



FAIRBANKS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 29, 2008

Case: na

Incident Title: U.S. Dept. of Justice Grant

Location: Fairbanks

As we prepare to enter October- officially recognized as *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*- the Fairbanks Police Department is extremely pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice has provided the Fairbanks Police Department with a two-year grant to fully fund a *Domestic Violence Investigator*.

Response to domestic and family violence in Fairbanks continues to present a problem of significant magnitude in our community. In 2007, the Fairbanks Police Department responded to over 850 domestic disturbances, and made over 360 misdemeanor and felony arrests for domestic assault. As of August of 2008, we are expected to exceed these numbers for the year, as 251 such arrests have already been made.

Domestic violence investigations are time-intensive, requiring considerable interviews, photographic documentation, and follow-up documentation of developing injuries. The grant provided by the U.S. Department of Justice fully funds the position of a dedicated DV Investigator, who can coordinate these cases with the District Attorney's Office and provide the necessary follow-up investigation in a timely manner. The grant funds all wages and benefits for the position, and includes an appropriation for necessary travel and training. There is no "local match" required, with the grant award totaling \$313,231.00

App: 

CC Mayor Strle
Press Board