

Rothman Helps Secure More Than \$ 168,000 For Bulletproof Vests For Local Police

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For Bulletproof Vests For Local Police

17 Bergen County and 2 Hudson County Police Departments Within

Congressman's District Awarded Federal Grants For 408 Vests

Hackensack, NJ -- Continuing his commitment to provide law enforcement officials with the tools they need to effectively and safely fight crime, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) today announced that he has helped secure \$168,293 in grants from the U.S. Department of Justice for 17 Bergen and two Hudson County police departments in his Congressional District to purchase 408 bulletproof vests for their officers.

"Each and everyday our brave police officers risk their lives as they protect us and our families," Rothman said. "Government's first responsibility is to protect the people, but government also has the very important responsibility to protect those who keep the people safe. I am very pleased to have helped secure these critical funds so that local police departments can purchase 408 new vests for the courageous men and women of local law enforcement."

Of those municipalities in Rothman's district, Bergen County police departments will receive \$146,893 and Hudson County police departments will get \$21,399 in grants through 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. These grants cover up to 50 percent of the total cost of the vests.

"Police officers have one of the most dangerous jobs in the world, which is why it is so important that they have the best equipment possible to keep them safe," Rothman said. "These bulletproof vests could mean the difference between life and death for our police officers. Having these funds come from the federal government also relieves local property taxpayers of the cost of paying for these necessary vests."

The Bergen and Hudson County municipalities within Rothman's district awarded funds are:

Bogota -- \$937.16

Carlstadt -- \$5,147.43

East Rutherford -- \$2,465.22

Edgewater -- \$10,916.47

Englewood Cliffs -- \$353.50

Fair Lawn -- \$34,820.29

Fairview -- \$15,053.94

Fort Lee -- \$20,592.50

Hackensack -- \$15,384.64

Kearny -- \$8,830.42

Leonia -- \$7,987.97

Moonachie -- \$9,566.80

North Arlington -- \$3,639.05

North Bergen -- \$12,569.34

Palisades Park -- \$1,248.38

Ridgefield -- \$1,223.39

Ridgefield Park -- \$4,362.66

Rutherford -- \$2,250.56

Saddle Brook -- \$10,943.81

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