

# BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FACT SHEET

## PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT

### Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program to Support Law Enforcement Agencies

This program is targeted to law enforcement agencies, including tribal, seeking to pilot, establish, or enhance body-worn camera policy and implementation practices. BJA's Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program (BWCPIP) addresses how to develop and implement these policies and practices for effective program adoption, including the purchase, deployment, and maintenance of camera systems and equipment; data storage and access; and privacy considerations. BWCPIP funds are to be used to purchase or lease camera technology, and program stipulations require that the devices be deployed in a deliberate and planned manner. Before receiving the bulk of their funds, award recipients must first demonstrate a commitment and adherence to a strong BWC policy framework. BWCPIP also stresses requisite training, tracking the impact of BWCs, and internal and external stakeholder input. Correctional agencies are eligible to apply for BWCPIP funding provided they are publicly funded and perform law enforcement functions. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/body-worn-cameras-bwpcs/overview>.

### Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program

This program funds the implementation of transdisciplinary crisis response training to educate, train, and prepare

law enforcement and corrections officers so that they are equipped to appropriately interact with people who have behavioral health conditions (including mental health and substance use) and intellectual and developmental disabilities in the course of completing their job responsibilities. It seeks applications from states, local law enforcement, and correctional entities to plan and implement training, engage in organizational planning to deploy trained officers in times of crisis, and sustain a best practice crisis response program.

### Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program

This program aims to reduce the impact of opioids, stimulants, and other substances on individuals and communities by supporting comprehensive, collaborative initiatives. BJA's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) funding provides necessary resources that allow communities to respond to illicit substance use and misuse to reduce overdose deaths, promote public safety, and support access to treatment and recovery services in the criminal justice system. COSSAP supports states, units of local government, and tribal governments to plan, develop, and implement comprehensive efforts that identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioids, stimulants, and other drugs. The program also promotes cross-system planning and coordination to deliver a broad range of evidence-based, culturally relevant interventions. More information can be found at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/cossap/overview>.



## Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

This program supports law enforcement and behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public safety and health responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs) who come in contact with the justice system. Focused on planning and implementing collaborative law enforcement and mental health responses, such as co-responder teams, crisis intervention teams, and integrated 911 dispatch, this program supports public safety and health partnerships with social services and other organizations that will improve responses to people with MHDs and co-occurring MHSUDs.

## Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program

This is a formula grant program that is the leading federal source of criminal justice funding to states, territories, local governments, and tribes. It provides critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas, such as law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, crime victim and witness initiatives, mental health programs, and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams. To learn more about the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>. To find your State Administering Agency, visit: <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/state-administering-agencies/overview>.

## Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Program

Administered by BJA, this program assists states and/or local units of government in responding to extraordinary law enforcement emergencies by authorizing the Attorney General to grant funding to help alleviate costs, such as overtime, incurred by law enforcement in response to a law enforcement emergency situation. By restricting applicability only to emergency situations in which state

and local resources have been completely exhausted or are inadequate to deal with them, Congress limited which law enforcement emergencies are eligible. If a law enforcement emergency arises, a state may apply for assistance on behalf of itself or units of local government. The submission must be in writing by the State Administering Agency (SAA) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant contact. To find your SAA, visit: <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/state-administering-agencies/overview>. Detailed information about the program may be found at 34 U.S.C. §§ 50101-50112: <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title34/subtitle5/chapter501&edition=prelim> and at 28 C.F.R. Part 65: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-28/chapter-I/part-65?toc=1>.

## Emmett Till Cold Case Investigations and Prosecution Program

Launched in FY 2020, this program supports efforts by state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution agencies, working with their partners, in the investigation and prosecution of unsolved cold case homicides suspected of having been racially motivated. The program also includes support for victims' families and stakeholders impacted by these cases. Funds are limited to address incidents that occurred no later than December 31, 1979. Agencies are encouraged to work with their federal partners to pursue these cases and coordinate the review of case files and evidence related to potential cases, consistent with other activities under the Emmett Till Act. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/emmett-till-cold-case-investigations-program/overview>.

## Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

This program enhances the capacity of regulatory and law enforcement agencies and public health officials to collect and analyze controlled substance prescription data and other scheduled chemical products through a centralized database administered by an authorized agency. Prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) help state and local governments to detect and prevent the diversion and abuse of pharmaceutically controlled substances, such as opioids and other prescription drugs.

This BJA program strengthens states' and territories' ability to plan, implement, or enhance their PDMPs by accommodating local decisionmaking based on state laws and preferences, while encouraging the replication of promising practices. In addition to supporting the implementation and enhancement of PDMPs, the program supports the Administration's priority of tracking prescribing across providers and states through the integration of PDMPs with electronic health records and health information exchanges, which are essential to promoting safe and responsible prescribing, while also assuring appropriate pain care.

