

**North Adams, MA**  
**Application for Assistance**  
**Under the 2009 Recovery Act:**  
**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funding Program**

**Program Narrative:**

*Project Objective:*

The primary focus as well as our main goal is to continue to foster a learning atmosphere in the middle and high schools located within our jurisdiction. During the most recent economic decline the City of North Adams found itself, as a result of state aid reductions, over one million dollars short in its 2009 FY Budget. This reduction in state aid has led to a mayoral directive cutting all non-essential services to the community including our full-time School Resource Officer (SRO). JAG funds, in combination with a \$40,000.00 match from the School Department, will allow us to preserve the officer's position necessary to continue this program for the next two school years.

Continuing the deployment of an officer to the SRO Program is an integral part of our plan to introduce the concept of community policing to all age groups and to address the specific problems confronting students, such as drug and alcohol abuse, some of which have resulted in North Adams' high rate of teen pregnancy.

*Capabilities and Competencies:*

Draw downs will be handled in the following manner: Once the City receives funds as a result of a request through the PAPRS System, those funds will be placed in a bank account specifically created to receive JAG Funding. The funds from this account will be transferred to the specific payroll or expense account to be reimbursed. Funds will be tracked through quarterly financial reporting to the U.S. Treasury.

*Activities:*

The North Adams Police Department's School Resource Office's Program is on-going, and with the aid of JAG funding will be able to continue in the spring of 2009. During the summer months the officer assigned to this program participates in a summer camp program utilizing both high and low ropes. This camp is designed to give at-risk youth the ability to confront and overcome challenges.

*Performance Measures:*

We use parent, student, faculty and staff surveys conducted at the end of the each school year to determine our successes and failures.

***North Adams residents who may have questions or comments regarding this application may contact the Commissioner's Office at 413-662-3102 or through email at [jmorocco@northadams-ma.gov](mailto:jmorocco@northadams-ma.gov)***