

## State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY JAMES H. HAYES BLDG. 33 HAZEN DR. CONCORD, N.H. 03305 (603) 271-2791

EDDIE EDWARDS ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

STEVEN R. LAVOIE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

August 1, 2024

To: The Honorable Christopher T. Sununu

Governor of the State of New Hampshire

The Honorable Jeb Bradley President of the NH Senate

The Honorable Sherman Packard

Speaker of the NH House of Representatives

From: Robert L. Quinn

Commissioner of Safety

CC: Eddie Edwards, Assistant Commissioner of Safety

Steven R. Lavoie, Assistant Commissioner of Safety Michael W. Kane, Legislative Budget Assistant

Michael J. Landrigan, Office of Legislative Budget Assistant

Re: Reporting on Progress of RSA 21-P:69 Northern Border Alliance

RSA 21-P:69 establishes a Northern Border Alliance (NBA) program focused on reducing the instance of crimes and illicit activity occurring within 25 air miles from the Canadian border. The NBA program shall make grants available to other state, county, and local law enforcement agencies, and also provide funding for the division of state police for the following purposes:

- (a) Overtime costs for officers performing law enforcement activities under this program.
- (b) Equipment for use in performing law enforcement activities under this program.
- (c) Training costs, including overtime backfill, for officers participating in this program

As of June 30, 2024:

In accordance with Chapter 79, section 478, Legislation of 2023, \$1,435,384 was appropriated to the Department of Safety for the NBA program. A total of eight NBA applications were received between 12/1/23 - 12/29/23. On January 31, 2024, the Governor and Executive Council authorized \$519,955 in NBA awards to eight state, county, and local law enforcement agencies across New Hampshire.

NBA program expenditures through June 30, 2024, are as follows:

| <b>Expense Description</b> | Budget          | Exp | FY24<br>penditures | Remaining<br>Balance |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|--------------------|----------------------|
| Overtime                   | \$<br>341,310   | \$  | 167,761            | \$<br>173,549        |
| Current Expenses           | 7,013           |     | 6,486              | 527                  |
| Equipment                  | 159,488         |     | 113,030            | 46,458               |
| Benefits                   | 111,830         |     | 53,452             | 58,378               |
| Grants (Non-Federal)       | 815,743         |     | 12,696             | 803,047              |
| Totals                     | \$<br>1,435,384 | \$  | 353,425            | \$<br>1,081,959      |

Equipment purchased by the Division of State Police for utilization under the grant includes:

- (1) Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD Truck
- (1) Cargo Trailer
- (2) Bombardier Ski-Doo Backcountry Adrenaline Snowmobiles
- (1) Can-Am Defender Max Limited Utility Terrain Vehicle
- (3) Helmets, (3) Pairs of Gloves, (4) Pairs of Overshoes, (5) Nylon Snowpants

The equipment has been received but has yet to be used operationally. Work is being planned regarding upfitting vehicles with markings, lighting, and communications equipment. Once upfitting is completed, operational use will begin.

From December 10, 2023, through June 30, 2024, state, county, and local agencies participated in a total of 232 patrol shifts, equivalent to 2,592.5 hours of law enforcement patrol, resulting in the following reportable activity:

| Activity  | Offense Count |
|---|---------------|
| OHRV and Pedestrian Contacts (including Community Caretaking) | 685           |
| Motor vehicle stops   | 588           |
| Warnings  | 525           |
| Emergency calls responded to                                  | 55            |
| Citations / Summons Issued                                    | 37            |
| Criminal investigations                                       | 18            |
| *Arrests  | 16            |
| Assists to Border Patrol                                      | 6             |
| Intelligence Received from Border Patrol                      | 7             |
| Intelligence Reports Sent to NHIAC                            | 5             |
| Pursuits  | 2             |
| Stolen Vehicles   | 0             |
| Totals  | 1,944         |

<sup>\* (5)</sup> Driving After Revocation or Suspension, (4) Driving Under the Influence, (2) Arrest on Warrant, (2)

License Required (Driving Without a Valid License), (1) Habitual Offender, (1) Assault, (1) Fraudulent Registration Plate and Inspection Sticker

There were seven reports from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) about suspicious activity at the New Hampshire border with Canada during this period.

The enforcement efforts conducted by participants in the Northern Border Initiative have yielded intelligence information that has been useful to our federal partners, including in the initiation and furtherance of federal investigations. Because participants in the initiative have been able to back up local law enforcement on many calls, federal partners have enjoyed a decreased incidence of diversion from their primary missions. Furthermore, federal partners confirm that the amplified presence of law enforcement / NBA participants has had a deterrent effect on federal violations.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Quinn Commissioner

New Hampshire Department of Safety