



July 28, 2008

**RICH DAVID TODAY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT
BINGHAMTON IS NOT INCLUDED IN \$1 BILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS
TO KEEP POLICE OFFICERS ON THE STREETS**

**-12 CITIES IN NY COLLECTIVELY RECEIVED \$20 MILLION,
DAVID URGED BI-PARTISAN COALITION TO WORK WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS
TO SECURE FUTURE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES-**

(CITY OF BINGHAMTON, NY) Binghamton Mayoral Candidate Rich David today expressed concern that Binghamton was not included in \$1 billion in federal grants today announced by the Obama Administration to help keep police officers on the street during the economic downturn.

“These officers will go where they are needed most,” Attorney General Eric Holder is quoted saying in the Albany Times Union. “The decision about who gets money was made based on crime rates, financial need and community policing activities.”

Twelve New York cities received the federal funds as part of almost \$20 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants to New York State to fund hiring and rehiring of 96 law enforcement officers in New York.

The funds are administered through the Community Oriented Policing Services or COPS Hiring Recover Program. Approximately 7,000 state and local agencies applied for aid under the grant program. The Justice Department estimates the grant awards will help hire 3,818 new officers and retain 881 positions that would otherwise be lost to budgetary belt-tightening.

Cities in New York State That Received Federal Funding:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Officers Awarded</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Albany Police Department	10	\$2,306,860
Hudson Police Department	1	\$171,907
Monticello	1	\$253,313
Mt. Vernon Department of Public Safety	10	\$1,877,700

Newburgh	4	\$937,480
Niagara Falls Police Department	5	\$1,052,460
Poughkeepsie Police Department	5	\$1,050,400
Rochester Police Department	30	\$5,831,550
Schenectady	8	\$1,861,304
Syracuse	14	\$3,090,514
Troy	4	\$802,708
Utica Police Department	4	\$694,860
State Total: 12	96	\$19,931,056

“The primary question is did Binghamton apply and aggressively pursue this significant funding opportunity,” said David. “At a time when City Hall is sending an ominous sign that Binghamton is looking to cut its police budget by ten percent it’s crucial we take advantage of every funding opportunity possible to keep officers on the streets. If Binghamton did apply and was rejected, we must immediately identify why. Next we must assemble a bi-partisan coalition to work with our federal delegation to secure future funding opportunities to save police officer jobs and keep them on the streets protecting our community.”