BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FY 2023 RURAL AND SMALL DEPARTMENT VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM

Tuesday, May 16, 2023
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Presenter

- Juliana Palmer, Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction to OJP and BJA

Program Overview

Eligibility and Application Requirements
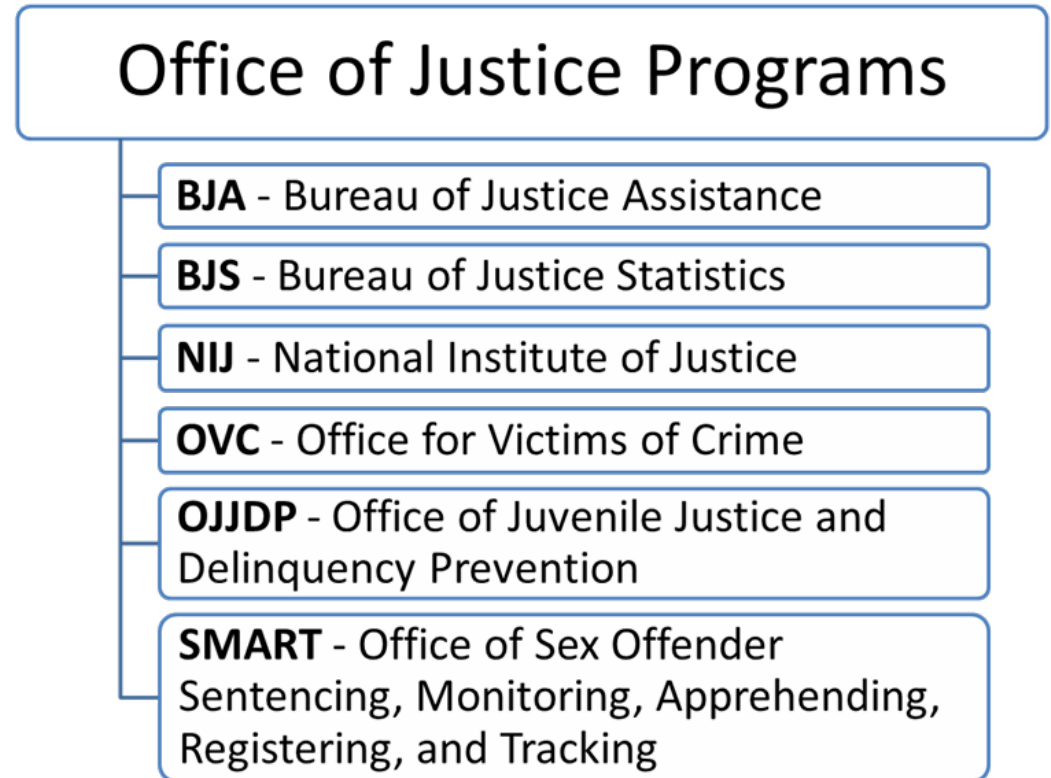
Application Resources

Q&A

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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.

Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director

https://bja.ojp.gov/
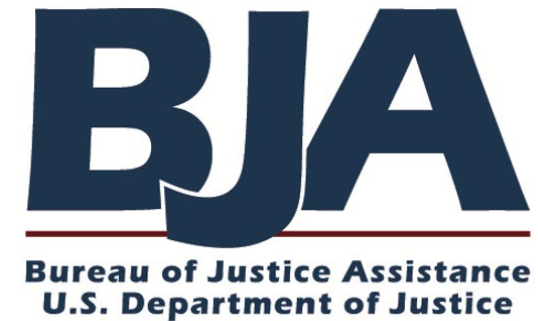
Fund

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.

SECTION 2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Initiative Overview

- BJA seeks to support **small** and **rural** agencies in their efforts to combat violent crime.
- This program will provide funding to small and/or rural agencies and/or to prosecutors who are interested in implementing or improving the capacity of their organization around one or more critical elements found in the ***Violent Crime Reductions Operations Guide*** or the ***Prosecutors' Guide to Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities***.

Activities

- Complete the ***Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide*** online assessment tool.
- Select one or more of the critical elements within the Guide to improve capacity as part of an overall violent crime reduction strategy.
- Partner with a researcher or subject matter expert to monitor the activities identified for the project.

Activities (cont'd)

- Implement programming and activities that reflect an enhanced capacity, per the Guide.
- Deploy agency resources such as personnel, services, or analytical tools that meet the capacity enhancement goal.
- Document the development and implementation of strategies to reduce the violent crime problem(s) identified in the application.
- Track progress and outcomes.
- **Additional program activities are outlined in the solicitation.**

Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide

- The Guide outlines **Critical Elements** that discuss important capabilities for any agency in its fight against violent crime, including the most essential, overarching element: leadership.

