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### Media Advisory

#### **Nevada receives \$6.73 million in Federal Homeland Security Funding**

Carson City, NV –The State of Nevada Department of Public Safety – Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (NDEM) received grant guidance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) today. The State of Nevada has been awarded \$6.73 million in federal homeland security dollars for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015.

The FFY 2015 grant guidance will continue to focus on the nation's highest risk areas, including urban areas that face the most significant threats. For FFY 2015, the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) will enhance regional preparedness and capabilities by funding 28 high-threat, high-density urban areas. This represents Congressional intent to limit FFY 2015 UASI funding to those Urban Areas that represent up to 85% of the nationwide risk, as stated in the Explanatory Statement accompanying the Department's appropriations act.

Homeland Security distributes funds to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and through the Urban Area Security Initiative the money is allocated to cities across the nation according to a risk based ranking. Las Vegas ranked 24 in 2015, receiving \$3 million to be designated to the Las Vegas area, a 200 percent increase over 2014.

The State of Nevada's funding under the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), which consists of grant funds dedicated for use throughout the 17 counties in the state totals \$3,734,500 for 2015, a one percent increase over 2014's allocation.

"We are pleased to see an increase in the FFY 2015 homeland security grant funding for Nevada. It is an example of the collaboration and the shared responsibility among all levels of government to ensure the citizens of our great state are prepared and protected against any potential threat," NDEM Chief Chris Smith said. The increase in the UASI funds awarded give public safety officials additional resources to address Nevada's existing challenges with a unified approach."

The Department of Homeland Security grant program enhances the ability of states, local, tribal and territorial jurisdictions, and other regional authorities in the preparation, prevention, and response to terrorist attacks and other disasters, by distributing grant funds. Localities can use grants for planning, equipment, training and exercise needs. These funds are used to support the top five priorities determined for the state by the Nevada Commission on Homeland Security.

1. Cyber Security (Mission area: Protection)
2. Intelligence and Information Sharing (Mission area: Prevention)
3. Public Information and Warning (Mission area: All)
4. Operational Coordination (Mission area: All)
5. Mass Care Services (Mission area: Response)

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