

December 15, 2021

United States Deputy Sheriff's Association
Mike Willis

Dear USDSA,

Recently the Marysville (KS) Police Department applied for Donated Safety Equipment from USDSA. We applied for assistance with mats for our defensive tactics program and a ballistic shield. We did not have mats or a shield.

USDSA provided both. We received four mats and a ballistic shield.

The mats are important to MPD because our defensive tactics program covers how to survive and restrain subjects on the ground. We have a certified instructor, but we did not have equipment of our own to train. That left MPD dependent on other locations and equipment. As we know, shift work doesn't always conform to external scheduling very well. These mats will allow us the ability to continually train when our staffing allows. This ability will dramatically change the frequency we are able to train.

The ballistic shield has already been put to use. We had a felony warrant on a subject with a violent history to include violence against law enforcement. He was involved in a barricaded incident with local departments while armed with multiple guns in the past. The subject was believed to be in the house with time to barricade himself. We had a team member already trained in shield operations and we deployed the ballistic shield in the execution of the search warrant for the individual. We would not have had a ballistic shield available to the team without the assistance from USDSA.



Your program is serving a critical role for smaller departments with budget constraints. You are doing meaningful work that our department greatly appreciates.

Our sincere thank you.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Anthony Escalante
Marysville (KS) Police Department