Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld Announce Town Receives Operation Shield Grant

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Farmingville, NY - At the August 16, 2011 Town Board meeting, Supervisor Mark Lesko, Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, and the Town Board voted unanimously to execute an agreement with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office for a New York State Department of Homeland Security Operation S.H.I.E.L.D. (Suffolk Homeland Security Interdiction and Education for Long Island Defense) pass through grant of $6,959.04.

"The Town of Brookhaven spans two coasts from sound to sea and this grant will enable our Division of Harbors and Waterways to continue to participate in Operation S.H.I.E.L.D. and protect our waters," said Supervisor Mark Lesko.

"Keeping our waterways and residents safe is always a top priority and our participation in Operation S.H.I.E.L.D. helps our Town to provide the extra enforcement needed at those critical times of the year to provide the security necessary," stated Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld.

This grant will cover the Town's overtime costs associated with the participating in Operation S.H.I.E.L.D., an inter-municipal operation of more than 30 marine patrol agencies, coordinated by the Suffolk County Sheriff's-Marine Division in conjunction with the NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Counter Terrorism, U.S. Coast Guard, and Customs and Border Protection.

Operation S.H.I.E.L.D. takes place randomly throughout the year. All marinas and bodies of water in our Town, as well as ten other townships on both the south and north shores, check every foreign flagged vessel for proper documentation and equipment.

The Town of Brookhaven has participated in the operation since its inception in 2009.

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