

Anti-Terrorism Act

03 - 0135

2002

Funding Report



Report to the Legislature

**Prepared by
Department of Public Safety**

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Executive Summary

In response to the attacks on America on September 11, 2001, the Minnesota legislature created and adopted the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2002. The goal of this act is to continue Minnesota's efforts in terrorism preparedness. Minnesota has been at the forefront of terrorism preparedness over the last several years, and was one of the first states to implement a statewide preparedness plan.

Specific parts of the Anti-Terrorism Act include:

- Requirement to update Minnesota's Terrorism Preparedness Plan
- Policy changes related to homeland security
- \$13 million appropriation to the Commissioner of Public Safety for anti-terrorism equipment and training grants
- Report on expenditure of the terrorism funds (Minnesota Session Laws 2002, Chapter 402, Article 2, Section 1, Subdivision 11).

This is the report of the expenditure of the funds. The \$13 million appropriation was divided among a number of anti-terrorism purposes with a majority of the funding (\$11.25 million) appropriated for grants to local jurisdictions for equipment purchases and training. The law allows that if the full appropriation in each area is not needed, the funds may be used for another anti-terrorism purpose identified in one of the other sections. The appropriation is available until June 30, 2004 and is one-time funding. Following is a breakdown of the appropriation:

1. Equipment Grants to Local and State Response Units - \$3,750,000
2. Terrorism Response-Related Training Grants to Local Jurisdictions - \$7,500,000
3. Bomb Disposal Squads - \$250,000
4. Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams - \$240,000
5. Chemical Assessment Teams - \$105,000
6. Capitol Security - \$600,0000
7. Salaries and Expenses Related to Updating the 800 Megahertz Report - \$5,000
8. Collection of Biological Specimens for DNA Testing - \$150,000
9. Grants to Medical Resource Control Centers - \$400,000

The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC), made up of a cross-section of state agencies, first responder groups, health organizations and local associations, was created in the Anti-Terrorism Act to review anti-terrorism policies and procedures and recommend changes to the Department of Public Safety and to provide coordination and accountability for all anti-terrorism related funding. HSAC did meet in July 2002 and October 2002 to review and approve the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management's (DEM) recommended criteria and process for distributing the equipment and training grants to Minnesota's 87 counties, three cities of the first class and the Metropolitan Airport Commission.

This report takes each of the nine funding sections listed above and provides more detail about each issue, how the money was expended and/or why the money has not been expended as of January 31, 2003.

The state's ability to respond to a terrorist incident has evolved since September 11, 2001; Minnesota is better prepared and has made every effort to maximize existing resources. This \$13 million appropriation passed by the legislature has allowed state and local response units throughout Minnesota to fill immediate gaps in terrorism preparedness. However, this is a one-time appropriation and resources to fund local and state response units will continue to present a challenge. The state has leveraged federal funds for anti-terrorism purposes in the past and will continue to work to secure federal funds for ongoing efforts. Minnesota must continue to look to the future and determine what priority the state will place on terrorism preparedness.

Total Anti-Terrorism Funding Appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature in 2002 - \$13 million

A. Equipment Grants to Local and State Response Units - \$3,750,000

B. Terrorism Response-Related Training Grants to Local Jurisdictions - \$7,500,000

The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (DEM), issued an RFP in September 2002 to the 87 Minnesota counties, the three cities of the first class (Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth) and the Metropolitan Airport Commission for equipment and training grants. DEM allocated an amount to each of these local jurisdictions using a formula based on three factors: population, net assessed tax value and the number of sites reportable where quantities of hazardous chemicals are stored. DEM also hosted training sessions throughout the state on the grant process in September and October of 2002 and encouraged local jurisdictions in each of the counties to work cooperatively to submit a plan which best served the needs of all the locals in the surrounding areas.

To apply for the allocated grant funds, each jurisdiction is required to submit an application which includes an analysis of the jurisdiction's perceived terrorist threat, vulnerability and needs. **The above jurisdictions have until June 30, 2003 to submit applications for grant funds. The jurisdictions must meet specific criteria (federal criteria adopted by Minnesota) for equipment purchases and response-related training and also provide a 25% match for the equipment grants.**

Once grant applications have been reviewed and determined to be complete, formal grant agreements are forwarded to jurisdictions authorizing the purchase of the approved equipment and training. **Both of these grant programs provide reimbursement to the jurisdictions; therefore, no funding has actually been expended to jurisdictions as of January 31, 2003.**

Ten percent of both the equipment and training grants has been set aside as "Special Project Grants". The purpose of the Special Project grants is to encourage innovative ideas for enhancing a local jurisdiction's ability to respond to a terrorist incident and to allow for special circumstances or situations. The Special Project grants are being evaluated by a Review Board (comprised of one representative from the Minnesota Sheriffs Association, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, the Minnesota Fire Chiefs Association, the Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers and the Minnesota Ambulance Association), which makes funding recommendations to the Commissioner of Public Safety.

The \$3.75 million equipment appropriation also provided that up to 1.5% may be used by the state for administration of the grants. The \$7.5 million training appropriation also

provided that \$177,000 be used for additional personnel in DEM and \$55,000 be used for the state's Hazardous Materials Teams and Chemical Assessment Teams for the training of team personnel. The \$55,000 was distributed equally among the state's 11 Chemical Assessment Teams to fund advanced training for team members.

