

North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary

July 1, 2004

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

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

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

Dear Senator Basnight, Speaker Black, and Speaker Morgan:

Pursuant to Section 23.1 of the Current Operations Appropriations Act of 2001, the State Highway Patrol reports its intent to use \$124,664.00 in Federal Seizure funds for the following two projects:

1) VIPER-Compliant 800 MHz portable radios for State Troopers:

The Highway Patrol has received a grant from the Governor's Crime Commission, for the purchase of portable 800 MHz radios. The total cost for this purchase will be \$330,849.00. 75% of that total will come from the Governor's Crime Commission grant. The Patrol would like to use Asset Forfeiture funds to pay their required 25% cash match.



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If this request is approved, the Highway Patrol will use \$82,712.00 in federal seizure funds to pay the match for these new radios. All of the radios will be compatible with the voice trunked "VIPER" network that is currently being implemented.

2) Funding for Mobile Data Network Support Technicians:

A second grant from the Governor's Crime Commission continues funding towards three network control technician positions. These positions provide user support for all of the subscribers who access the Criminal Justice Information Network – Mobile Data Network. As of March 31st 2004, more than nine thousand public safety responders use this network. Therefore the user support that these technicians provide are vital to the success of this important communications tool. The grant will pay 75% of the cost for these three positions. The total cost for the project will be \$167,808.00 so the Patrol must provide 25% of that funding, or \$41,952.00 as their matching share. Thus the Patrol requests permission to use \$41,952.00 in federal seizure funds to provide the match for this second grant.

The Mobile Data Network, facilitated by the State Highway Patrol, provides a valuable communications tool not just to state agencies, and not just to law enforcement, but to all public safety providers in our state. Without the technical assistance that they provide to our state's public safety officers, a crucial component in our struggle to provide a save environment for North Carolina's citizens will be lost.

As of March 31st 2004, the Highway Patrol's Federal Seizure fund had an unencumbered balance of \$813,790.00. If both of these requests are approved, the new balance of this fund will equal \$689,126.00.

Sincerely,

B. E. Beat

Bryan E. Beatty Secretary

BEB:tcc

cc: Colonel R.W. Holden
Major C.J. Carden
Major W.F. Clay
Major C.E. Lockley

Major W.D. Munday Major Carnell Taylor Major Peter White Bennie Aiken