



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

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**CONTACT: BRIAN FARBER
PHONE: (202) 225-3826**

BISHOP PUTS SAFETY FIRST IN SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE

Secures \$25,000 to Create Unified Public Safety Radio System

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Tim Bishop announced new federal funding for the Southampton Village Police Department. The funds will help the department design, construct and implement one unified, fully interoperable Public Safety Radio System that will upgrade an existing radio communications system for Southampton Village. Bishop secured \$25,000 for the Southampton Village PD, which is included in the fiscal year 2006 Science, State, Justice and Commerce Appropriations Bill.

"It is crucial that first responders have the ability to communicate seamlessly in the event of an emergency," Bishop stated. "I am proud to have had the ability to support the Southampton Village Police Department in their effort to put safety first in Southampton Village."

"Enhancing emergency communications in the Village of Southampton is a priority," stated Village Mayor Mark Epley. "Congressman Bishop recognizes this and thanks to his help with this grant, we will be able to immediately accomplish some of our short term goals of improving coverage area and boosting radio signal strengths."

The Village currently operates five completely separate radio communications systems that are unable to communicate with each other in the event of an emergency. Each system was designed and implemented individually, with different operating and coverage characteristics.

Southampton Village will use the funds to replace and upgrade its aging radio systems and enhance the Public Safety Radio system to include interoperability with all agencies within the Village, Township, and County. It will further allow for interoperability with Public Safety agencies such as the New York State Police, MTA Police, FBI, Secret Service and other agencies operating within the Village.

"I will continue to do all that I can in Congress to help first responders be more prepared to respond to an emergency," Bishop added.

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