

## **Amherst Police Department 2010 Justice Assistance Grant**

### **Program Narrative**

JAG Purpose areas, Law Enforcement, and Planning, Evaluation and Technology Improvement programs. Objective: Update Patrol in-car camera systems.

Video recording has become a necessity for law enforcement, vital for evidence collection, demonstrating and evaluating probable cause, reviewing officer citizen contacts, training need assessment and critiques, and reinforcing officer responsibility for conduct.

In 2009, the Amherst Police Department committed to replacing an aging analog tape in-car video system with a fully digital system. The analog tape system was low resolution, audio was unreliable, and the VHS tapes required constant replacement, repair and human interaction, complicating the chain of evidence. After a great deal of investigation, the department selected a digital solution manufactured by Panasonic. This system is installed in the car and does not require any interaction between the officer and the recorder, using an encrypted wi-fi hotspot to automatically transmit the data from the car to a computer server housed at the police department. Our plan is to purchase additional in-car recorder units and wireless microphone/transmitters to further equip the patrol division using JAG funds.

### **Budget Narrative**

JAG grant funds will be expended improve law enforcement effectiveness with improved technology through purchase of listed supplies, digital video equipment. There will be no administrative costs charged to the grant, nor will there be any personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, consultant or other costs. Procurement based upon New York State OGS contract pricing. Each in-car video install is approximately \$4989/unit, total expenditure 3 units with 6 wireless microphones @\$292ea and \$330 in miscellaneous MDT/video supplies for a total expenditure of \$17,049.

### **Review Narrative**

Notice of the 2010 JAG has been forwarded to the Town of Amherst Town Board for its July 7 2010 meeting. A Public Notice with opportunity to comment regarding the APD application has been posted on the Town of Amherst Police Department Website.

### **Abstract**

The Amherst Police Department plans to spend the \$17,049 allotment in U.S Department of Justice 2010 JAG funds to update additional Patrol in-car video camera systems to digital format, as a follow on to technology obtained as part of the 2009 Justice Assistance Stimulus Grant.