

MARK C. CURRAN SHERIFF RAYMOND J. ROSE UNDERSHERIFF

DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

DATE:

September 23, 2015

TO:

County Administrator Barry Burton

Assistant County Administrator Amy McEwan

Director of Finance Gary Gordon

FROM:

Sheriff Mark C. Curran

REFERENCE:

Request for Acceptance of an Illinois Department of Transportation

Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant and

Emergency Appropriation

The Lake County Sheriff's Office has applied for and been awarded an Illinois Department of Transportation Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant. The acceptance of this grant requires an emergency appropriation for the grant amount of \$119,967.40 for FY2015 - 2016. The salary portion (\$117,967.40) of the grant funds will be placed in 101-3001110-45020 and the equipment portion (\$2,000.00) will be placed in 101-3001110-45330.

The main objective of the grant is to conduct specific traffic enforcement campaigns that make the roadways safe. The traffic enforcement campaigns include roadside safety checks as well as impaired driving enforcement. The grant requires six (6) mandatory enforcement campaigns and four (4) option enforcement campaigns. We will conduct all mandatory enforcement campaigns and two (2) of the four (4) optional campaigns. The two (2) optional campaigns the Sheriff's Office has chosen to implement are impaired driving saturation patrols and roadside safety checks that also look for impaired driving. Finally, the grant also provides financial assistance for purchasing traffic enforcement equipment. We plan to purchase a portable breath tester with the funds awarded. The breath tester cost \$2,000.00.

Following each campaign the Sheriff's Office is required to issue a media release informing the public of the results of the campaign. Results include such thing as the number of arrests for DUI and how many citations were issued. The Sheriff's Office is also required to submit the appropriate data collection forms after each campaign to the Illinois Department of Transportation. We will also submit the equipment incentive program forms as required once the breath tester has been purchased.

The STEP Program has been an important traffic enforcement tool for the Highway Patrol Division. The results of the STEP Grant received for FY2014 – 2015 are listed below.

Highway Patrol IDOT STEP Grant Enforcement January 1 – August 19, 2015			
Description	Number of Events Held	Citations Issued	Arrests
DUI Patrols	26	451	27
Road Side Safety Checks	3	104	13 DUI
Seat Belt Checks	26	274 (150 for seatbelts)	0

We anticipate that the FY2015 -2016 campaigns will yield similar results and will continue to assist us in making the roadways safe for all users.