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BRACKEN COUNTY

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Howard W. Niemeier, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

BRACKEN COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE RECEIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTION PROGRAM GRANT

Governor Steven L. Beshear's Office has notified the Bracken County Fiscal Court and Sheriff's Office that funding for the Law Enforcement Protection Program (LEPP) Grant, which is the responsibility of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) has been approved. Based on all conditions of the grant being met, the Sheriff's Office will be awarded \$6,208.70 for the purchase of (5) Glock Model 22 - 40 caliber duty weapons, (2) X26 Tasers, (4) Body Armor Vests, and (4) cartridges for the X26 Tasers.

This equipment will be used to equip all officers in the agency with the same caliber handguns for consistency and officer safety issues. Currently officers carry their own personal handguns with three different calibers (9mm, .40, and .45 calibers) being carried by officers. It will also complete equipping all officers with Tasers to help provide the tools to our officers to help protect them from injuries. The Bullet Proof Vests will provide protection for two officers who do not have vests and to replace an old vest and one that no longer fits an officer.

With the purchase of the new handguns the agency will provide practice ammo and qualification ammo for the officers to qualify with these weapons. All officers will be required to complete a qualification course according to Department of Criminal Justice Training mandated standards.

The equipment purchased with this grant will also decrease potential liability from law suits that may be filed against the agency. It provides better trained and better equipped officers to deal with the everyday activities and events that may be encountered during their tour of duty.