



ROY COOPER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

NORTH CAROLINA  
**STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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ROBIN P. PENDERGRAFT  
DIRECTOR

September 13, 2004

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

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

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

Dear Senator Basnight, Speaker Black, Speaker Morgan, and  
Members of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental  
Operations:

As you may know, the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) participates in the Equitable Sharing of Federally Forfeited Property Program with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Treasury. The SBI is grateful for the availability of federal forfeiture funds to enhance our law enforcement capabilities. We are attempting to maximize the purchasing power of these federal forfeiture funds by using them as matching funds for grant programs, and equipment. Your support of these important efforts is greatly appreciated.

Pursuant to applicable law, the SBI reports its intent to use federal forfeiture funds for the following purposes:

ITEM	AMOUNT
The Air Wing is requesting funds to properly repair, refurbish, and upgrade Bureau aircraft safety equipment. Functional difficulties occur repeatedly with the communication radios, flight instruments, navigation systems, autopilot, weather radar, de-icing equipment, and transponders. Frequent maintenance attention is required to keep our aircrafts' avionic and instrumentation systems in safe operating condition. Additionally, new FAA requirements will require installation of certain equipment by March 2005 or the aircraft will have to be grounded.	\$183,418
The SBI has received \$130,000.00 from the NC Department of Public Health for a Clandestine Lab/Terrorism Response Vehicle. The cost of the vehicle, radios for the vehicle, and additional vehicle taxes will exceed the available \$130,000.00.	\$19,934
The SBI and North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission share a radio communication system, with an integral dispatch system, which provides both agencies with statewide communications capabilities. This cost is the SBI's 2004-05 portion of the lease for the towers that house our repeaters across the state.	\$30,789
70 Rifles, magazines, cases, and ammunition. The SBI would like to equip 70 additional agents assigned to the field Division with semi-automatic AR15 rifles identical to those already purchased. The SBI plan is to eventually equip all field agents with rifles, but will have to proceed in batches as funding becomes available.	\$65,000
The SBI is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). These funds are needed to pay for the cost of this accreditation, travel expenses for the assessors, and other expenses associated with the CALEA process.	\$19,591
The SBI is in the process of upgrading and equipping the field districts crime scene investigators with more up-to-date and state of the art equipment. This will provide the agents with better quality analysis, documentation, and information at crime scenes. We need to purchase four (4) Nikon Aims DTM-332, Total Station, Digital Cameras w/software, prism, tripod, and pole and bag. (\$6,975 per unit = \$27,900) Additionally, seventeen (17) White's MRX Tracker E Series metal detectors. \$799.95 per unit = \$13,599.15. Seventeen (17) Garmin GPS V global positioning satellite handheld units. (\$599.95 per unit = 10,199.15)	\$51,700
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$370,432</b>

As of September 13, 2004, the SBI Federal Forfeiture Fund had an unencumbered balance of \$517,126. The SBI is requesting permission to commit \$370,432 leaving a balance of \$146,694 in our asset forfeiture account.

Sincerely,

Robin P. Pendergraft  
Director