



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE A TRADITION OF SERVICE SINCE 1856

NEWS RELEASE

Incident Date and Time: Tuesday, March 28, 2022

Location: Redwood City, CA

Type of Crime/Incident: Federal Government Awards Funds to Sheriff's Office Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training

Summary:

Redwood City, CA- On Tuesday, March 15, 2022, President Joe Biden signed omnibus appropriations spending bill that included \$350,000 earmarked for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office's Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training (ECIT) program. ECIT is a program designed to educate Sheriff's deputies and the almost 80,000 sworn personnel across California on how to respond to and deescalate potentially dangerous psychiatric emergency situations. San Mateo County Sheriff's ECIT is the only such program to be certified by California Peace Officer Standards & Training. ECIT is geared toward a safer California through consistently thoughtful, measured responses to mental health crises. The Sheriff's Office has held 4 ECIT sessions, with the next scheduled for April 2022.

The designation of \$350,000 is the culmination of extensive efforts on the part of San Mateo County Sheriff Carlos Bolanos and the Office of U.S. Senator Alex Padilla. The Sheriff's Office extends great thanks to Senator Padilla and his staff for their championing ECIT. Sheriff Carlos Bolanos states "ECIT is an extremely valuable program which has resulted in multiple successful de-escalations of dangerous incidents. This facilitates a greater focus on a resolution that strengthens public safety and mental health solutions for the public. The Sheriff's Office extends heartfelt thanks to Senator Padilla, who was crucial to the federal government's awarding \$350,000 to ECIT"

Regarding the program, Senator Padilla states "I am proud to have secured federal funding for the Enhanced Crisis Intervention Training Program," said Senator Padilla. "This new funding will help law enforcement first responders be better prepared and better equipped to respond to mental health emergencies in our neighborhoods – and will help lead to safer outcomes for everyone. I'm

committed to continue working in Congress to increase California's capacity to deliver mental health services and keep our communities safe."

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office also thanks U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and U.S. Representatives Anna Eshoo and Jackie Speier for their continued support of ECIT and other Sheriff's Office mental health-focused programs.

Written by: Lt Dan Reynolds
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