



**Ulster County**  
**SHERIFF**

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## Media Release

**J. Richard Bockelmann**  
Sheriff

**George A. Wood**  
Undersheriff

**Harry VanVliet IV**  
Captain of Police Services

**Brad Ebel**  
Corrections Superintendent

Administration	340-3802
Criminal Division/Police	338-3640
Corrections Division	340-3644
Civil Division	340-3643
Pistol Licenses	340-3639
Detective Unit	340-3570
Crime Tips Hotline	340-3599

Fax (Administration/Civil)	334-8125
Fax (Criminal Division)	340-3718
Fax (Corrections/Records)	340-3436
Fax (Detectives)	340-3588

**November 17, 2006**

Captain Harry VanVliet IV, director of the Sheriff's Mobile Data Computer (MDC) system program announces yet another municipal law enforcement agency which has "plugged into" the Sheriff's high-tech system. The **Village of Ellenville Police Department** recently installed high-performance laptops into several police cruisers, which are linked wirelessly to the Sheriff's Mobile Data Server system located at the Ulster County Law Enforcement Center in Kingston. Ellenville Police join the **Shawangunk Police Dept.** and **Rosendale Police Dept.** in using the Sheriff's MDC system.

The Mobile Data Computer System provides mobile users with a powerful and rugged mobile laptop computer, connected to a high-speed wireless data modem that accesses several law enforcement databases including the FBI, nationwide Dept. of Motor Vehicle files, and the state Division of Criminal Justice Services, without the user having to request that information from a dispatcher.

This opportunity is made possible using U.S. Community Oriented Policing (COPS) federal technology grants. Since 1999, VanVliet has secured a total of **\$480,735.00** (including this award) for investment into the Sheriff's state-of-the-art MDC infrastructure system, of which only \$58,519 being county funds. This implementation of Mobile Data Computers and AVL catapults participating

municipal police agencies onto the cutting edge of mobile data technology

The primary goal under this third federal grant project is the integration of interested law enforcement municipalities (towns, city & villages) into the Sheriff's current MDC system. This goal is accomplished by providing municipal police with powerful, hi-speed laptop equipment for access to the Sheriff's MDC system servers, thereby providing access to a shared database

Captain VanVliet plans to enhance information sharing among participating law enforcement by providing the following technology to municipal law enforcement:

- 1) Powerful, ruggedized mobile laptops with related mounting hardware;
- 2) High-speed wireless data modems to connect laptops to databases;
- 3) Automatic Vehicle Locator software to track police patrols for safety;
- 4) Hand-held scanners and thermal printers for electronic ticketing and accident reports program in police cars;
- 5) Software programs and licensing fees for MDC system.

The Sheriff's MDC system recently migrated to a much faster wireless modem connection. This enhanced wireless connection between the police car laptop computer and the Sheriff's MDC server will transmit data by radio wave at speeds equivalent to broadband internet service.

The Sheriff's MDC system provides law enforcement participants in the field with instant access to critical information from several databases including nationwide motor vehicle files, NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, and FBI. Instant access to critical and possibly life-saving data will enable officers to make more informed and quick decisions while confronting potentially dangerous people, places and things. Users will no longer wait several minutes for the information from their

dispatcher, who already performs a myriad of tasks. Information delays often deter officers from requesting data from dispatchers, leaving some criminals undetected and officer safety compromised.

**By providing wireless computers in Police Units, the following is accomplished:**

Officers are provided Rapid Access to critical information (NCIC/DCJS);

Officer safety is increased (with immediate field access to databases)

Effectiveness and productivity is increased;

Officers are able to make better and informed decisions in the field;

The workload of the police dispatcher is decreased;

Silent and secure communications among mobiles and Hqtrs is enabled.

**Advantages of the Mobile Data System include:**

A system that can not be monitored by a scanner;

Can prioritize messaging based on urgency

Automatically notifies other logged-on laptops of emergencies.

Provides a method of “*next-shift*” briefing of critical information;

**Information that can be immediately accessed by the MDC includes:**

DMV files including Registration, Licenses, (In & Out of State);

DCJS Database of Wanted/Missing persons, Articles, Guns and Vehicles;

FBI’s National Crime Information Center (NCIC) 2000 Database;

NYS Laws (searchable) including Penal, CPL, V & T Laws, etc;

Law enforcement forms including accusatory Instruments;

Sheriff’s AEGIS Records Management Database System.

## **Automatic Vehicle Locator System**

The Sheriff's Mobile Data Computer system infrastructure also includes an innovative Automatic Vehicle Locator, often referred to as "AVL". The computer modem used with the laptops contains a GPS module which calculates the patrol car location using Global Positioning Satellites (GPS). The modem transfers unit locations via the modem to a large color map in the Sheriff's Communications room. This innovative technology enhances the safety of officers in the field and provides a tool for the dispatcher to quickly determine the nearest available police unit to a call for service. In addition, each car computer is loaded with this technology, allowing officers in the field to see each other's pinpointed location.



Users will have the ability to monitor patrol routines and patrol zone assignments. During a high-risk situation, supervisors can strategically move patrol units to critical areas based on map readings. Reports are also available to the supervisor, which indicate locations, idle and active times and speeds of the units.