



Department of Justice

United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil
Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: RITA M. RUMBELOW
PHONE: (608) 264-5158
TTY: (608) 264-5006

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN ROCK & DANE COUNTIES RECEIVE FEDERAL GRANTS TO COMBAT GUN & GANG CRIME

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced today that the U.S. Department of Justice, as a part of the national Project Safe Neighborhoods program, has awarded two grants totaling \$85,848 to combat gun and gang crime to law enforcement agencies within the Western District.

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide program to reduce gun crime in America by networking existing local programs that target gun and gang crime and providing those programs with additional tools necessary to be successful. Through partnership with federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Madison is implementing Project Safe Neighborhoods in a manner designed to target the most significant gun and gang crime problems within the district.

The Interagency Latino Gang Violence Initiative, a cooperative effort of the Madison, Fitchburg and Sun Prairie Police Departments and the Dane County Sheriff's Department, will receive \$60,000. These agencies are coordinating efforts to prevent violent crime and reduce gang activity. Their strategy will center on suppression and intelligence sharing, and offering alternatives for at-risk youth.

Rock County, in a cooperative effort of the Beloit and Janesville Police Departments and the Rock County Sheriff's Department, will receive \$25,848. These funds will be used for joint operations to combat gun crime and gang violence.

United States Attorney Vaudreuil said, "These federal resources will help law enforcement agencies in areas within the Western District of Wisconsin which have seen an increase in criminal activity by gang members. This office is proud to be a part of these collaborative teams of local and federal officials working together to address gun and gang violence."

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