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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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Greensburg, PA – The Westmoreland County District Attorney’s Office is proud to announce that more than \$48,500 dollars of our drug forfeiture money over the last year has been funneled back in to policing the war on drugs.

Since January of 2022, the Westmoreland County District Attorney’s Office has dispersed funding to 7 area police departments: Greensburg Police, Allegheny Township Police, Delmont Police, Pennsylvania State Police, New Kensington Police, Murrysville Police and Penn Borough Police, per their requests.

Property used or intended to be used in violation of the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act is subject to forfeiture, according to Pennsylvania statutes.

Property and money forfeited is then transferred to the custody of the District Attorney and can only be used for enforcement or prevention of drug violations.

The District Attorney then designates proceeds from forfeited property to be used for community-based drug and crime-fighting measures.

Since January, District Attorney Nicole W. Zicarelli allocated funding to the following departments:

- Greensburg Police received the transfer of a drug-seized vehicle, 2011 Buick
- Allegheny Township Police received \$9,300 for firearms
- Murrysville Police received \$13,212 for automated license plate reader
- Greensburg Police received \$4,289.10 for a SWAT headset
- Delmont Police received \$1,643 for a ballistic shield

- State Police received a contribution of \$510 for a digital camera; an additional \$12,222.49 for Axon Investigate, an evidence-syncing software
- Allegheny Township received an additional \$1,029 for a SWAT headset
- Penn Borough received \$1,827 for a portable radio
- New Kensington received \$4,500 contribution for a K-9 and K-9 vehicle

District Attorney Nicole W. Zicarelli said, “Property and money retained through drug arrests and forfeitures continues to tackle the ongoing drug epidemic. We are still seeing this poison plaguing our neighborhoods and our young people. As the chief law enforcement officer, I am committed to getting it off the streets and supporting our local law enforcement who continue to risk their lives every day to keep all of us safe.”