

Philadelphia

SHORT-TERM STORAGE

LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTEE REVIEW

The Authority funds 12 law enforcement/investigative units, including the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), which distributes grant funds to three regional task forces.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Allegheny County District Attorney's Office joined the Authority in September 1998. The unit, which consists of an assistant district attorney and a paralegal, is operating under a two-year grant renewal totaling more than \$316,465 through June 2010.

DELAWARE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Delaware County District Attorney's Office received its first grant to establish an auto theft unit in 1996. The unit is operating under a one-year grant for \$259,921 through June 2010. An assistant district attorney, a detective and an analyst support the unit. Grant funds help pay overtime expenses for police officers from local departments. The funds also cover equipment and coordination with local law enforcement units.

CITY OF ERIE BUREAU OF POLICE

The City of Erie Bureau of Police was initially funded in 1997 and was operational through June 2009 under a two-year grant totaling \$186,484.

HARRISBURG BUREAU OF POLICE

The Harrisburg Bureau of Police has had an active auto theft unit since it received its first grant in 1997. The unit is operating with a two-year grant of \$207,684 through June 2010. An investigator coordinates anti-theft measures in Harrisburg, where there has been a major problem with drug-related auto thefts.

LANCASTER CITY POLICE

The Lancaster City Police joined the list of grantee organizations in July 2002. The unit, which consists of two investigators and a part-time assistant district attorney, received a two-year grant extension totaling \$604,130 through June 2010.

LEHIGH COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Lehigh County District Attorney's Office received an initial grant in 1996. Currently, it is operating its auto theft task force under a two-year grant totaling \$1,164,500 through June 2010. The unit, which also has investigative powers in neighboring Northampton County, has a prosecutor, secretary and four full-time investigators from local police departments.

Vehicles taken to storage facility to await identity change and shipping.

NORTHEASTERN PA TASK FORCE

The Northeastern PA Task Force is a unique, multi-jurisdictional program administered by the Lackawanna County District Attorney's Office. First funded in 1996, the unit is operating on a two-year grant of \$585,214 through June 2010. Supported by an assistant district attorney, an administrator, two full-time and four part-time detectives and a secretary, this far-reaching investigative unit coordinates efforts in 11 counties, including Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Bradford, Monroe, Wayne, Wyoming, Sullivan, Columbia and Carbon.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE EASTERN, CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGIONAL TASK FORCES

The Pennsylvania State Police Eastern, Central and Western Regional Task Forces oversee statewide auto-theft efforts. Initially granted funds in 1996, the units received a two-year extension totaling more than \$4.6 million through June 2011. The regional task forces concentrate on high-theft areas around Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and central and northeastern Pennsylvania. The grant funds cover salaries of 14 county/local police department detectives, as well as overtime costs for four state police supervisors and 17 troopers. The funds also cover equipment, maintenance, vehicles and other expenses. Investigators from Bucks and York Counties were added to the task force in 2009.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The Philadelphia District Attorney's Office received funding for their juvenile initiative in 2003. The unit is operating on a two-year extension totaling \$783,400 through June 2010. The funds support one detective, one prosecutor, two trial assistants and two law clerks. The funds are used to continue their juvenile auto theft diversion program in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Philadelphia Police Department was initially funded in 1996 and operates its Major Crimes Auto Theft Unit with a two-year grant extension totaling more than \$3.1 million through June 2010. One arm of the unit concentrates on chop shop and salvage yard investigations, while another investigates all other auto-theft cases. Funding from the Authority added eight police officers and four detectives, doubling the resources available prior to the Authority's grant funding.

PITTSBURGH POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Pittsburgh Police Department received its first grant in 1996. Currently, it is using a \$620,326 grant extension through June 2010. The funding increased its auto-theft squad by three detectives (for a total of six detectives), modernized equipment and paid for office space and automobiles.

YORK COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

The York County District Attorney's Office first received funding in 1996 and was approved for more than \$112,601 to extend its operation through June 2009. Supported by a detective, the unit developed auto theft reporting, investigation and prosecution protocol for countywide use. As of July 2009, the position was added to the PA State Police Central Auto Theft Task Force to enhance multi-jurisdictional auto theft activities.

3,195
Vehicles recovered in 2009