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Press Release



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Governor and Executive Council Approve State Grants to Support Local Law Enforcement in Combating Opioid Crisis

CONCORD – Continuing her efforts to support law enforcement as part of her comprehensive strategy to combat the heroin and opioid crisis, Governor Maggie Hassan and the Executive Council today approved state grants funded by the bipartisan legislation expanding Operation Granite Hammer statewide. Governor Hassan proposed the funding as part of a comprehensive strategy to combat the opioid crisis, and the legislature approved it in June.

“The heroin, opioid and fentanyl crisis is the most pressing public health and public safety challenge facing our state, requiring us all to work together every day on a comprehensive strategy that includes supporting law enforcement and strengthening prevention, treatment and recovery efforts,” Governor Hassan said. “These grants build on our success with a pilot through Manchester’s Operation Granite Hammer, expanding support to local law enforcement statewide in their efforts to seize illicit drugs and arrest dealers.”

Last week, Governor Hassan joined state public safety officials and local law enforcement to announce the 16 local law enforcement agencies across the state receiving grants. The approval of today’s item by the Executive Council will permit each grant agreement to become effective once fully executed at the county or municipal level.

“While these grants are critical to strengthening our support for local law enforcement, we know that we cannot arrest our way out of the problem and that we must continue working together to strengthen prevention, treatment and recovery programs across the state,” Governor Hassan said. “I applaud the Executive Council for its swift, unanimous and bipartisan approval of these grants to expand our support for local law enforcement, and I will continue working with members from both parties and stakeholders at all levels to support all those on the front lines of this horrible epidemic.”

Last fall, Governor Hassan announced two state grants to support local law enforcement in seizing illicit drugs and arresting and prosecuting drug dealers, including the State’s partnership with the Manchester Police Department’s Operation Granite Hammer. In November, she proposed a comprehensive legislative strategy for combating the opioid epidemic that included additional funding for law enforcement. In June, Governor Hassan signed House Bill 1000, a bipartisan measure expanding Operation Granite Hammer statewide to support state and local law enforcement in combating the heroin and opioid crisis. To support law enforcement in combating this epidemic, the Governor has also worked to increase the safe and effective use of Narcan, crack down on fentanyl and to train law enforcement officers to treat overdoses as criminal cases.

For the full amount of funds distributed to local law enforcement agencies in communities across the state, please see the table below:

Innovate NH

Balanced Budget

Public Safety

Town	Final eligible Award Amount
Strafford County	\$ 83,762.00
Hillsborough County	\$ 105,000.00
Manchester	\$ 395,058.60
Nashua	\$ 249,266.77
Rockingham County	\$ 67,024.00
Concord	\$ 74,686.30
Portsmouth	\$ 59,324.03
Keene	\$ 18,128.00
Cheshire County	\$ 30,420.00
Carroll County	\$ 26,948.00
Laconia	\$ 76,956.00
Franklin	\$ 28,800.00
Lebanon	\$ 9,113.76
Canaan	\$ 7,433.00
Berlin	\$ 17,981.32
Total to date	\$ 1,249,901.78
Pending : Sullivan County	\$ 18,000.00
Total by end of award cycle	\$ 1,267,901.78

The more than \$230,000 in remaining funds from the \$1.5 million appropriated in House Bill 1000 will go to the State Police Forensic Laboratory and the New Hampshire State Police.

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