To date, the following eight jurisdictions have submitted plans that have been approved to receive reimbursement for equipment purchases as of January 31, 2003 - for a total of \$370,105:

1. Lac qui Parle County - \$12,904
2. Kanabec County - \$12,572
3. Kandiyohi County - \$25,362
4. City of Minneapolis - \$217,722
5. Watonwan County - \$14,128
6. Benton County - 21,206
7. Yellow Medicine County - 13,176
8. Blue Earth/Nicollet Counties - \$53,035

To date, the following ten jurisdictions have submitted plans that have been approved to receive reimbursement for training as of January 31, 2003 - for a total of \$883,068:

1. Lac qui Parle County - \$16,633
2. Kandiyohi County - \$45,100
3. City of Minneapolis - \$486,551
4. Watonwan County - \$19,433
5. Chippewa County - \$16,175
6. Yellow Medicine County - \$19,150
7. Benton County - \$35,600
8. Aitkin County - \$25,783
9. Stearns County - \$117,940
10. Blue Earth/Nicollet Counties - \$100,703

To date, the following eight jurisdictions have submitted an application for Special Project grants which are pending based on evaluation by the Review Board:

1. City of Brooklyn Park
2. City of Bloomington Police Department
3. Watonwan County
4. City of Minneapolis
5. Yellow Medicine County
6. Benton County
7. City of Spring Lake Park Fire Department
8. Metropolitan Council/Metropolitan Transit Police

C. Bomb Disposal Squads - \$250,000

- \$150,000 is to be used for the purchase of bomb disposal equipment. The four Bomb Squads within the state are currently working with DEM staff to finalize agreements and determine the specific equipment that will be purchased.
- \$40,000 has been distributed to the four Bomb Squads for advanced training for Bomb Squad team members. The amount given to each of the four squads was based on the number of technicians per squad.
- \$60,000 has been distributed to the four Bomb Squads for reimbursement of response costs for the previous year, based on the number of incidents each squad responded to.

D. Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams - \$240,000

This appropriation was used to convert the Rochester, Moorhead and Duluth Chemical Assessment Teams into combined Emergency Response/Chemical Assessment Teams. The funding was divided equally among the three teams.

E. Chemical Assessment Teams - \$105,000

This appropriation was distributed equally among the state's 11 Chemical Assessment Teams to increase the number of members on each team from four to five members.

F. Capitol Security - \$600,000

This appropriation is to provide increased security for the capitol complex including hiring two additional state troopers to patrol the capitol complex year round and for overtime for two state troopers to patrol the capitol complex while the legislature is in session.

As of January 1, 2003, the Department of Public Safety has filled the two additional state trooper positions to patrol the capitol complex year round, temporarily reassigned two additional state troopers to patrol the capitol complex for the duration of the legislative session and hired six additional Capitol Security guards to monitor access within buildings of the capitol complex. As of mid-January, the department has expended \$85,859 of the appropriation for personnel. Through the end of fiscal year 2003, the department anticipates expending an additional \$305,869 for personnel and \$100,000 for increased technology-related security equipment enhancements. The department will evaluate the amount of funding remaining after fiscal year 2003 and will determine a plan for the remainder of the funds for fiscal year 2004. It should be noted that this is a one-time appropriation; therefore, as of July 1, 2004, the level of security at the capitol complex will revert to the previous level.

G. Salaries and Expenses Related to Updating the 800 Megahertz Report - \$5,000

The Department of Public Safety worked in conjunction with the Department of Transportation and the Department of Administration over the last several months to update the 800 Megahertz Report and submitted the report to the legislature in January 2003.

H. Collection of Biological Specimens for DNA Testing - \$150,000

The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2002 expanded the collection of DNA samples from convicted offenders to include all felons. The \$150,000 appropriated was to be used for the costs of collecting specimens for DNA testing, but did not include funding for the analysis of those specimens (*Note: The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is working to secure federal funding to outsource the analysis of the specimens*).

The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) developed and validated a new collection procedure and kit for DNA samples using buccal swabs (taken from inside the cheek area of the mouth). Prior to this procedure, a blood sample was drawn which required medical personnel for collection. This change is a significant savings in collection costs to the corrections and law enforcement agencies responsible for collection. The BCA provided training on the use of the new collection kits. From July 1, 2002 – January 28, 2003, the BCA received 7,177 DNA offender samples.

Approximately \$50,000 of this appropriation has been expended for personnel costs (including a forensic scientist and an evidence specialist) and \$100,000 was used for supplies to assemble and distribute the new collection kits. This is a one-time appropriation and the law for collection of DNA on all felons sunsets on June 30, 2003.

I. Grants to Medical Resource Control Centers - \$400,000

The \$400,000 appropriation to the Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (EMSRB) has been awarded as two equal grants in the amount of \$200,000 each to the Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment and the Hennepin County Community Health Department. These two entities serve as fiscal agents, respectively, for the East Metro Medical Resource Control Center and the West Metro Medical Resource Control Center (MRCC).

The grants became effective in September 2002 and will run through June 30, 2004, as specifically provided for in the appropriation. The funds may be used for operational costs associated with the two MRCCs, which provide around-the-clock medical resource control services.

Examples of specific services provided by the MRCCs include:

- Radio channels and phone lines for paramedic-physician communication and transport information to regional hospitals.
- Communication and coordination services for ambulances services during any multiple-casualty incident, drill or on request.
- National Disaster Medical System coordination.
- Metropolitan Medical Response System coordination.
- Answering point for the Metro Region critical incident stress management team.
- Emergency on-call system physician answering point.
- Information exchange for any ground, air ambulance, or hospital facility as requested by radio or phone.
- Data collection for each call received.
- Written policies and procedures and medical protocols for use by MRCC personnel.

While grant contracts are in place, no funds have been transferred because no invoices have been received to date. The grant contracts allow for each grantee to submit invoices for provided services on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis during the contract period.