

enhance its involvement in or commitment to community-oriented policy; and

(k) provide assurances that, in order to further effective law enforcement, the applicant will, to the extent practicable and consistent with applicable law, seek, recruit, and hire qualified persons who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups and qualified women to increase their ranks within the sworn positions in the law enforcement agency.

5.7.2 COPS AHEAD applicants also must submit an Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form SF-424), which will be provided in the application kit. The SF-424 is the face sheet for the application.

5.8 COPS AHEAD applications must be submitted no later than February 15, 1995. Completed applications should be mailed to COPS AHEAD, P.O. Box 14440, Washington, DC 20044, and generally will be processed in the order in which they were received.

5.8.1 The COPS Office will notify an applicant of any curable deficiencies in the application and will make available any consultations or technical assistance needed to assist in the curing of such deficiencies.

5.9 Grant determinations will be made in writing, with sufficient documentation to indicate the basis upon which assistance was provided or denied.

5.9.1 If an application is approved, a grant award package, including any special conditions determined to be appropriate based upon the application (including grantee-specific monitoring requirements), will be prepared and forwarded to the applicant. The award package must be signed by the grantee and returned, and necessary financial arrangements for funds transfer made, before grant funding will commence.

5.10 Grant funding will commence as of the date of the beginning of the grant period or the date on which the officers to be funded are hired, whichever occurs later.

5.10.1 COPS AHEAD grant funding is prospective only from the beginning of the grant award period. Grant funds may not be used to pay for salaries or expenses incurred prior to the date of the beginning of the grant period, regardless of when the officers to be funded were hired.

5.11 A COPS AHEAD application, whether successful or unsuccessful, will have no bearing on an applicant's eligibility to apply for any other COPS grants.

5.11.1 An award under COPS AHEAD may be considered in evaluating the public safety need in

connection with subsequent applications by the same agency.

5.11.2 COPS application deadlines and processing time will be designed so that, to the extent practicable, COPS AHEAD applicants will be advised of the decision on a COPS AHEAD application prior to the deadline for the applications for another COPS program.

Section 6 Provisions Applicable to COPS FAST

6.1 COPS FAST is open to States, units of local government, Indian tribal governments, multijurisdictional or regional consortia and other public entities employing career law enforcement officers serving populations under 50,000. "Population" is defined at 3.2.1.

6.1.1 Recipients of COPS Phase I grants (announced October 12, 1994 based upon Police Hiring Supplement applications) are eligible to receive additional funding under COPS FAST.

6.2 COPS FAST uses a streamlined application kit to enable grant applications to be submitted and processed in very short time periods.

6.2.1 COPS FAST Applications will be available on or about November 1, 1994, and will be mailed to the extent practicable to all eligible agencies. In addition, application kits may be obtained from the COPS Office, the Department of Justice Response Center, offices of members of Congress, and offices of United States Attorneys.

6.2.2 In addition to standard assurances and certifications, each COPS FAST application will require the applicant to complete a one-page application (COPS Form 001) containing basic identifying information about the agency, the actual number of sworn officers performing law enforcement functions as of October 1, 1994, the number of new officers requested, population served, territorial area served, entry level salary and benefits information, the number of UCR Part I violent crimes during 1993, and an agreement to abide by the required assurances and certifications.

6.2.2.1 Under the authority of the section 1702(d)(1) of the Act, and in the interest of expediting the submission and processing of COPS FAST applications, the Attorney General has waived the formal application requirements of section 1702(c)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9) and (10).

6.3 Completed applications should be mailed to COPS FAST, P.O. Box 14440, Washington, DC 20044, and must be postmarked by December 31, 1994. Telecopied applications will be accepted provided that the front and back of the application form are

transmitted, and must be sent by December 31, 1994 to (202) 514-9272.

6.4 Based upon the level of response, the level of funding available to each applicant will be calculated.

6.4.1 If requests from interested agencies exceed the funds allocated to COPS FAST, the Attorney General or her designee has discretion to adjust the amount or starting date of grants. Any such adjustments shall seek to distribute the available funds in a manner that best serves the objectives of the Act.

6.5 Determinations on completed COPS FAST applications generally will be made beginning on or about January 2, 1995 with a targeted completion date, subject to the number of applications submitted, by February 1, 1995.

6.5.1 The COPS Office will notify an applicant of any curable deficiencies in the application and will make available any technical assistance or consultations needed to assist in the curing of such deficiencies.

6.6 Applicants will be notified on or about February 1, 1995 whether an application has been conditionally approved, has been denied, or has been deferred.

6.6.1 A notice of conditional approval will set forth the number of officers that the applicant may begin to recruit, hire and train pending final approval of the grant application. Generally, the approval will be conditioned on the submission of a brief description of the manner in which the proposed hires will be utilized to implement community oriented policing in the applicant agency and continue the efforts after conclusion of the grant period, as well as the submission of budgetary information reflecting the program's funding limits and required non-federal contribution. Other items of information may be required on a case-by-case basis.

6.6.1.1 In the preparation of a community policing strategy, COPS FAST applicants must consult with the organization which acts as the legally authorized bargaining representative of the applicant's law enforcement officer employees, if applicable.

6.6.1.2 Technical assistance and consultations will be provided to assist in the preparation of community policing strategies. Requests for technical assistance should be directed to the COPS Office, P.O. Box 14440, Washington, DC 20444 or by telephone to (202) 514-2058.

6.6.2 If the level of response to COPS FAST requires the Attorney General or her designee to adjust the starting date of grants, the notification will advise an affected agency that it is anticipated that its COPS FAST