

(Ross Township, PA) - U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-4) today presented the Ross Township Police Department with a check for \$399,500 in federal funding to purchase much-needed new technology that will improve communication between patrol cars and the police station. Congressman Altmire secured this funding, at the request of the Ross Township Police Department, to improve public safety in Ross Township and the surrounding areas.

Ross Township police currently have to travel back to the station to file reports and gather additional intelligence information, taking up valuable time. Technology purchased with the funding delivered today will allow the department to link the station's records management system and Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT) in patrol cars. Police can then file reports and access intelligence information in the station's database from the field, giving them more time to patrol the community and better information about potential threats.

"By allowing police to file reports and access key intelligence information from the field, this new technology will increase the amount of time they can spend out in the community, making sure western Pennsylvania families are safe," Altmire said. **"Everyday, these police officers dedicate themselves to protecting Ross Township, and they deserve to have all the necessary equipment to do their job. I am very pleased that I could secure this funding to provide them with valuable tools that will make their crime fighting efforts even more effective."**

"This funding will be tremendous for us because it will enable police to do reports from their cars," Ralph Freedman, Chief of Police for Ross Township, said in a statement. **"We really appreciate the Congressman's help in securing this funding."**

The Ross Township Police Department will also use this funding to improve their radio interoperability with other emergency responders in the township and in the surrounding areas. Local law enforcement has played an increasingly active role in homeland security operations in the wake of the September 11th, and radio interoperability is instrumental to ensuring local agencies can effectively respond to emergencies.