## Intellectual Property Enforcement Program: Protecting Public Health, Safety, and the Economy from Counterfeit Goods and Product Piracy

This program is designed to assist state, local, and tribal jurisdictions in preventing and reducing intellectual property (IP) theft and related crime. The program's goal is to improve the capacity of criminal justice systems to address IP enforcement by supporting improved prosecution, prevention, and training and technical assistance. Awards made through this program will support law enforcement agencies that have an IP enforcement task force or plan to create one. These task forces will collaborate with relevant state, local, territorial, tribal, and federal agencies, including their local U.S. Attorneys' Offices. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/intellectual-property-theft-enforcement-program-ipep/overview>.

## Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

This program supports innovative cross-system collaboration to improve responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders who are in the justice system or reentering the community. The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC) also supports courts, prosecutors, and community supervision with training, technical assistance, and tools for the

early identification of people with MHDs who may need behavioral health system interventions. Together with the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Program, JMHCPC promotes cross-discipline training for justice and treatment professionals, and facilitates communication, collaboration, and the delivery of support services for people with behavioral health needs. To be eligible, states, tribes, and local governments must partner with their mental health authority. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/justice-and-mental-health-collaboration-program-jmhcp/overview>.

## Justice Counts Implementation Program

This program envisions a more fair, effective, and efficient criminal justice system by providing policymakers with actionable data to make policy and budgetary decisions. Justice Counts helps agency leaders adopt the Justice Counts metrics, make the data available, and help policy makers use them. It has supported a broad coalition to reach consensus around a set of metrics for each part of the system—law enforcement, prosecution, defense, courts, jails, prison, and community supervision. States will develop a plan to engage agencies and localities, organize their data in the Justice Counts tool, and engage policymakers to use the data. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/justice-counts/overview>.

## The Kevin and Avonte Program: Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities

This program supports local jurisdictions' efforts to reduce the number of deaths and injuries of individuals with forms of dementia such as Alzheimer's disease or developmental disabilities such as autism who, due to their condition, wander from safe environments. It provides funding to law enforcement and public safety agencies to implement locative technologies to track missing individuals, and it funds such agencies and partnering nonprofit organizations to develop or operate programs to prevent wandering, increase individuals' safety, and facilitate rescues.

## Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery

Each year, BJA recognizes federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers for their exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty. The medals are awarded annually by the U.S. Attorney General and are presented by the recipients' Congressional representatives. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/badgeofbravery>.

## Law Enforcement National Initiatives to Improve Public Safety, Enhance Operations via Training, Recruitment and Retention and Building Community Trust

The purpose of this program is to fund five national in-scope training and technical assistance (TTA) providers to create and implement TTA programs to assist local jurisdictions in the development of violence reduction strategies, training of law enforcement officers, and implementation of ethical technological strategies to reduce violent crime, train law enforcement, and enhance community trust. Specifically, the program seeks applications for funding to (1) work collaboratively to develop National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) TTA services and support their delivery to better address participating cities' chronic violent crime problems; (2) support the PSP infrastructure through the coordination of PSP meetings, development and delivery of courses for the PSP virtual academy, maintenance of PSP dashboards, website and online clearinghouse, as well as coordination of PSP national and/or regional symposiums and peer-to-peer exchanges; (3) conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of local and state police academy curricula and training, practices, protocols, and approaches; (4) support local jurisdictions in developing and enhancing digital trust policies and practices when implementing information-sharing and various technology solutions; and (5) work collaboratively with historically Black colleges and universities to develop officer recruitment and retention programs and resources to increase the representation of people of color within law enforcement careers and ensure qualified officers of color are supported throughout their

careers. Visit <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/national-public-safety-partnership/overview> for more information.

## Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative

Administered by BJA in partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), this initiative provides funding to state, local, and tribal government entities that are experiencing precipitous increases in gun-related violent crime. The Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC) Initiative's purpose is to support local and tribal jurisdictions' capacities to work with their ATF partners to utilize intelligence, technology, and community engagement to swiftly identify unlawfully used firearms and their sources, and effectively prosecute perpetrators engaged in violent crime. Although police departments are the primary applicants for this grant, they are required to partner with their local prosecutors who are part of the CGIC teams. Learn more at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/local-law-enforcement-cgic-integration-initiative/overview>.

## Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Program

This program supports state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution agencies and their partners in conducting outreach, educating practitioners and the public, enhancing victim reporting tools, and investigating and prosecuting hate crimes committed on the basis of a victim's perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/shepard-byrd-hate-crimes-program/overview>.

