
Rothman Helps Secure More Than \$ 91,000 For Bulletproof Vests For Local Police

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For Bulletproof Vests For Local Police

14 Bergen & Hudson County Police Departments Within Congressman's District

Awarded Federal Grants To Help Pay For New Vests

Washington, DC - As part of his continuing effort to ensure that local law enforcement officials have the equipment they need to safely and effectively fight crime, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today announced that he has helped secure \$91,442 in federal grants for 14 Bergen and Hudson County police departments to purchase new bulletproof vests for their officers.

"Securing these federal funds to pay for new bulletproof vests that keep our brave police officers safe is the least we can do for these heroes who risk their lives each day in order to ensure that we are safe and have a good quality of life," Rothman said. "These bulletproof vests can very well mean the difference between life and death for police officers, which is why I am glad that I was able to help deliver these funds. Ensuring that all of our first responders - police officers, firefighters, and other emergency personnel - have the equipment and resources they need to effectively fight crime and be prepared for any possible homeland security threat is critical."

The grants come from the U.S. Department of Justice's Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program, which Rothman helped establish through legislation he cosponsored as a member of the House Judiciary Committee in 1998. Rothman is also a cosponsor of the House bill to reauthorize the program through 2007. As a member of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, Rothman has aggressively sought funds for increased law enforcement personnel and equipment for Northern New Jersey. The bulletproof vest grants are designed to assist smaller communities; covering up to 50 percent of the total cost of the vests for police departments with jurisdiction over fewer than 100,000 residents.

"In addition to paying for these new bulletproof vests that will protect our heroic police officers, this grant also relieves local and state taxpayers from much of the added taxes they would have had to pay for this equipment," Rothman said.

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Bergen County -- \$15,659.16	Hasbrouck Heights -- \$11,120.00
Bogota -- \$916.59	Kearny -- \$11,100.00
Edgewater -- \$2,994.00	Lyndhurst -- \$5,105.00
Fair Lawn -- \$560.00	Maywood -- \$5,976.00
Fairview -- \$1,340.07	Palisades Park -- \$1,530.00
Fort Lee -- \$10,364.26	Wallington -- \$2,530.26
Garfield -- \$21,197.50	Wood-Ridge -- \$1,050.00

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