



## CITY COUNCIL REPORT

March 25, 2010

TO: John Szerlag, City Manager

FROM: Gary Mayer, Chief of Police  
Keith A. Frye, Captain

SUBJECT: Balkan Organized Crime Task Force (BOCTF)

### Background:

The Balkan Organized Crime Task Force (BOCTF) is a collaborative initiative between local law enforcement agencies and other federal agencies in an effort to disrupt and dismantle significant Balkan organized criminal enterprises that are operating in the Detroit Metropolitan area who have established significant intrastate, interstate, and international criminal networks.

In 2009, investigators made 28 arrests, apprehended 76 fugitives, obtained 9 federal indictments, executed 17 search warrants, seized 8 firearms, and developed several informants.

Some of the more notable accomplishments are as follows:

- Investigators seized and forfeited \$48,250.00 from a truck driver who was attempting to smuggle the currency into Canada for the purchase of marijuana.
- A drug trafficking organization was disrupted when 47.3 kilograms of marijuana was seized.
- An individual associated with a Balkan criminal organization originating out of Windsor, Ontario was arrested for possession of two firearm silencers.
- An employee of the Michigan Secretary of State was arrested along with another individual in a bribery investigation linked to providing illegal aliens with drivers' licenses.
- A drug trafficking organization based in the Chicago, Illinois area was disrupted with the seizure of 4800 ecstasy pills. The vehicle was also seized, forfeited, and is now owned by the City of Troy.

The City of Troy received \$23,964.04 in shared asset forfeitures, and placed a forfeited vehicle into service. The City of Troy has also benefited from its participation in the Balkan Organized Crime Task Force (BOCTF) through the investigative support received from agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Immigration and Custom Enforcement. Other benefits received have been in the form of training opportunities, surveillance equipment, communications equipment, vehicles, and reimbursement of overtime through federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) grants or Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force OCDETF grants.

Financial Considerations:

Through the collaboration of resources, the Balkan Organized Crime Task Force (BOCTF) has effectively and efficiently addressed some of the problems associated with Balkan organized criminal enterprises operating in the Detroit Metropolitan area.

Policy Considerations:

Enhance the livability and safety of the community.