

News Release



Controller of the State of California - Kathleen Connell

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For Immediate Release

STATE CONTROLLER KATHLEEN CONNELL RELEASES MILLIONS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS

\$232 Million in "COPS" and Juvenile Justice Money Disbursed

SACRAMENTO, September 20, 2001 — State Controller Kathleen Connell today released \$232.6 million in public safety and juvenile justice money to counties throughout California.

The Budget Act of 2001 provides \$116.3 million in funding for the Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) program and \$116.3 million for local juvenile crime prevention programs. These funds will be used to supplement and not replace existing services.

"These supplemental funds will provide law enforcement agencies and prosecutors throughout the State the resources necessary to provide safer communities," Connell stated. "Additionally, these funds will be utilized in implementing new and evaluating existing programs in order to reduce juvenile crime and delinquency."

The COPS program is a public safety program providing supplemental funding to counties, cities and special districts. The COPS program supports local front-line law enforcement, sheriffs' departments for jail construction and operations, and district attorneys for prosecution.

Chapter 353, Statutes of 2000, requires an evaluation of existing law enforcement, education, youth services resources, and other services that target at-risk juveniles and their families by juvenile crime prevention programs. These crime prevention programs also provide for a continuum of response to juvenile crime and delinquency to provide a swift, certain, and graduated response for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders.

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