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**Virginia Center for Policing Innovation To Provide Homeland Security Training Through Collaborative Effort**

*The Virginia Center for Policing Innovation (VCPI) and the Western Community Policing Institute (WCPI), of Western Oregon University, received \$2.2 million in funding through the Department of Homeland Security.*

**/24-7PressRelease/** - RICHMOND, VA, November 30, 2007 - The Virginia Center for Policing Innovation (VCPI) and the Western Community Policing Institute (WCPI), of Western Oregon University, received \$2.2 million in funding through the Department of Homeland Security to develop and deliver a national training program targeted at executive level leaders charged with homeland security responsibilities.

VCPI and WCPI will work in a collaborative partnership on this three year innovative and unique training program. Scenario-Based Executive Level Training (S-BELT) will utilize classroom instruction, on-line web-based training and support, conference-tract modules and interactive scenario-based gaming technology to enhance the leadership capacity and skills of our nation's homeland security leaders.

Together, VCPI and WCPI provide strong national coverage, extensive homeland security and public safety training development and delivery experience and expertise, and extensive homeland security partnerships. "We are thrilled that DHS recognized the synergy of a collaborative effort between WCPI and VCPI," states Lynda S. O'Connell, VCPI Executive Director. "It is anticipated that we will be able to enhance the leadership capabilities of nearly 7,000 current and emerging homeland security executives over the next three years."

**About The Virginia Center for Policing Innovation**

The Virginia Center for Policing Innovation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to advancing public safety by providing unparalleled training and services for law enforcement professionals and the communities they serve. Further information on the Center can be obtained at [www.vcpionline.org](http://www.vcpionline.org) or by contacting Lynda S. O'Connell, Executive Director at (804)644-0601 or via email at [loconnell@vcpionline.org](mailto:loconnell@vcpionline.org).