/Pack.	\$5094
Total Project Cost		\$47,292

Project Timeline:

Once funded, project will be completed within 12 months.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Anchorage Police Department

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

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Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

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Anchorage Police Department – Less Lethal Initiative (TASER)

Additional information is available on both handheld and shotgun Taser's through the manufacturer's web site. <http://www.taser.com/products/law/Pages/default.aspx>;
<http://www.taser.com/Pages/VideoDetails.aspx?videoid=95>

Taser 12 Gauge Less Lethal Projectile & Dedicated Shotgun are shown below. The shotgun is incapable of firing lethal (conventional) ammunition and is clearly identifiable as a less-than-lethal shotgun by its distinctive colored stocks.

