FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE For more information:

September 6, 2018 William Raynard

 Public Information Officer

 978-774-3281

ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT RECEIVES AMERICORPS GRANT FROM PAARI TO RETAIN TWO RECOVERY COACHES IN MALE AND FEMALE DETOX UNITS

Middleton – Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger is pleased to announce that the Essex County Sheriff’s Department (ECSD) is once again partnering with the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative (PAARI) and will be receiving a 2018-2019 AmeriCorps grant from PAARI to retain two part-time recovery coaches as part of the ECSD’s Detox Team in the Male and Female Detox Units.

This groundbreaking statewide program, which launched last year, combines the power of service with the power of the recovery community and the power of law enforcement-based referral programs, placing AmeriCorps members in host police department sites across Massachusetts. The ECSD is the only Sheriff’s Department in Massachusetts participating in the AmeriCorps PAARI grant program.

PAARI AmeriCorps members build the capacity of law enforcement programs and assist those suffering from substance use disorders by connecting them to treatment and recovery services that divert them from the criminal justice system. The ECSD is one of 73 law enforcement partners selected to receive an AmeriCorps grant from PAARI to bring on AmeriCorps members to prevent overdose deaths and provide vital resources to community members with substance use disorders.

“By integrating PAARI Recovery Coaches into our Detox Team, we try to make it easier for individuals battling addiction in the critical stage as they transition into their home communities,” said Sheriff Coppinger. “The recovery coaches enable us to reach beyond our walls and connect our Detox participants to vitally important community-based resources to better their chances for a sustained recovery. The Department is happy to work with the PAARI AmeriCorps program for a 2nd year.”

PAARI received a three-year grant from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and the Corporation for National and Community Service to launch this first-of-its-kind program that places AmeriCorps members into service at host police department sites across Massachusetts, assisting with local police-led addiction and recovery programs to combat the growing opioid epidemic.

“PAARI’s mission is to provide resources to help law enforcement agencies combat the opioid epidemic and this innovative program will add significant capacity to our law enforcement partners and utilize service as a solution to address critical community needs,” said PAARI Executive Director Allie Hunter McDade. “We are thrilled that the Essex County Sheriff’s Department is continuing as a partner for the second year of this groundbreaking program.”

 ####