

## **Guidance on the Duration of the Federal Interest in VOI/TIS-funded Facilities**

This guidance relates to correctional facilities that were constructed, in whole or in part, with funds from the federal Violent Offender Incarceration and Truth-in-Sentencing (“VOI/TIS”) Incentive Formula Grant Program. The VOI/TIS program was administered under the Office of Justice Programs (“OJP”), U.S. Department of Justice (the “DOJ”), with grants made between 1996 and 2001.<sup>1</sup> The VOI/TIS grants provided States with funding to increase bed space for violent offenders, by (among other things) building new correctional facilities or jails or by expanding existing facilities or jails. No new VOI/TIS funds have been appropriated since 2001, but numerous facilities throughout the United States were built with VOI/TIS funds. This guidance is intended to address the ongoing obligations that recipients of those funds have to the DOJ regarding those facilities, and is a supplement to the [\*Guidance for States on the Use and Disposition Requirements for VOI/TIS-funded Facilities\*](#).

As a condition of funding, and in keeping with the statutory purpose of increasing correctional bed space, VOI/TIS grant recipients were required to agree to operate those facilities built under VOI/TIS as correctional facilities or jails. The DOJ has a federal interest in that continued use of the grant-funded facilities. The duration of that interest with respect to any particular facility extends throughout the useful life of the facility (as indicated in the grant recipient’s tax returns and/or annual financial-statement depreciation schedules), or 15 years, whichever is shorter.

Once the federal interest expires, the grant recipient no longer has any obligation to continue using the facility as was originally intended under the award, and, at that point, a grant recipient may cease facility operations, repurpose the facility, or sell or otherwise dispose of the facility. For questions about changing the use of a facility, or property disposition options, before the federal interest expires, see [\*Guidance for States on the Use and Disposition Requirements for VOI/TIS-funded Facilities\*](#).

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<sup>1</sup> The grants initially were administered by OJP’s Corrections Programs Office but later were transferred to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (“BJA”) for administration.