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APPROPRIATIONS

ARMED SERVICES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE
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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

August 27, 2014

The Honorable Eric Holder, Jr.
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530-2000

Dear Attorney General Holder:

I write to urge the Department of Justice (DOJ) to identify available programs and resources, including funding from the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, to assist state and local law enforcement agencies that have responded to the civil unrest impacting the community of Ferguson, Missouri and its surrounding areas.

Law enforcement agencies from across Missouri have contributed officers and support to help provide security for the residents and businesses in the Ferguson community. Many of these state and local law enforcement agencies struggle to meet their immediate needs and do not have the resources to respond to the levels of civil unrest that has taken place in Ferguson in recent weeks. State and local law enforcement agencies that have responded to the security needs in Ferguson relied on their own budgets. It has come to my attention that Missouri state and local law enforcement agencies may be in need of additional resources due to the unanticipated costs of responding to the unrest in Ferguson.

I respectfully request that the DOJ identify available programs and resources that could help state and local law enforcement agencies in Missouri that have had to meet the increased law enforcement activity demands associated with the civil unrest in Ferguson. State and local law enforcement agencies in Missouri recognize the need to assist other communities in times of crisis, and as in the past, the Missouri law enforcement community has answered the call again in Ferguson. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Roy Blunt
United States Senator