

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FY 2023 Smart Policing Initiative Grant Program

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This webinar will begin shortly



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Overview of Today's Webinar

- OJP/BJA Overview
- What is SPI?
- What has SPI achieved?
- What types of agencies may apply?
- What can funds support?
- What are the 2023 SPI Solicitation Purpose Areas?
- What should competitive applicants demonstrate?
- What are the steps in the application process?
- Where can I go for guidance and assistance?
- Q&A

What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

Office of Justice Programs

BJA - Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJS - Bureau of Justice Statistics

NIJ - National Institute of Justice

OVC - Office for Victims of Crime

OJJDP - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

SMART - Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and Tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.



<https://bja.ojp.gov>





**BJA Director
Karhlton F. Moore**

Appointed by President Biden in February 2022, Director Moore leads BJA's programmatic and policy efforts on providing a wide range of resources, including training and technical assistance, to law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, reentry, justice information sharing, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide.

Policy Office

provides national leadership to criminal justice organizations that partner with BJA to identify effective program models for replication and infuse data-driven, evidence-based strategies into operational models, practices, and programs.

Programs Office

administers state, local, tribal, and territorial grant programs. It acts as BJA's direct line of communication to states, local jurisdictions, territories, and tribal governments by providing customer-focused grants management support and careful stewardship over federal funds.

Operations Office

coordinates all communication, formulates and executes the budget, manages contracts, measures grantees' performance, and provides administrative support to BJA.

Public Safety Officer Benefits Office

provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety officers, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

Five Major Strategic Focus Areas

Improve public safety through measures which build trust with the community and ensure an effective criminal justice system

Reduction in recidivism and prevention of unnecessary confinement and interactions with the criminal justice system

Integration of evidence-based, research-driven strategies into the day-to-day operations of BJA and the programs BJA administers and supports

Increasing program effectiveness with a renewed emphasis on data analysis, information sharing, and performance management

Ensuring organizational excellence through outstanding administration and oversight of all of BJA's strategic investments

Fund – Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

Educate – Research, develop, and deliver what works.

Equip – Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Partner – Consult, connect, and convene.

Since 2009, the Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) has provided grant funding and assistance to law enforcement organizations to support their efforts to identify and test innovative, evidence-based solutions to policing challenges and chronic crime problems in their jurisdictions.

SPI's goals are to enable law enforcement agencies to test, establish, or expand innovative ideas and evidence-based programming in police agencies; establish sustainable practitioner-researcher partnerships; foster effective collaborations to increase public safety; and use technology, intelligence, and data in innovative ways.

SPI has helped 86 law enforcement agencies change the way they do business.



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What is the SPI Grant Program?

- Law enforcement agencies competitively receive funding support innovative initiatives meant to improve their crime fighting capacity
- Address a precipitous increase in crime by identifying a pressing operational, technology implementation, or crime reduction issue for innovative, intensive intervention or implementation
- Partner with expert evaluators to document their progress and results
- Issues addressed include:
 - Violent crime reduction
 - Technology implementation
 - Crime analysis
 - Community engagement
 - Innovative responses to individuals in mental health or drug related crisis
- Receive intensive training and technical assistance (TTA)
- See www.smart-policing.com for valuable information on SPI's past and ongoing work

SPI Results

Commerce City, CO: The Commerce City Police Department implemented a Sexual Assault Task Force that enabled the police department to absorb a 46% increase in sexual assault investigations. The project received Agencies Sean May Leadership Award for its groundbreaking work on sexual assault investigations and victim support in 2019.

Detroit, MI: Project Greenlight Detroit (PGLD) implemented a collaborative approach towards crime reduction using CCTV. Researchers found that reports of property and disorder crimes increased; incidents were cleared by arrest at higher rates; and that PGLD likely contributed to a reduction in fatal and nonfatal shootings as well as carjackings.

