



North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety
Alcohol Law Enforcement Division

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary

Michael D. Robertson, Director

November 18, 2004

The Honorable Marc Basnight
President Pro-Tempore
North Carolina Senate
Legislative Building, Room 2007
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

The Honorable James B. Black
Co-Speaker of the House
North Carolina House of Representatives
Legislative Building, Room 2304
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

The Honorable Richard T. Morgan
Co-Speaker of the House
North Carolina House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building, Room 301
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Senator Basnight and Speakers Black and Morgan:

Pursuant to applicable state law, the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division respectfully reports its intent to use \$43,421.86 in Federal Seizure funds for the following:

1. \$11,000.00 for Two Polygraph Instruments to Conduct Employment Screenings and Criminal Investigations

As a state law enforcement agency, the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division employs individuals in a sworn peace officer capacity. As a function of their positions, these agents must possess unmatched integrity and veracity. Officers of the law must be beyond reproach, and to find these special individuals, in-depth procedures and investigations must be employed.

Since 1998, ALE has utilized the polygraph as a means to screen individuals during the application process. Since implementing the polygraph as an applicant screening tool, the test has identified that approximately 20% of applicants were either concealing, or were compelled to admit, past disqualifying behavior and/or acts.



Currently, ALE must rely on the facilities managed by the State Highway Patrol to conduct its polygraph screenings. Often, schedules overlap or conflicts arise whereupon appointments must be re-scheduled, creating inconveniences for the applicant, polygraph examiner and the staff of the Highway Patrol Polygraph Unit. With the purchase of its own equipment, the ALE applicant screening would become much more flexible for applicants, examiners and planners, and would ease the inconveniences now placed on the Highway Patrol Polygraph Unit.

Also, ALE has the trained personnel to conduct specific issue polygraph exams to assist agents with criminal cases. Typically, polygraph examinations in criminal cases are administered without much notice, making it extremely difficult to schedule the use of the equipment belonging to another agency. Without its own equipment, this tool cannot be used effectively, and sometimes, cannot be used at all.

Therefore, the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division intends to expend \$11,000.00 to acquire two (2) polygraph instruments to conduct employment screenings and criminal investigations.

2. \$32,421.86 to Replace Nine District Office Assistant Personal Computers, Upgrade Software and Replace Nine Uninterrupted Power Supplies

ALE office assistants are responsible for the collection, compilation and submission of all district information, reports and statistics to ALE headquarters. In carrying out their duties, office assistants rely heavily on their personal computers. These computers have not been replaced since 1998, putting them at the end of their useful life-cycle. These units are consistently failing and are now in dire need of replacement. Several of the existing units have been repaired to keep them operating as long as possible; however repairing these units is no longer practical or cost-effective. These PC's are 6 years old and have doubled the typical life-expectancy of similar units, leaving them lagging far behind current industry standards. Replacement of these outdated and failing computers is essential to ensure office assistants have reliable, dependable equipment with which to carry out their day-to-day tasks and duties.

In addition to outdated hardware and costly repairs, the older office assistant PCs were configured with Microsoft Windows 98 and Microsoft Office 97. This older software is sub-standard and makes it increasingly difficult for the office assistants to interact with other state agencies. Furthermore, these licenses will not cover the newer software packages, Windows XP and Office 2003. The new computers will require Windows XP and Office 2003 software licenses which will meet industry standards and comply with a Department of Crime Control & Public Safety IT standards.

May 16, 2007

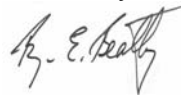
Lastly, the uninterrupted power supplies (UPS) that protect the file and print servers, gateways, and firewalls in each district office have begun to fail at a catastrophic rate. These devices provide continuous power to critical network components when the standard power supply is interrupted, ensuring that the servers are properly shut down and all data is properly protected. The UPS is one of the most critical components of a network. In several recent server failures, sub-standard UPS's were the single cause of serious data loss, extensive down-time, and long recovery periods. In the past, ALE has relied on used components from the Law Enforcement Support Services (LESS) Division. Unfortunately these units have a short life remaining when they are acquired and repair costs make them more of a nuisance than an asset.

Therefore, the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division intends to expend \$32,421.86 to replace nine (9) district office assistant personal computers, upgrade software and replace nine (9) uninterrupted power supplies.

Item Description		Expenditure
1.	Polygraph Instruments to Conduct Employment Screenings and Criminal Investigations	\$11,000.00
2.	Nine District Office Assistant Personal Computers, Upgraded Software, Nine Uninterrupted Power Supplies	\$32,421.86
Total		\$43,421.86

As of November 15, 2004, the balance of the Federal Seizure Fund held by the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division was in excess of \$128,000.00.

Sincerely,



Bryan E. Beatty
Secretary

cc: Deputy Secretary Gerald A. Rudisill
Director M.D. Robertson
Bennie Aiken, Controller