For Immediate Release: March 10, 2015 Contact: Chief Peter G. Silva 978-768-6200

Essex Police Department Receives Child Passenger Safety Equipment Grant

Funds Will Make Child Safety Seats Available to Area Residents in Need

Essex – The Essex Police Department has received a \$2000 grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Highway Safety Division (EOPSS-HSD) to expand its child passenger safety efforts. Essex is one of 55 communities in the Commonwealth to be awarded Child Passenger Safety Equipment grants totaling \$132,000, which were given to non-profits and municipal departments to reduce motor vehicle fatalities and injuries involving children.

The grants will be used primarily to purchase child safety seats for free distribution to parents and caregivers in need. Nationwide, traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for children ages three to 14. Properly installed child safety seats have been proven to reduce the risk of death and injury in crashes. It is estimated that 75% of child passenger safety equipment is installed incorrectly.

"Unfortunately, many families and caregivers in our community find themselves financially strapped. With this grant, the Essex Police Department can better serve those residents who find it difficult to afford child safety and booster seats to protect their children from death or injury in a motor vehicle crash," said Chief Peter G. Silva. "We can also assist residents with the proper installation of child safety seats and booster seats through our Fitting Station. The Fitting Station will be available by appointment only here at the station."

For upcoming child seat checkup events or to find a fitting station near you, please visit www.mass.gov/childsafetyseats.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recently updated its motor vehicle safety recommendations, advising that children are best protected by using rear facing safety seats up to the specific age and weight limits of the safety seat. Massachusetts state law also requires the use of booster seats until a child is 57 inches tall or eight years of age.

For more information on how to obtain or properly install child passenger restraints call the Essex Police Department at 978-768-6200 or the Massachusetts Child Passenger Safety Hotline at 1-877-392-5956or go to www.mass.gov/childsafetyseats.

2015 Child Passenger Seat Grant Recipients

| Grantee | Amount | |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Amesbury Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Amherst Fire Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Andover Fire Rescue | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Aquinnah Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Attleboro Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Auburn Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Ayer Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Barre Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Belmont Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Berkley Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Beverly Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Boston EMS | \$ | 7,500.00 |
| Boston Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Braintree Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Brookline Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Burlington Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Cambridge Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Cape and Islands EDDY | \$ | 7,500.00 |
| Charlton Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Concord Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Danvers Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Dudley Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Eastham Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Essex Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Gardner Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Hamilton Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Haverhill Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Holbrook Police/Fire Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Holliston Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Hull Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Ipswich Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Lakeville Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Lowell Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Medford Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Milford Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |
| Millville Police Department | \$ | 2,000.00 |

| Montague Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| New Bedford Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| North Andover Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Norwell Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Quincy Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Rehoboth Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Revere Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Somerville Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Spencer Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Sturbridge Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Taunton Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Tewksbury Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Umass Memorial Medical Center | \$ 7,500.00 |
| Upham's Corner Health Center | \$ 7,500.00 |
| Wakefield Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Wellesley Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Wellfleet Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| West Newbury Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Whitman Police Department | \$ 2,000.00 |