



News from Livingston County, NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Livingston County Sheriff's Office Awarded Grant for Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program

Geneseo, NY, October 1, 2019 — The Livingston County Sheriff's Office was recently awarded over \$265,000 in multi-year grant funding from the United States Department of Justice to administer a Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program.

The Sheriff's Office routinely interfaces with victims and witnesses who are faced with significant emotional, psychological, and financial stress as the result of traumatic incidences and victimization. The Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program will ensure that victims and witnesses receive immediate intervention and assistance by involving the specialist at the onset of a case. The specialist will be able to:

- Evaluate a victim's unique and urgent needs; and
- Collaborate early on with local agencies to provide comprehensive, specialized care; and
- Provide a full range of services to victims and witnesses through forensic assistance, emotional support, advocacy, communication, education, identification of service resources, and facilitation of services.

Sheriff Thomas Dougherty said, "In a year where an exorbitant amount of state funding is going to defend those accused of crimes, we are very excited and appreciative to receive federal funding to assist the victims of crime. I commend the grant-writing team that worked on this funding source, and we look forward to offering this very important service to help victims cope, know their rights and feel supported."

For more information on the Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program, please contact the Livingston County Sheriff's Office at 585-243-7100.

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