- Law enforcement leaders can use this Guide and its Critical Elements as a resource to assess their agency's capacity and identify additional actions that can assist them in their fight against violent crime.
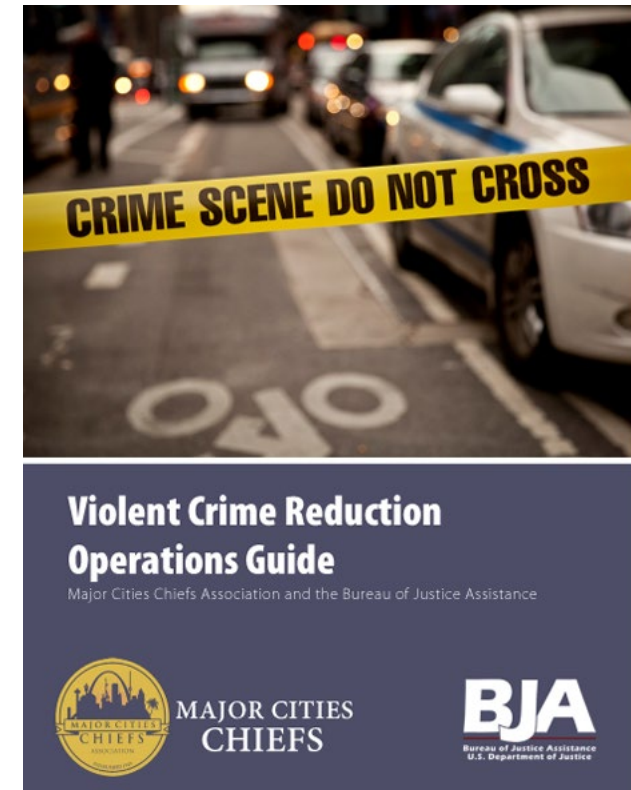
Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide (cont'd)

- The Guide outlines the **Critical Elements**, essential components of crime-fighting strategies, in a format that can assist agency executives in determining their respective capacity in each of these areas.

Leadership

Community Engagement

Partnerships

Accountability

Technology

Resources & Sustainability

Analytics & Intelligence

Training & Tactics

Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide Assessment Tool

- The purpose of this self-assessment tool is to help the responding agency identify areas in which it might want to increase its violent crime reduction capacities and capabilities.

- The tool is meant to help an agency identify a continuum of capacity and serve as a means for that agency to identify areas in which it may want to improve and build capacity.

SECTION 3

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility

- This solicitation is limited to small law enforcement agencies, to include prosecutors, and agencies serving rural communities, to include prosecutors serving rural communities or small departments.

- The following entities are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity:
  - A **small agency** is any law enforcement agency with 250 or fewer sworn officers.
  - A **rural agency**, as defined under this initiative, is (a) an agency serving any area or community, no part of which is within an area designated as a standard metropolitan statistical area by the Office of Management and Budget or (b) any agency serving one or more rural census tracts.
  - A **tribal agency** is any federally recognized tribe with a designated law enforcement agency.

Available Funding

- Funding Available
  - $300,000 maximum dollar amount.
  - 36 anticipated awards.
  - Funding begins October 1, 2023, for 36 months.

Previous Program Funding

- Previous funding through this program has been used to support efforts to combat various rural violent crime challenges, including:
  - Gang-related violent crime
  - Narcotics-related violent crime
  - Firearms-related violent crime
  - Assaults, robberies, and sexual assaults
  - Child abuse and exploitation
  - Homicides
  - Kidnappings
  - Intimate partner violence

Previous Funding Success Stories

- The Vail, Colorado, Police Department, Eagle County District Attorney's Office, Eagle County Department of Health and Human Services, along with numerous community partners, launched the Mountain Safe Program. This program services collaboration designed to reduce violent crime and victimization, especially among youth and the Spanish-speaking population.

Previous Funding Success Stories (cont'd)

- The Ashland, Alabama, Police Department sought to create better responses to crime-challenged areas using problem-oriented policing and technology such as pole cameras and a mobile camera trailer. Ashland used its mobile trailer to reduce violent criminal activity in one area by up to 60 percent over a 5-month period.

Previous Funding Success Stories (cont'd)

- The Tamaqua Police Department, Pennsylvania, is addressing the issue of sexual assault and related violent crime through a series of partner trainings and increased cross-sector collaboration. The scheduling of training opportunities for initiative partners is underway for much of 2023, and the site reports strong community interest in its work.

Previous Funding Success Stories (cont'd)

- The Comanche, Texas, Police Department seeks to reduce human and narcotics trafficking and child exploitation through the implementation of automated license plate readers (ALPRs) and the use of forensic software.

