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***Mayor Fulop Announces Jersey City Awarded \$1.875 Million Through U.S. Department of Justice COPS Grant to Hire 15 New Officers; Class of 60 Slated to Join the Department in Late December***

**JERSEY CITY – Mayor Steven M. Fulop and Public Safety Director James Shea** announced today that Jersey City has been awarded a **\$1.875 million COPS grant** from the U.S. Department of Justice to **hire 15 new police officers.**

The fifteen officers will be part of a **class of 60 new recruits** expected to join the force in late December. Another six of the officers in the new class will be funded through a grant the City previously received to hire veterans.

“We made a commitment to hiring more police officers as enhanced public safety is a top priority of our administration,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “With this new class, we will have hired 132 officers and are continuing to redeploy personnel to the areas most in need. We will continue to seek funding such as the COPS grant to hire additional officers.”

“I want to thank Senator Booker and Senator Menendez, as well as Congressman Sires and Congressman Payne, for advocating on behalf of Jersey City to receive this important funding,” added **Mayor Fulop**.

This will be the third class of officers to be hired by Mayor Fulop in the year and a half since taking office. The first class of 34 officers was sworn in December of 2013 and 38 officers joined the department in June. Currently, there are 797 sworn officers in the department.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.////**