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**PLYMOUTH COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AWARDED \$60,000
GRANT TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY**

BROCKTON – The Plymouth County District Attorney's Office has been awarded \$60,000 this month through a federally funded grant.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that the funding was awarded through the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, a federal grant that delivered \$5.5 million to 171 local police departments and 28 different state agencies across the Commonwealth. The \$59,999.95 the PCDAO received will be used to fund the office's renewal of GrayKey, a tool from Magnet Forensics used to decrypt and extract data from devices, like cellphones, to locate evidence that can be used to try criminal cases. The grant funding also allowed for the purchase of 12 specialized tablets designed to aid prosecutors, as well as materials like pamphlets that can be disseminated to victims of domestic violence, human trafficking or sexual assault to ease access to community resources.

"We intend to use this funding to renew the PCDAO's GrayKey license, which allows investigators to extract the contents of cellphones as a means of locating digital evidence in any number of cases," DA Cruz said. "This funding will help expedite criminal investigations on our end in Plymouth County and ultimately serves to protect the public and help bring perpetrators of crime to justice."