

Ritchie Helping Keep St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Deputies Safe on the Job

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In an effort to improve public safety and safeguard law enforcement officers while on the job, State Senator Patty Ritchie is announcing she has secured \$40,000 for the St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office. Funding secured by the senator will help the office purchase a new vehicle, protective body armor and other equipment key to improving officer safety and efficiency.

"Our law enforcement officers put their lives on the line to protect the public—and the very least we can do is ensure they have the equipment necessary to stay safe while doing their jobs," said Senator Patty Ritchie.

"I am pleased to have secured this funding, and thank all members of the St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Office for the important work they do, and the bravery they demonstrate each and every day."

"Every single day, more and more is asked of our department," said St. Lawrence County
Sheriff Kevin Wells. "The need for updated equipment to keep up with demand is vital. In
securing this funding to help us purchase a vehicle and body armor, Senator Ritchie is
allowing us to stay one step ahead of those looking to break our laws and helping ensure our
deputies remain safe on the job."

Funding secured by Senator Ritchie continues her efforts to support local law enforcement as they work to protect our communities. In recent years, she has secured hundreds of thousands of dollars for equipment upgrades at departments across the 48<sup>th</sup> Senate District, as well as collaborated with agencies to collect thousands of pounds of unwanted or expired medications from medicine cabinets during her Drug Take Back and Senior Health and Wellness Fairs.