## National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative

This initiative helps law enforcement and prosecutors address the challenges associated with unsubmitted sexual assault kits (SAKs) and reduce the number of unsubmitted

SAKs in their jurisdictions. The initiative provides them with the knowledge and tools to solve and reduce violent crimes associated with sexual assault while achieving the long-term goal of improving the criminal justice response to cases of sexual assault. Using a victim-centered approach, jurisdictions can build their capacities to inventory, test, and track SAKs and improve their investigation, prosecution, and victim engagement and support practices in addition to developing evidence and cases resulting from the testing process. The initiative also supports sites to prevent the future development of conditions that lead to large numbers of unsubmitted SAKs. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/sexual-assault-kit-initiative-saki/overview>.

## Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program

The purpose of this program is to reimburse states, counties, federally recognized tribes, cities, and local jurisdictions up to 50 percent of the cost of body armor vests purchased for law enforcement officers. Since 1999, over 13,000 jurisdictions have participated in the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program, with a total of \$522 million spent in federal funds for the purchase of over one million vests. From FY 2015 through FY 2020, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 224 law enforcement and corrections officers (based on data collected by the Office of Justice Programs). Thirty-eight of those vests were purchased, in part, with BVP funds. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/patrick-leahy-bulletproof-vest-partnership-bvp-program/overview>.

## Preventing School Violence: BJA's STOP School Violence Program

This program seeks to improve school security by providing students and teachers with the tools and training they need to recognize, respond quickly to, and prevent acts of violence, including hate crimes. Both BJA and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services offer grants to improve security within our Nation's schools and on

school grounds through evidence-based programs. This program supports training school personnel and educating students to prevent student violence against others and themselves. It also provides specialized training for school officials in responding to mental health crises, and it funds the development and operation of anonymous reporting systems for threats of school violence, including mobile telephone applications, hotlines, and websites. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/stop-school-violence-program/overview>.

## Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officers and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability (VALOR) Initiative

This initiative seeks to improve the immediate and long-term safety, wellness, and resilience of our nation's law enforcement officers. Through a multifaceted approach that includes delivering no-cost training, conducting research, developing and providing resources, and establishing partnerships that benefit law enforcement officers, the initiative provides our law enforcement with innovative, useful, and valuable resources and skills. Greater detail is available at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/valor/overview>.

## Project Safe Neighborhoods

Designed to create and foster safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in violent crime, this program's effectiveness depends upon the ongoing coordination, cooperation, and partnerships of local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies working together with the communities they serve and engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney in all 94 districts. With Project Safe Neighborhoods, each U.S. Attorney's Office is responsible for establishing a collaborative team of federal, state, local, and tribal (where applicable) law enforcement and community partners to implement a strategic plan for investigating, prosecuting, and preventing violent crime. Further information is available at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/project-safe-neighborhoods-psn/overview>.

## Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA Program

This program assists law enforcement and prosecutors to address and prosecute violent crime cold cases and decrease the number of violent crime cold cases awaiting prosecution. It provides direct assistance to increase the capacity of state and local prosecuting agencies to address violent crime cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified, whether the suspect(s) is known or not. Funding supports investigative activities as well as crime and forensic analyses that could lead to prosecution or cold case closure. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/prosecuting-cold-cases-using-dna/overview>.

## Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor

Every day, public safety officers risk their lives to protect America's citizens and communities. To honor that commitment, once a year, the President or Vice President awards this highest national honor to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/medalofvalor>.

## Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program

This program provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/psob/about>.

## Smart Policing Initiative

This initiative seeks to enable police agencies to effectively use evidence-based practices, data, and technology. Recipients of funding under the Smart Policing Initiative (SPI) will establish formal police-researcher partnerships; test promising crime prevention, response, and reduction practices; build their capacity to analyze and use crime intelligence and data; implement and test justice information-sharing technology; and evaluate their

effectiveness. SPI documents the resulting best practices and lessons learned, and will widely disseminate them to the policing community in order to encourage the adoption of innovative and effective policing strategies nationwide. More information is available at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/smart-policing-initiative-spi/overview>.

## Smart Prosecution – Innovative Prosecution Solutions Program

The purpose of this program is to provide state, local, and tribal prosecutors with direct funding and training and technical assistance to develop effective strategies and programs to address and prosecute individuals who commit violent crime. Recognizing that many prosecutors' offices carry attorney caseloads well above the recommended level, lack critical support staff, and have had to rely on outdated technology, the Innovative Prosecution Solutions (IPS) Program also supports the use of technology, intelligence, and data analytics in innovative ways that enable prosecutors to focus resources on the people and places associated with high concentrations of criminal activity. Examples of previous IPS-funded projects and additional resources for prosecutors can be found at: <https://innovativeprosecutionsolutions.org>.

## ABOUT BJA

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources, including grants and funding, training and technical assistance, to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](http://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and Twitter ([@DOJBJA](https://twitter.com/DOJBJA)). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.