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For Kearny & Teaneck Homeland Security

Grants Save Property Taxpayers From Having To Pay For Law Enforcement Overtime

Washington, DC - As part of his continuing effort to provide local law enforcement with the resources they need for homeland security, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) today announced that he helped secure \$200,000 in federal grants for the Town of Kearny and the Township of Teaneck. The grants, which are \$100,000 each and come from the U.S. Department of Justice's COPS program, will help relieve local property taxpayers from having to pay for the full amount of Kearny and Teaneck law enforcement expenses resulting from increased overtime budgets due to homeland security patrols and services.

"While it is more than two years since the September 11th terrorist attacks, it is vitally important that we continue to provide our law enforcement officials with the federal resources they need for increased local homeland security costs," Rothman said. "These federal grants will also relieve local property taxpayers from having to pay for the full cost of this added security. Government's first responsibility is to protect the people, which is why I am so delighted to have been able to bring back these federal funds to New Jersey to help with our homeland security efforts."

Rothman noted that he was very pleased to bring back federal dollars to New Jersey because New Jerseyans already pay a disproportionate share of federal taxes along with high state and local taxes. The grants for Kearny and Teaneck will supplement locally funded officer overtime budgets for one year, and will cover up to 75 percent of the total projected overtime costs for homeland security training, increased homeland security patrols, and other activities related to the prevention of violent or drug related crimes. A 25 percent local cash match is required.

The Homeland Security Overtime Program is a new grant program that was established in response to the ongoing threat of terrorism and the critical role that state and local law enforcement agencies play in preventing and responding to terrorism.

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