

Law Enforcement Services Provided to Communities in Need October 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009

INTRODUCTION

Legislative action in the FY09 budget, PA 249 of 2008, includes boilerplate language requiring a report on the assistance provided to communities in need by the Michigan State Police (MSP). The language reads as follows:

Sec. 220. (1) The department of state police, in keeping with its role as the general law enforcement agency of the state and as the law enforcement agency of last resort for communities that are either without local law enforcement resources or are seriously underserved by local law enforcement resources, shall provide general law enforcement assistance to those communities until adequate law enforcement services can be provided to those communities by other means.

(2) Not later than May 1, 2009, the department shall deliver to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state police and military and veterans affairs and the house and senate fiscal agencies a report on the additional costs incurred by the department in each locality for providing the services described in subsection (1) during the first 6 months of the fiscal year 2008-2009.

FLINT

MSP assistance began in June of 2007.

Reason: Increase in violent crime activity.

Activity: Flint Police Department has requested MSP continued commitment through calendar year 2009. MSP provides one sergeant and five troopers to this initiative. One analyst from the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center is assigned part time to assist investigative efforts.

Daily fugitive sweeps have been largely discontinued with the closing of the city jail, but two troopers were assigned to apprehend fugitives during hours when the court is open. Over 106 residents have been contacted in search for fugitives, resulting in 145 warrants (71 felony and 74 misdemeanors) being resolved. The Third District Investigative Support Unit (fugitive team) comprised of state, federal, and local agencies continue to spend over 75% of their time in either Flint or Saginaw.

Homicides have dropped 46% in 2007 and there was a 2,000% increase in fugitives turning themselves in to avoid arrest.

Costs: \$226,047

SAGINAW

MSP assistance began in February 2007.

Reason: Increase in violent crime and gang-related activity.

Activity: Saginaw Police Department has requested MSP continued commitment through calendar year 2009. MSP provides one sergeant and five troopers to this initiative. One analyst from the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center is assigned part time to assist investigative efforts.

Over 128 residents have been contacted in search for fugitives, resulting in over 346 fugitive warrants (167 felony and 179 misdemeanor) being resolved. MSP Fire Investigation support has resulted in a 23% overall decrease in fires since January 2009.

Costs: \$249,861

PONTIAC

MSP assistance began in February 2008.

Reason: Layoffs within the Pontiac Police Department resulted in a significant reduction of law enforcement services in Pontiac.

Activity: Since committing seven troopers, three sergeants, and a detail commander, the MSP patrols have yielded 527 fugitive arrests and satisfied 1,006 warrants, conducted 3,842 traffic stops, and seized 66 guns or weapons. Additionally, MSP is providing the Pontiac Police Department with back-up during 9-1-1 calls for service.

Costs: \$386,355

ROYAL OAK TOWNSHIP

MSP assistance began in 1998.

Reason: The Royal Oak Township Police Department was disbanded.

Activity: Dedicated patrol units during the day and midnight shifts.

Costs: \$116,513

DETROIT

MSP has provided support to Detroit for many years.

Reason: Assisting the Detroit Police Department with violent crime investigations.

Activity: The Violent Crimes Investigative Section (VCIS) personnel are deployed among eight different task forces and units located in the City of Detroit. The section has detectives assigned to the Violent Crimes Task Force (VCTF); Unified Homicide Task Force (REDRUM/Cold Case); Alliance Fugitive Task Force; DEA Group 6; Firearms Interdiction Team (FIT); Detroit Fugitive Apprehension Team (DFAT); the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' (ATF); Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN); *Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI); and Southeast Michigan Crimes Against Children (SEMCAAC).

*CAGI has replaced PSN, as it has been discontinued.

- The Alliance Fugitive Task Force helped with apprehending 44 felons during this period.
- The Violent Crimes Task Force assisted with the seizure of 27.228 kilos of cocaine, 23.8 pounds of marijuana, and made 81 arrests.

- The Homicide Task Force was involved in 9 cases, leading to 9 arrests and 7 convictions to-date.
- VCIS, through its participating task forces, also seized 47 weapons.

Costs: \$573,011

BENTON HARBOR

MSP has been providing support since 1997.

Reason: Provide support services as requested.

Activity: MSP provides a range of services in Benton Harbor.

- In the Benton Harbor school system, MSP has a dedicated trooper who acts as a school officer liaison.
- MSP Field Investigative Support unit assisted the Benton Harbor Police Department with the investigation of major felony cases, including a Breaking and Entering of the department's stand alone drug team office. 63 CSC complaints were reviewed and investigated and all but 12 have been resolved.
- MSP provides traffic patrol within the city of Benton Harbor on an as needed basis at the request of the Chief. During this period MSP took 215 patrol originals, made 21 felony arrests and 42 misdemeanor arrests.
- MSP provides law enforcement training to BHPD officers.
- MSP Fifth District Investigative Response Team, consisting of a sergeant and four troopers, (utilizing 600 work hours) assisted the Benton Harbor Police Department in serving felony warrants and conducting weekly fugitive sweeps, as well as assisting the Department of Corrections with apprehending absconders. During this review period, 42 persons were arrested on 67 arrest counts.

Costs: \$100,323

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS

MSP has provided support services over the last two years as requested.

Reason: Increase in violent crime activity.

Activity: Assistance to Muskegon Heights has included a combination of patrol and complaint hours. During the period of October 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009, MSP assistance resulted in 80 arrests; including 32 felons and 48 misdemeanants. In addition, 369 traffic stops were initiated, resulting in 94 citations being issued, two stolen vehicles being recovered, 20 grams of marijuana, and seven rocks of suspected crack cocaine seized. Four search warrants were conducted resulting in 64 grams of crack cocaine, 495 grams of marijuana, 675 methadone tables, 27 Ritalin tablets, 38 Vicodin tables, nine units of morphine, 41 Oxycontin tablets and \$4,354 in cash seized.

Costs: \$78,916

It should be noted the positions assigned to these communities in need have not been backfilled. The personnel dedicated to these initiatives have been taken from worksites across the state. If the department were to pay overtime to backfill the duties of these officers, the cost to the department would be much higher.