Miami, FL: The Miami Police Department (MPD) developed a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) in response to the rise in violent crimes taking place in the city. MPD partnered with Florida International University (FIU) to evaluate the effectiveness of the new system. Use of MRTCC technologies has significantly improved the ability to clear violent crime cases.

Who Can Apply?

- ✓ State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies
 - ✓ Governmental non-law enforcement agencies acting as their fiscal agent
 - ✓ Federally recognized Indian tribal governments that perform law enforcement functions
 - ✓ Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes (including tribal consortia operated as nonprofit organizations) acting as a fiscal agent for one or more tribal law enforcement agencies
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- ❖ Two or more entities may carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant
 - ❖ All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee

What Can Funds Support?

To address a precipitous increase in crime identified by the applicant, funds can be used to support:

- ❖ Personnel costs
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Research/Evaluation Expertise
- ❖ Activities that support the selected problem-solving strategy

Grant award amounts are capped at \$800,000 for all three purpose areas

What is a “Precipitous Increase in Crime?”

- Solicitation states that BJA will fund projects that “combat, address, or otherwise respond to precipitous or extraordinary increases in crime, or in a type or types of crime”
- Funding drawn from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, which requires funded projects directly address and respond to crime increases
- Documentation of chronic crime conditions are insufficient to establish the statutory criteria of a “precipitous increase”
- Applicants must illustrate, through data drawn from reliable sources, that there has been a significant increase in crime or type(s) of crimes within the context of the applicant jurisdiction
- This data should demonstrate an unusually high level of increase in crime (or even in a certain type of crime) over a defined period

Research Partner Requirement

- Research partnerships are central to the SPI Model
- The work of research partners must be adequately supported
 - At least 20% of project budget
- Findings on both implementation and outcomes shared with policing community
- Benefits for both individual sites and the policing field

Research Partner Qualifications

- Policy, program, action research, or organization evaluation experience, preferably in policing or in the justice system
- Previous experience working with police agencies and/or organizations
- Experience in several different data collection methodologies, and in both quantitative and qualitative research methods
- Preferable that they have several years of evaluation research experience and experience with oral and written presentations of research results

The SPI FY 2023 Competitive Solicitation Purpose Areas

Three Separate Purpose Areas

- **Purpose Area 1** supports projects that implement and test innovative approaches to operational challenges and crime reduction in police departments
 - **Purpose Area 2** supports projects that explore the most effective ways law enforcement can engage in Community Violence Intervention (CVI) initiatives to address violent crime
 - **Purpose Area 3** supports projects that implement technology-driven justice information-sharing solutions that enable police departments to promote public safety by responding to a specific crime issue
- ❖ Can you apply to all three? Yes, but each application must focus on a different project

The SPI FY 2023 Competitive Solicitation: Purpose Area 1 (PA-1)

Focused on developing and implementing innovative evidence-based policing practices in response to precipitous increases in crime

Applicants are expected to:

- Describe the innovative, data-driven approach
- Enlist a qualified research partner to evaluate the effectiveness of the approach
- Identify a specific policing issue to address
- Develop a prevention/mitigation/response strategy to address the problem
- Evaluate the initiative
- Assess and report the results to BJA, who will make the results publicly available

Examples available at www.smart-policing.com/spi-sites: Commerce City (2019) Los Angeles (2018); Tempe, AZ (2017); Detroit, MI (2016); Chicago, IL (2015); Portland, OR (2014); Brooklyn Park, MN (2013)

Areas of Particular Interest: PA-1

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to focus on issues likely to be confronted by other law enforcement agencies in the United States.
- Areas of particular interest to BJA include initiatives that:
 - Improve investigative approaches and outcomes related to fentanyl production and interdiction, nonfatal shootings and homicides, and/or violent crime driven by juveniles
 - Increase analytical capacity and evidence-based programming within a law enforcement agency
 - Implement innovative new strategies for using civilian staff to address violent crime
 - Reform police agency governance with the goal of improving community trust and increased community participation in law enforcement-led crime-reduction efforts
 - Institutionalize evidence-based policies, procedures, tactics, and strategies throughout a law enforcement organization

The SPI FY 2023 Competitive Solicitation: Purpose Area 2 (PA-2) --- **New Area**

Focused on helping police agencies respond to crime and policing challenges through engaging with Community Violence Intervention programs.

