

City of Martin/Weakley County Schools SRO Program (est. 1999)

- Initial funding (100% salaries/benefits) via COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) grant – 3 year grant period with a required minimum 3 year post grant sustainability plan - Piloted in Martin as model for county-wide expansion

TOTAL federal dollars allocated in 2002 = \$121 million

- SRO Oversight Committee developed – fixed members are school principals and counselors from each school served, SRO Liaison (Safe Schools Coordinator), school board chair, assistant director of schools, director of schools, assistant chief of police, chief of police; rotating members include parent representatives, city board members and school board members from varying districts

Group initially assisted in finalizing the Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.), job description, job posting and candidate selection/interview process; initially met twice a year to review program performance, receive activity/needs updates from officers. Currently meets to participate in candidate selection process – will re-evaluate meeting needs with county-wide program expansion

- **TOTAL** federal dollars allocated in 2017 = approximately \$1.3 million – awarded grants were for 75% salaries/benefits of officers and had to target homeland security problems, illegal immigration or violent crime – 2 awards in TN; targeted burglary and drug related crimes – average award = \$125,000.00
- Federal omnibus bill, signed in March, 2018, allocates 1.2 billion in education mainly through the **STOP School Violence Act**; designed to improve school safety, improve school emergency preparedness and mental health and law enforcement programs. Specifically:
 - Features funding for development of school threat assessment/intervention teams (to include interaction with law enforcement)
 - Specialized training for school officials in responding to mental health crises
 - Development of anonymous reporting systems
 - Improved coordination of efforts between law enforcement and school officials
 - Deployment of locks, metal detectors, other security measures on school campuses
 - Purchase of emergency management technology
 - Any measure that improves training, threat assessment, reporting, violence prevention and security at schools

- State *proposed* funding: \$5.2 million in recurring funds (I'm assuming this will come through our SAVE Act funding); \$25 million in one-time funds to address security needs
 - Allocations will be based on BEP funding formula
 - Tied to assessment completion, EOP and drill logs
 - 80/20 match for funding (locally funded SROs may be used as local match)

Priorities are:

- Review & Assess all school buildings – specific training required
- Increase resources for SROs
- Develop or procure an anonymous reporting resource

Anticipated time frame (assuming legislation is passed prior to recess):

- Homeland Security training (4 hour sessions) available by end of April
- Application release date – June 11th
- Allocation release date – July 16th
- Grant start date will be considered the date application is approved by the state