California Department of Justice DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT Kevin Gardner, Chief



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Subject:

Announcing grant program for local enforcement of tobacco laws under Proposition 56.

No.

Contact for information:

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Date:

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TO: All California Local Law Enforcement Agencies

In November 2016, California voters approved Proposition 56 which increased the excise tax for tobacco products sold in the State. Thirty million dollars of the projected annual revenue is to be distributed annually to local law enforcement agencies through a grant program to support enforcement of certain state and local tobacco laws.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) package, which contains all of the information and forms your agency will need to prepare and submit a proposal, will be posted on the Department of Justice's (DOJ) website in January 2018, at www.oag.ca.gov. The RFP package will include the due date and all application requirements.

The RFP package will include sample goals and objectives to help guide applicants and to give ideas upon which to build. Applicants should incorporate goals and objectives that will help solve local problems. Agencies that wish to collaborate will be allowed to submit join applications. Letters of support from local organizations will be required.

The patterns of use of tobacco products in California are increasingly uneven, e.g., smoking rates vary widely depending on age, race, national origin, education, income, sexual identification, region, etc. There are also variations in the use of different types of products, e.g., cigarettes, e-cigarettes, tank systems, little cigars, cigarillos, chew, flavored products, products containing tobacco together with other substances, etc. DOJ encourages applicants to consider strategies that reduce illegal sales and marketing of all tobacco products to minors, and that take into account these social and product variations as they exist locally. DOJ encourages applicants to develop their own strategies to address these problems. Factors that applicants may wish to consider include the total number of tobacco product retailers, the number of retailers per capita, rates of noncompliance with federal, state and/or local laws relating to sale to minors, population size and density, differential smoking rates, and concentrations of young people in particular areas.

A selection committee will review and evaluate all proposals that are submitted and it is anticipated that selections will be made by March or April, 2018. Selections will be based upon the applicant's responsiveness to the RFP and the ability to implement a project based on the program and administrative requirements.

If you should have any questions regarding this Request for Proposal, please contact:

- Karen Leaf, Senior Assistant Attorney General, karen.leaf@doj.ca.gov (916) 210-7790
- Shannon Patterson, Staff Services Manager II, shannon.patterson@doj.ca.gov (916) 210-7418

We look forward to receiving your proposal and to the possibility of working with your agency to reduce unlawful sale, marketing and use of tobacco products in your community.

Sincerely,

KEVIN GARDNER

Chief, Division of Law Enforcement

For

XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General