- Describe the CVI initiative planned for or currently underway to address a precipitous crime increase and the need for law enforcement’s support or participation in the CVI initiative
- Enlist a qualified research partner to evaluate the effectiveness of the approach
- Identify a specific role in the intervention for law enforcement, as well as strategies for information sharing and collaboration that that considers personnel safety and information security
- Develop a collaborative plan to support the intervention that is developed in partnership with the CVI initiative’s leadership
- Evaluate the process elements and outcomes associated with law enforcement’s contribution to the CVI initiative, including the identification of promising practices and lessons learned
- Assess and report the results to BJA, who will make the results publicly available

Areas of Particular Interest: PA-2

- What is the appropriate level of collaboration between law enforcement and CVI partners that best supports a successful implementation of different types of CVI initiatives?
- In what cross-training opportunities should law enforcement take part to gain understanding of and trust in the roles of credible messengers, clinicians, and other CVI partners?
- What are the kinds of data that should be shared between law enforcement and CVI partners, and what are promising practices CVI partners can employ to ensure secure handling and protection of law enforcement sensitive data and intelligence?

For more information about the CVI concept and the role of different sectors in CVI programming, please see BJA's [Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative](#) page.

The SPI FY 2023 Competitive Solicitation: Purpose Area 3 (PA-3)

Focused on helping police agencies respond to crime and policing challenges through implementation of technology or information sharing initiatives.

- Describe the technology to be adopted to address a precipitous increase in crime
- Enlist a qualified research partner to evaluate the effectiveness of the approach or solution.
- Identify a specific policing issue to address
- Develop a prevention/mitigation/response strategy to address the problem using the analytical or technological approach/solution
- Evaluate the initiative
- Assess and report the results to BJA, who will make the results publicly available

Examples available at www.smart-policing.com/spi-sites: Houston, TX (2019); Metropolitan Police Department, DC (2019); City of Salisbury, NC; Anniston (AL) Police Department (2019)

Areas of Particular Interest: PA-3

Areas of particular interest to BJA include:

- Application of artificial intelligence-based technology to improve understanding of drivers of crime and locations of criminal activity, as well as to assist in solving cases
- Social network and geospatial analysis approaches and technologies to reduce violent crime and promote effective and meaningful community policing activities that address precipitous increases in crime
- Web-based dashboards or online portals meant to improve law enforcement-community information sharing to address precipitous increases in crime
- Identification of promising practices, mechanisms, and processes related to integration of different technology systems to support law enforcement activities more effectively
- Identification of approaches to building digital trust in the community while using technology as a force multiplier for investigations, operations, and agency staffing shortages

OJP Priority Areas for the Smart Policing Initiative

- Applications that propose project(s) that promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality
- Applicants that demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because they (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 40% of the requested award funding) identify as a culturally specific organization
- Applicants that demonstrate organizational or programmatic support of Executive Order 14074, Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety
 - Participation in the collection and reporting to DOJ of data on law enforcement use of force and deaths in custody
 - Participation in the collection and reporting to DOJ of data on officer suicides and officers killed and assaulted
 - Restrictions on unannounced entries and neck/carotid restraints
 - Restrictions on the possession and use of militarized equipment

Competitive applicants will demonstrate.....

