



**Homeland
Security**

**G&T Information Bulletin
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TO: All State Administrative Agency Heads
All State Administrative Agency Points of Contact
All State Homeland Security Directors

FROM: Tracy Henke, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Operation Stonegarden

On January 6, 2006, The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the expansion of Operation Stonegarden, an initiative that will give states additional funding and flexibility to strengthen America's borders.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) will award \$400 million in grants to states based on risk and need. In fiscal year 2006, the LETPP allows for up to 25 percent of the funds awarded to each state to be used for border protection during a DHS-declared Code Yellow. Funding will be contingent upon recipients having an approved operational plan developed jointly between state, tribal and local law enforcement officials and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

In addition, the Department will retroactively allow states to reprogram up to 25% of previously awarded, unobligated LETPP funds from both FY 2004 and FY 2005 for use on border security activities. Allowable activities are limited to:

- Operational overtime costs associated with providing enhanced law enforcement activities in support of federal agencies for increased border security enhancement;
- National Guard deployments in support of border security activities; and
- Travel and per diem costs associated with the deployment/redeployment of personnel to border areas. Fuel and maintenance costs for routine patrols are not allowable.

To ensure the greatest degree of coordination of law enforcement assets, the use of federal funding from DHS for state border security related activities will require the states to combine any existing state-funded border security initiatives within the Operation Stonegarden framework developed by the U.S. Border Patrol headquarters and relevant sectors.

States wishing to utilize prior year funding to participate in Operation Stonegarden must submit operational plans to Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Headquarters. No funds may be obligated or drawn down in support of these activities without HQ-CBP approval of operational plans and submission of CBP and G&T approved budget detail worksheets. These worksheets will be provided by CBP Headquarters. State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies shall not use this funding to supplant their inherent routine patrol and law enforcement operations or activities in order to perform other activities not directly related to providing an enhanced law enforcement presence.

States should note that there is no NEW funding for this initiative. States may, if they deem appropriate, reprogram up to 25% of existing FY 2004 and 2005 LETPP funding for Operation Stonegarden. As well, states are reminded that they must comply with the 80/20 pass through requirements.

Attached please find CBP sector contacts in your state. These contacts will coordinate operational implementation of this bulletin. For further information on G&T program guidance, please contact your Preparedness Officer or the G&T Helpline at 1-800-368-6498.