

Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Equipment Replacement

FY2012 Request: \$337,500
Reference No: 51707

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Renewal and Replacement

Category: Public Protection

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Dan Spencer, Director, Administrative Services

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2011 - 06/30/2016 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-5488

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Department of Public Safety requests equipment replacement funding in support of the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program. The VPSO rely upon capital improvement project funding for equipment purchases for day-to-day operations in order to meet the departments mission of ensuring public safety and enforcing state laws by protecting lives, property, and public peace.

Funding:	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	Total
Gen Fund	\$337,500						\$337,500
Total:	\$337,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$337,500

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None

Project Description/Justification:

This project funds the replacement and new equipment for Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO).

The Department of Public Safety funds 86 existing VPSO through grants to non-profit organizations and local governments. Until now, state funding only provided for the cost of the positions. Law enforcement equipment was paid for using federal earmark funds. These federal funds are no longer available, and the department is beginning an annual request for state funding to cover VPSO equipment needs. Annual funding is needed to provide the VPSO with basic law enforcement equipment necessary for them to provide service to their communities. Equipment regularly needs replacement because of constant use and normal wear and tear.

The VPSO are first responders in the rural Alaska and this equipment is mission critical.