



OKLAHOMA

Law Enforcement Incentive Program

▶ AT-A-GLANCE

▶ **Project Characteristics**
Innovative

▶ **Program Areas**
Occupant Protection
Law Enforcement
Alcohol and Other Drugs

▶ **Targeted Populations**
Local law enforcement executives

▶ **Type of Jurisdiction**
Law enforcement agencies

▶ **Jurisdiction Size**
535 agencies

▶ **Funding**
Section 402: \$ 30,000

▶ **Contact**
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Problem Identification

With increased demands on law enforcement officers and agencies, it is difficult for officers to find the time and motivation needed to work a traffic safety enforcement mobilization. It can be even harder to find the time to complete the necessary reporting paperwork after the mobilization is completed.

Oklahoma law was unclear on the issue of providing incentives. To preclude problems, the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office (OHSO) had legislation passed that specifically permits the OHSO to implement an incentive program.

Goals and Objectives

The *Law Enforcement Incentive Program* began in spring of 2004. Its goal is to engage participation in traffic safety enforcement mobilizations and 100 percent reporting by participating agencies.

The project's intermediate objectives include:

- Educating agencies on the importance of participation in traffic safety enforcement mobilizations and reporting results;
- Notifying all law enforcement agencies via mailed pamphlet, personal contact, community organizations, and training events; and
- Unveiling an incentive project at the May Mobilization kick-off breakfast.

Strategies and Activities

The *Law Enforcement Incentive Program* achieved its goals by implementing the following strategies and activities:

- Drafted language that specifically permitted the OHSO to provide incentives.
- Received endorsement of proposed incentive legislation by the Department of Public Safety. The legislation, which passed without any issues, reads as follows:
Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office of the Department of Public Safety may provide incentives, as permitted by federal regulations, to the public and any law enforcement agencies of the state for the purpose of promoting increased participation in traffic safety-related projects. The incentive shall be purchased only with federal funds, if available.
- Pre-qualified all participating agencies that signed up with OHSO prior to the mobilization and completed the reporting form by the assigned



deadline.

- Awarded incentives of \$3,000 each to five agencies, as selected from a pool of all qualified participants.
- Created a multi-purpose brochure to make reporting easier and allow the department to 1) learn about the mobilization, 2) fax in the participation form, and 3) fax in the reporting form all on the same document.
- Enabled selected agencies to use the incentives to purchase OHSO approved traffic safety-related items such as radar devices, in-car video cameras, trips to highway safety conferences, or training.

Results

The *Law Enforcement Incentive Program* achieved the following results in the 2004 fiscal year:

- After the first *Click It or Ticket* mobilization using the incentives, agency reporting increased by an overwhelming 71 percent. Applying the same formula to the August *You Drink & Drive, You Lose* mobilization (conducted prior to the incentive program), reporting increased by 68 percent.
- The incentive program has been well received by Oklahoma law enforcement agencies who believe the program is a positive way to motivate participation and receive timely results.