

# North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary

November 23, 2005

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

Dear Senator Basnight and Speaker Black:

Pursuant to applicable state law, the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division (ALE) respectfully reports its intent to use \$53,540.00 in Federal Seizure funds for the following:

## 1. \$15,000.00 for Rifle Ammunition

The purchase of new rifles to replace aging and mismatched shotguns was approved earlier in the year by the Joint Commission on Governmental Operations. Extensive research, evaluation, testing and evaluation was conducted on several different makes, models, brands and varieties of rifles. A final decision was made and the rifles were bid and subsequently ordered. Ammunition could not be purchased at the time, however, because each manufacturer has different minimum specifications they recommend for a particular model of rifle. Therefore, once the final product was chosen and purchased, the correct ammunition could then be sourced.

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## 2. \$7,500.00 for Rifle Carrying Cases and Slings

As is the case with Item 1, supplies and accessories for the rifles could not be purchased until an exact make and model were decided upon. The carrying cases will protect the rifles from damage while in transport and ensure they are clean and operationally ready. Slings will make the rifle easily portable but also readily accessible when needed in the field environment.

# 3. \$9,000.00 for Two Mobile Data Terminal Computers for Surveillance Platforms

These Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) would be placed in the mobile surveillance platforms that conduct surveillance missions for ALE and local law enforcement. These computers would allow access to the Division of Criminal Information for background information on suspects and vehicles while in the field; provide for the printing of color photographs of surveillance suspects, vehicles and premises; and create DVDs of video surveillance for evidence and dissemination to case agents. These tasks have been being performed once the surveillance agent is back in their district office, creating delays in providing evidence and critical background information to investigators. With the purchase of these units, data and evidence can be provided to investigators in real-time, eliminating potential chain-of-custody evidence issues, reducing delays and expediting investigations.

# 4. \$3,740.00 for Replacement Sidearm Safety Holsters

ALE currently uses a sidearm holster system that was purchased several years ago, which utilizes a simple thumb snap release, a minimal security measure to ensure officer safety. At the time of their purchase, these holsters were considered one of the safer holsters on the market. However, field use and experience have demonstrated that the current holster's design could potentially put agents in life-threatening situations. New holster designs have evolved and now a holster is available that offers more advanced safety mechanisms over the older-style holsters. This new holster includes a release button and lock that secures the weapon in the holster until pressed and released. This holster has been field tested by our agency in an extreme training environment and has proven reliable and effective. The holster makes weapon-retention by the agent much more manageable in combat situations, and the sidearm is not subject to falling out when the agent must run, maneuver through obstacles or subdue offenders.

### 5. \$18,300.00 for Polygraph Examiner School Tuition and Per Diem

The approval of this request would allow ALE to send two agents to polygraph examiner school in order to be certified as polygraph examiners. ALE uses inhouse polygraph examiners to conduct polygraphs on potential applicants for employment as ALE agents, during criminal investigations and as a service to other law enforcement agencies. Recently, ALE has had one certified polygraph examiner who left the employ of state government and another who was promoted to a supervisory capacity. The training facility, the Virginia School of Polygraph, is one of the most highly respected polygraph institutions in the nation, and is the

location closest to the State of North Carolina. The training is eight (8) weeks in length. This request covers school tuition, lodging and per diem expenses.

| Item                       | Description  | Expenditure   |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 1.<br>2.<br>3.<br>4.<br>5. | Rifle Ammunition Rifle Carrying Cases, Ammunition Pouches & Slings MDT Computers for Surveillance Platforms Replacement Sidearm Safety Holsters Polygraph Examiner School Tuition and Per Diem | \$15,000.00<br>\$ 7,500.00<br>\$ 9,000.00<br>\$ 3,740.00<br>\$18,300.00 |
|                            | Total  | \$53,540.00   |

As of November 21, 2005, the balance of the Federal Seizure Fund held by the Alcohol Law Enforcement Division was \$160,015.61. If these requests are approved, the remaining balance will be \$106,475.61.

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Beatty Secretary

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