



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Washington, D.C. 20503

March 16, 2010

The Honorable Louie Gohmert
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
B-351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Gohmert:

Division C, Title II of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-117) provided a total of \$239,000,000 for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program. A detailed cross-cut follows:

FY 2010 HIDTA BUDGET

| Proposed Budget Item | Funding |
|---|----------------|
| Initial HIDTA Allocation | \$219,911,716 |
| Auditing Services and Performance Management System | \$2,700,000 |
| Discretionary Funds | \$16,388,284 |
| Total | \$239,000,000 |

The initial \$219,911,716 was awarded to the HIDTAs in March 2010. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of my plan for allocation of the \$16,388,284 in discretionary funds among the following specific funding categories:

FY 2010 HIDTA DISCRETIONARY FUNDING RECOMMENDATION

| Proposed Funding Category | Recommended Funding |
|--|----------------------------|
| Program Adjustment (2 Percent) | \$4,398,234 |
| Domestic Highway Enforcement | \$4,400,000 |
| Domestic Marijuana Eradication and Investigation | \$3,100,000 |
| Prevention Initiatives | \$800,000 |
| Parcel Project | \$600,000 |
| Hemisphere Project | \$1,450,000 |
| Native American Project | \$250,000 |
| New Counties and Emergent Threat Initiatives | \$1,390,050 |
| Total | \$16,388,284 |

A detailed allocation plan for each project will be provided to the Committees for their review before any awards are made by the Administration.

If you or your staff has any questions, please contact me at (202) 395-6700 or contact Christine Leonard, Director of ONDCP's Office of Legislative Affairs at (202) 395-7225. Please accept my sincere thanks for your continued support of the HIDTA program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gil Kerlikowske". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a prominent "K".

R. Gil Kerlikowske
Director

A brief description of each recommended funding category follows:

\$4,398,234 will fund a 2 percent program adjustment to be allocated among all 28 regional HIDTA Programs. This program adjustment was the top discretionary funding priority recommended by the HIDTAs and will help offset the increased costs of their criminal investigations. The funds will be allocated among all HIDTAs based on a mathematical percentage of their total base funding.

\$4,400,000 will be directed toward the Domestic Highway Enforcement Project. These funds continue targeted multi-jurisdictional law enforcement efforts directed toward ongoing transportation corridor projects to seize drugs and illegal proceeds along our nation's highways, and to support ongoing related Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) investigations.

\$3,100,000 will be allocated to the Domestic Marijuana Eradication and Investigation Project. The purpose of this project is to provide funding to help HIDTAs in marijuana production areas with the development of additional means to investigate outdoor marijuana growing operations and to eradicate marijuana growing on public lands.

\$800,000 will fund Prevention Initiatives. These prevention initiatives will facilitate increased coordination between the law enforcement and prevention communities to reduce drug abuse and its negative consequences.

\$600,000 will be directed toward the Parcel Project. This project focuses on the investigation of DTOs using parcel shipping services to transport illegal drugs and drug proceeds.

\$1,450,000 will be allocated to the Hemisphere Project. The project provides forensic analysis of electronic call detail records. Nodes that support HIDTA investigations nationwide currently exist in the Atlanta, Houston and Los Angeles HIDTAs.

\$250,000 will be geared toward the Native American Project. The purpose of the project is to provide funds to assist HIDTAs to develop intelligence-driven operations to detect, deter, interdict, disrupt, and/or dismantle organizations involved in drug trafficking on tribal lands.

\$1,390,050 will fund new county designations and emergent threat initiatives. These funds will support newly designated HIDTA counties and initiatives to address emergent threats.

This recommendation was developed in consultation with the HIDTA Directors in accordance with the requirements of the Appropriations Act. The Appropriations Act stipulates "...That the Director shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the initial allocation of fiscal year 2010 funding among HIDTAs not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, and shall notify the Committees of planned uses of discretionary HIDTA funding, as determined in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act."