



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

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CITY OF MARSTON RECEIVES \$ 16,500 FOR POLICE CAR FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Gregory C. Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented the City of Marston a Mock Check for \$16,500. The grant is part of the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities loan and grant program and will be used to purchase a new police car.

Senator James M. Talent said, "Law enforcement officers are critical in keeping our communities safe and they must have access to reliable equipment to do their job," said U.S. Sen. Jim Talent. "These funds will be used to purchase a new patrol car, resulting in better safety for our community. Law enforcement officials have told me the No. 1 problem in Missouri is fighting the meth epidemic. As we provide additional resources to assist in that effort, we need to provide the essentials as well."

U. S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson said, "Our rural first responders are on the front lines of all kinds of emergencies, and they face challenges and circumstances you don't ordinarily find in the cities: for example, their emergency vehicles see a lot more hard miles. The new vehicle for Marston we are announcing today represents a tremendous investment in health and safety for Southern Missouri. I appreciate the hard work of our two U.S. Senators, Kit Bond and Jim Talent, on this funding, as well as the ability of USDA Rural Development to identify opportunities to improve the quality of life in Southern Missouri and to disburse these federal funds."

Branum added, "Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project."

Mayor of Marston, Rebecca Redden stated, "It is with great appreciation that we thank USDA Rural Development for their help with the purchase of our new police car. Our funds are limited and without their assistance this would not be possible."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo> or by contacting Cathy Walters, Rural Development Manager, at the Charleston Local Office of USDA Rural Development at 831 S. Hwy 105, Charleston, MO 63834 or by calling 573-649-9947.



Front Row: Cindy Northern, Area Specialist, Cathy Walters, Rural Development Manager, Dawn Ferguson, City Collector, Sydney Williams, Police Chief, Wayne Newsom, Police Commissioner, and Greg Branum, Rural Development State Director. Back Row: Joe Lane, Bootheel Regional Planning Commission, Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director, Tracy Williams, Eddie Long, Alderman, and Don Day, County Commissioner

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