

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Glendale Police Department Awarded Two Important Federal Grants

GLENDALE, Ariz. – On September 22, 2015, the U.S. Attorney’s Office announced that the Glendale Police Department was awarded a grant in the amount of **\$449,000** to be utilized towards the implementation of a body-worn camera program. During the grant application process, the Department sought information from vendors, the Department of Justice and other local agencies with a body-worn camera program in place. The grant award will allow the program process to move forward from the research phase as we seek a vendor to provide us with 300 cameras so we may equip each of our uniformed officers. The grant also provides funding for the required software, computer hardware, as well as a full-time employee to manage the data and information collected by the body cameras.

The use of body-worn cameras will provide increased transparency and accountability. The cameras will capture sound and video recordings that may be used to enhance criminal investigations and prosecutions. The roll-out of this program will include the creation and implementation of both policies and training as well as public education that explains how the system works and what its capabilities will be.

Last week, the Glendale Police Department was also awarded **\$85,000** under the **Byrne-JAG** grant. This will enhance the abilities of our Gun Violence Detectives. Those detectives specialize in responding to crime scenes involving firearms and focus on the tracing and tracking of firearms. The improved forensics ability will support a more successful utilization of the National Integrated Ballistic Network (NIBIN) to automate ballistics by evaluating shell casings recovered at the scene of crimes. Just this past July, detectives responded to a house-party shooting where two victims, one an active duty U.S. Marine, were

shot. Shell casings were collected and entered into NIBIN. The weapons used in the shootings were purchased just hours later by undercover detectives from a neighboring agency. Test fires of those weapons identified them as the weapons used and subsequently multiple arrests were made.

The squad also focuses on gun violence prevention and firearms safety. The squad will educate students aged Kindergarten through 2nd Grade with the use of the Eddie Eagle program. Interactions with high school students will include lectures highlighting the importance of strong decision making.

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**Spanish translation available*

*“The Glendale Police Department’s mission
is to protect the lives and property of the people we serve.”*

*Glendale Police Department
a proud recipient of CALEA National Accreditation since 2000*