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DISTRICT ATTORNEY SOARES AWARDS FUNDING TO ALBANY LACROSSE YOUTH PROGRAM



ALBANY, NY - Albany County District Attorney David Soares presented a check this morning to the City of Albany Youth Lacrosse Program to help fund the first annual summer skills lacrosse education program. The City Department of Recreation hosted an inner-city lacrosse program for boys and girls ages 10-16 at the Plumeri Sports Complex at Hoffman Park throughout this summer.

The Albany County District Attorney's Office and Albany County Sheriff's Department each contributed towards the program. The money comes from the "Making Crime Pay" program,

which is funded by assets seized from criminals that are then used to support community initiatives and law enforcement agencies.

District Attorney Soares was joined today at Plumeri Field by City of Albany Commissioner John D’Antonio, staff from the Department of Recreation, boys and girls who participated in the program, and the former Lacrosse All-Americans that have been coaching the teams this summer.

“I am pleased to support the first City of Albany Summer Youth Lacrosse Program,” DA David Soares said. “The talented staff and coaches provide the participants with vital guidance and skills that they will be able to use both on and off the field. I want to thank John D’Antonio and his staff for working with my office to provide activities for youngsters and giving them opportunities to develop into young adults who are equipped with the ability to make good life decisions. This is the first summer that this program has been open and I look forward to watching these future leaders excel in both the sport of lacrosse and in their communities.”



‘Making Crime Pay’ is a program in the District Attorney’s Office that is designed to deter crime by depriving criminals of the profits and proceeds of their illegal activities and then uses those ill-gotten gains to support law enforcement and public safety initiatives throughout the county. Through this program, assets are seized from criminals and used to help close the gap and meet the serious needs of some of areas in the community that are most in need. It is the hope of this office that this positive and aggressive use of asset forfeiture funds will make a

significant impact on public and quality of life for our citizens here in Albany County.

Initiatives funded through the “Making Crime Pay” program include:

- Funding Youth Summer Golf Education Program for Albany County youth
- Purchasing Communication Radio upgrades, Patrol Rifles, and software upgrade to employ Live Scan inkless electronic fingerprinting as part of criminal background checks for Coeymans Police Department;
- Purchasing Guns, Plate Readers and other crime fighting technologies for local law enforcement agencies;
- OffenderWatch for every jurisdiction in Albany County;
- Guns for Altamont and Cohoes Police Departments;
- KevlarsVests for Coeymans and Green Island Police Departments;
- Aircards and an undercover vehicle for Cohoes Police Department;
- K-9 Bullet Proof Vests for New York State Police Service Canines;

- In-car Cameras for Cohoes Police Department;
- Plate Reader and Evidence Tracking System for Menands Police Department;
- Providing two way radios and flash lights to support Neighborhood Walk and Watch programs in Cohoes, Delmar, Watervliet, Van Schaick Island, and the City of Albany;
- Scholarships for State and Local Police for specialized training;
- The “Bring it to the Courts” Basketball League and other ENOUGH supported youth crime prevention initiatives.
- Continuing education for area Police Officers and prosecutors;
- Nearly 1,000 back-packs filled with school supplies and, working with the local teachers union, APSTA, delivering them to low income families across Albany County.

The District Attorney’s Office is committed to ensuring that crime never pays for those involved in illegal activities, however, we will take those resources that we can secure from criminals and use them to fund anti-crime activities that take place throughout Albany County.

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