- An increase in crime that is challenging their current public safety capacity and/or approach, documented by data in the application
- Strong executive support for the project within the law enforcement agency
- How the proposed project meets an OJP priority and/or a pressing need for the policing field
- A clear and comprehensive plan for problem and data analysis and a well qualified research partner
- Willingness to examine standard operating procedures and business practices of the agency and make changes that optimize its capacity to respond to crime
- A commitment to sustain the strategies found to be successful, as measured by the project's outcome assessment

Specific Application Information for BJA Submissions:

- Proposed project periods may be up to 36 months
- Applications for funding amounts: up to \$800,000
- Submissions will use evidence-based strategies and programs
- A match is not required
- Awards will be made in the form of a grant
- Project start date should be October 1, 2023 or later
- ❖ **Two stage application process!**

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

- **Step 1**: Submit an **SF-424** and an **SF-LLL** at [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov)
- **Step 2**: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov

**NOTE: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59pm ET, not 11:59pm ET as in past years.*

Read the solicitations carefully for further guidance.

DOJ Application Submission Checklist

Review the [*DOJ Application Submission Checklist*](#)

The checklist covers all necessary steps to complete the two-part application process in Grants.gov and JustGrants.

The checklist includes:

- ✓ how to prepare to apply
- ✓ completing the abbreviated application in Grants.gov
- ✓ Entity Onboarding and JustGrants Access
- ✓ completing, reviewing, certifying and submitting your application in JustGrants, and
- ✓ helpful user tips



SPI Solicitation was released on March 9, 2023

Grants.gov submission date: **May 1**

JustGrants submission date: **May 8**

JustGrants Application Submission Resources

[Application Mechanics eLearning Videos](#)

By viewing the eLearning videos, job aids, DOJ Application Checklist and other resources, applicants will have all of the information needed to successfully navigate the mechanics of submitting an application.



- ✓ [Application Mechanics: Getting Ready to Apply \(NEW\)](#)
- ✓ [Application Mechanics: Initiating Application Submission in Grants.gov \(NEW\)](#)
- ✓ [Application Submission: Locating an Application](#)
- ✓ [Application Submission: Submitting an Application](#)
- ✓ [Application Submission: Completing a Budget Detail Form](#)
- ✓ [Application Mechanics: After Submitting an Application \(NEW\)](#)

Budget Information

Applicants will submit:

- The JustGrants web-based budget form
- Their indirect cost rate agreement by uploading the agreement as an attachment in JustGrants
- The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high risk status)
- Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation
- Training: [Training: Application Submission | JUSTICEGRANTS \(usdoj.gov\)](#)

Resources Available for Grant Applicants

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL**
 - **Customer Support Hotline** – 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035
 - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays
 - **Email**
 - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>
 - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies

Application Assistance (cont.)

JustGrants Technical Support

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants)
 - **Customer Support Hotline – 833-872-5175**
 - Monday – Friday between 5:00 AM and 9:00 PM ET
 - Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET
 - **Email**
 - <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support>
 - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Application Assistance and Support (cont.)

OJP Response Center

- Provides solicitation support and general assistance
- **email** - grants@ncjrs.gov
- **web chat** - <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>
- **toll free** at 800–851–3420
- **TTY** at 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday

Subscribe

- Subscribe to receive email notifications of new funding opportunities and other resources
 - Sign-up to receive the twice monthly **JUSTINFO** newsletter as well as the weekly **Funding News** email
 - Subscribe at <https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe> and be sure to select “Grants/funding” as an area of interest

Stay Connected



Email Updates

- Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.
*Message and data rates may apply.

Social Media

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DOJBJA>
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/dojbjaj

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA's website** – <https://bjaj.ojp.gov>

Recommended Resources

JustGrants Training

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training/training-application-submission>

DOJ Application Submission Checklist

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh296/files/media/document/appln-submission-checklist.pdf>

OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide>

DOJ Grants Financial Guide

<https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>

DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training

<https://www.ojp.gov/training/financial-management-training>

SPI Website

www.smart-policing.com

Quick Reference: Important Contacts



Technical Assistance Submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL
into Grants.Gov: 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035
support@grants.gov



Technical Assistance Submitting the FULL APPLICATION
into JustGrants: 833-872-5175
JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov



Technical Assistance with Programmatic Requirements
contact the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420
grants@ncjrs.gov



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Questions?

Enter in the Q&A box and send to All Panelists