

## CIS GRANTS CITY OF JEFFERSON'S WISH FOR IMPROVED OFFICER SECURITY

City of Jefferson citizens may notice their compliance officer sporting new duds. The logo apparel is not a fashion statement but, rather a safety measure and an attempt to better communicate with Jefferson residents.

The code-compliance officer travels around Jefferson, responding to complaints, posting notices, visiting residences, speaking with citizens and performing other compliance duties. Until recently however, she had no uniform or other apparel identifying her as a city representative. Residents were occasionally suspicious and confrontational, unaware that she was a city employee. The officer also relied on her own cell phone, with no portable radio for emergencies, such as the type carried by utility department workers.

City of Jefferson administrators took a proactive step, seeking support from the city's insurer to upgrade security measures for the officer. City County Insurance Services (CIS) approved a Risk Management Grant of \$317 for logo apparel and a hand-held emergency radio.

"We always strive to provide the best service to our residents," says City Recorder Sarah Cook, "These funds have made it possible for our staff to go about their job effectively and efficiently."

Cook confirms that the CIS grant is especially appreciated in the current tight-budget economy. "While the safety of our staff is of great concern, it is not likely these items would have been able to be purchased this soon had it not been for the CIS Grant," she says.

CIS' Risk Management Grant program is designed to help its smaller members avoid expensive claims by accomplishing specific loss control activities. Jefferson is one of the 395 member-owners of CIS, which was formed in 1981 by the League of Oregon Cities and the Association of Oregon Counties. CIS provides Oregon cities, counties, and associated public entities with a wide array of risk management and insurance services to meet their property, liability, workers' compensation, and employee benefits needs.

**For more information**, contact Dunny Sorensen, CIS Risk Management Consultant, 503-763-3889.