- ALPRs were strategically placed throughout various high crime areas. These efforts led to multiple seizures and confiscation of numerous narcotics, fentanyl pills, cocaine, and other drugs. The Comanche Police Department also mined nearly 400 gigabytes of data for several cases, including murder, assault, and burglary.

Things to Keep in Mind

- Applicants should reference the ***Violent Crime Reductions Operations Guide*** or the ***Prosecutors' Guide to Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities*** throughout their application as stated in the solicitation.

- The program timeline should highlight and include major milestones and deliverables.

Important Dates

- Posting Date: April 17, 2023
- Grants.gov deadline: June 13, 2023, 8:59 p.m. eastern
- Application JustGrants deadline: June 20, 2023, 8:59 p.m. eastern

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What should be included in my application?

A: Please review the "Application and Submission Information" section of the solicitation, beginning on page 13. What is needed are: proposal abstract, narrative, budget worksheet, budget narrative, timeline, résumés, etc.

Q: Can my organization propose to partner with other entities?

A: Yes. Partnering with other entities is allowable but only one entity may submit the application and assume fiscal/management responsibilities. We encourage applicants to identify those partner organizations within the application, when possible.

SECTION 4

APPLICATION RESOURCES

Contents 🔗

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

https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/

Application Assistance
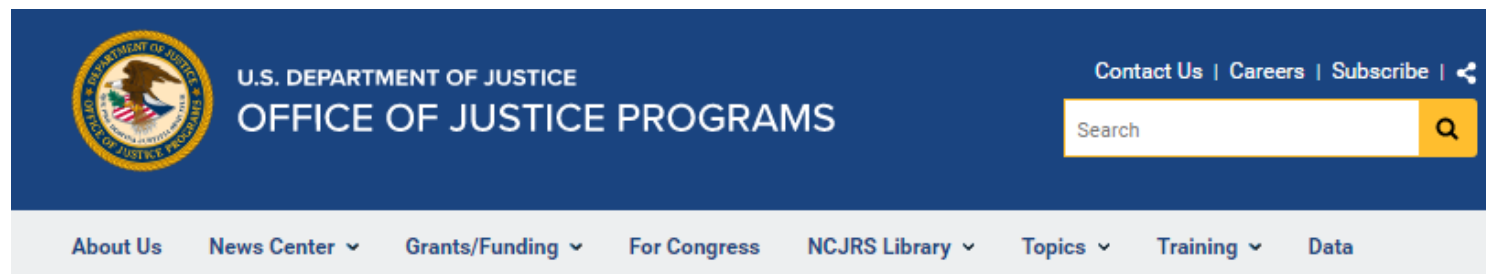
Grants.gov

- 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.
  - **Web and Email**
    - https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html
    - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

JustGrants Technical Support

Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).
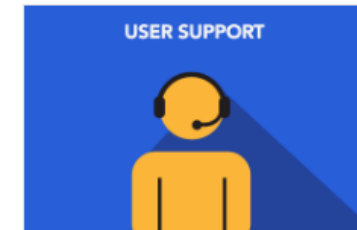
- **Customer Support Hotline:**
  - 833–872–5175
  - Monday – Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. ET
  - Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Web and Email**
  - https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support
  - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Email Updates

Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.

(Message and data rates may apply.)

Stay Connected 🔗

- Subscribe to:
  - OJP News Releases⊠ for the latest OJP press releases and publication advisories
  - JUSTINFO, a twice-monthly email newsletter
  - Funding News⊠ , a weekly notice of new grant opportunities and application tips
  - *JusticeGrants Update* e-newsletter⊠ for the latest information and updates on JustGrants, DOJ's grants management system
  - OJP email newsletters⊠ and topical messages available from OJP program offices (BJA, BJS, NIJ, OJJDP, OVC, and SMART)
- Sign up for U.S. Department of Justice Email Updates⊠

https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe

Stay Connected!!

- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA

- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/DOJBJA

- **YouTube:** https://www.youtube.com/dojbja

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA's website:** www.bja.ojp.gov.

Additional Questions?

Contact the **OJP Response Center**:

- Email: grants@ncjrs.gov

- Toll free: 800–851–3420

- TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

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

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications must 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.

- Step 2: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov.

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

Read the solicitation carefully for further guidance.

Quick Reference: Important Contacts

For technical assistance submitting the <u>SF-424</u> and <u>SF-LLL</u> into Grants.Gov, **call:** 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, 24 hours a day, or **email:** support@grants.gov.

For technical assistance submitting the **full application** into JustGrants, **call:** 833–872–5175, 7–9 ET, M–F, and 9–5 ET, weekends and holidays, or **email:** JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.

For technical assistance with the programmatic requirements, **call the OJP Response Center**: 800–851–3420, 10–6 ET, M–F, or **email:** grants@ncjrs.gov.

Questions?

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