



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: Thursday, September 30, 2010**  
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### **City of Riverside Awarded \$5,140,185 for COPS Hiring Grant**

Riverside, CA -- The Riverside Police Department has been awarded a \$5,140,185 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office. The COPS grant provides funds to hire 15 full-time, entry-level police officer positions. "This grant will assist the Riverside Police Department to fight crime while enhancing our community policing and crime prevention efforts, keeping our neighborhoods safe", said Chief of Police Sergio G. Diaz.

The grant funds will provide 100 percent funding for entry-level salaries and benefits for 15 full-time officers over a period of 36 months. The city will be required to retain all of the grant funded positions for a minimum of 12 months at the conclusion of the grant funded period.

The Department of Justice awarded \$298 million to fund the hiring of 1,388 law enforcement officers throughout the country. Due to the high demand and limited funding available, only 379 requests or 8% of applicants were funded. The City of Riverside received the second largest award in California for a police department, while the City of San Jose received the highest funding (16 officers).

The police department will initiate the hiring process for these new police officers in the very near future.

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