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U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJA FY 2023 Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative

Assistance Listing Number # 16.738

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2023-171486

Solicitation Release Date: December 12, 2022 8:00 AM ET

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: February 06, 2023 8:59 PM ET

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: February 14, 2023 8:59 PM ET

#### Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA) seeks applications for funding to address firearm-related crime and forensics through the establishment of Crime Gun Intelligence Centers (<u>CGICs</u>). This initiative is a partnership with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to utilize intelligence, technology, and community engagement to swiftly identify crime guns and their sources, and effectively prosecute perpetrators. This initiative furthers the DOJ's mission by assisting state, local, and tribal law enforcement with enhancing their investigative and prosecutorial resources to address gun violence and reduce violent crime. To learn more, view the CGIC fact sheet at https://crimegunintelcenters.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/5-THINGS-CGIC.pdf. Samples of previous, successful applications can be found at <a href="https://crimegunintelcenters.org/bja/">https://crimegunintelcenters.org/bja/</a>.

This solicitation incorporates guidance provided in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

# Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

# **Eligible Applicants:**

Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Other

Page 1 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486

#### Other

State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies

Governmental non-law enforcement agencies

BJA will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). For additional information on subawards, see the <a href="OJP Grant Application">OJP Grant Application</a> Resource Guide.

BJA may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2023 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

## Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center at 800-851-3420, 301-240-6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only), or <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. The OJP Response Center operates from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time (ET) Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date.

#### Submission Information

<u>Registration:</u> Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete.

<u>Submission:</u> Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

<u>Step 1:</u> The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required **Application for** Federal **Assistance standard form (SF-424)** and a **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)** form when they register in Grants.gov at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>. Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the **Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424 and a SF-LLL in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov Customer Support, or <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

<u>Step 2</u>: The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u> by the JustGrants application deadline.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the

JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

OJP encourages applicants to review the "<u>How To Apply</u>" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>JustGrants website</u> for more information, resources, and training. Applicants should maintain all receipts and confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, JustGrants systems.

# **Contents**

Overview	- 1
Contact Information	2
Submission Information	2
Program Description	7
Overview	7
Statutory Authority	7
Specific Information	7
Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables	8
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	9
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	9
Priority Areas	10
Federal Award Information	11
Awards, Amounts and Durations	11
Continuation Funding Intent	11
Availability of Funds	11
Type of Award	11
Financial Management and System Controls	11
Budget Information	12
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	12
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	12
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	12
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/ Training Costs	12
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	12
Unmanned Aircraft Systems	12
Eligibility Information	12
Application and Submission Information	13
Content of Application Submission	13
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance	13
(SF-424) in Grants.gov	
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	14
Proposal Abstract	14
Proposal Narrative	14
Goal, Objective and Deliverables	15
Budget and Associated Documentation	16
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	16

Pre-agreement Costs	16
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	16
Consultant Rate	16
Employee Compensation Waiver	16
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure	16
of high-risk status)	
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	16
Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive	16
Documents	
Additional Application Components	17
Curriculum Vitae or Resumes	17
Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)	17
Letters of Support	17
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	17
Disclosure and Assurances	17
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	17
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	18
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	18
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and	18
Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements;	
Law Enforcement and Community Policing	18
Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees	10
How to Apply	18
Submission Dates and Time	19
Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission	19
of an Application	
Application Review Information	20
Review Criteria	20
Review Process	21
Federal Award Administration Information	21
Federal Award Notices	21
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	22
Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	22
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting	22
Requirements	
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	22
Other Information	22
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C.	22
552a)	
Provide Feedback to OJP	22
Performance Measures	22

Application Checklist	23
Standard Solicitation Resources	25

# Program Description

#### Overview

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to support state, local, and tribal jurisdictions' capacity 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.

# Statutory Authority

Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Sec. 506(b) (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10157(b)). Additional authority for this program may be provided by a full-year appropriations act for FY 2023. As of the writing of this solicitation, the Department of Justice is operating under a short-term "Continuing Resolution;" no full-year appropriation for the Department has been enacted for FY 2023. The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program authorization provides that up to 5 percent of the funds available to carry out subpart 1 of Title I, Part E of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 may be granted, among other reasons, for one or more of the purposes specified in 34 U.S.C. § 10152 upon a determination that it is necessary "to combat, address, or otherwise respond to precipitous or extraordinary increases in crime, or in a type or types of crime." 34 U.S.C. § 10157(b)(1).

# Specific Information

The applicant must clearly identify how the funding will directly address a precipitous or extraordinary increase in violent firearm-related crime in their jurisdiction. This could be for the applicant's entire jurisdiction or for a specific area in the jurisdiction. The applicant must identify the following:

Categories or types of firearm-related violent crime that have precipitously increased within the jurisdiction

Period of time during which the categories/types of crime increased

Number of criminal nonfatal shootings and homicides committed with the use of a firearm

Volume of firearm violence in the target locality or region

The applicant must clearly state whether funding will be used to develop a new CGIC or to expand an existing CGIC.

Award recipients will work with ATF to collaborate on the immediate collection, management, and analysis of crime gun evidence such as shell casings and test fires of unlawfully used firearms recovered in real time to identify criminal shooters, disrupt criminal activity, and prevent future violence. If selected, the applicant will be required to develop a memorandum of

Page 7 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486 understanding (MOU) with ATF outlining the development of a new CGIC or expansion of existing work. The applicant must include a letter of support from the local ATF field office with their application. The list of ATF Field Divisions can be found at <a href="https://www.atf.gov/contact/atf-field-divisions">https://www.atf.gov/contact/atf-field-divisions</a>.

This collaboration will use both ATF's eTrace (Electronic Tracing System), run by the National Tracing Center, and ATF's National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN), and, if available, the NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center (NNCTC). NIBIN is the only national network that allows for the capture and comparison of ballistic evidence to aid in solving and preventing violent crimes involving firearms. NIBIN technology compares images of submitted ballistic evidence from shooting scenes and recovered firearms and produces a list of possible similar results. Trained NIBIN technicians then conduct a correlation review of these results, identifying NIBIN leads or potential links or associations from the same firearm. Additional information about NIBIN can be found at <a href="https://www.atf.gov/firearms/nibin-training-outline-and-ouidelines">https://www.atf.gov/firearms/nibin-training-outline-and-ouidelines</a>.

eTrace is an internet-based system that allows participating law enforcement agencies to submit firearm traces to ATF for identification. The use of eTrace is critical for investigating and identifying gun trafficking as well as straw purchases. Applicants should include how they will develop strategies working with their partner agencies to identify the trafficking of crime guns, straw purchasers, and corrupt federal firearm licensees. As reported by ATF, virtually every crime gun in the United States starts off as a legal firearm, making the need to prevent gun trafficking a crucial part of a comprehensive approach to reducing gun-related crime. To learn about eTrace, contact ATF's National Tracing Center at 1–800–788–7133, extension 01540.

A key component of a CGIC is collaborative meetings with local, state, and federal partners to review intelligence and information on recent shootings and NIBIN leads. One of these routine meetings should be dedicated to GunStat, which measures core strategies and benchmarks that lead to an overall reduction in violent gun-related crime. In addition to the CGIC partners, the GunStat meeting should include parole and probation as well as the juvenile supervision agency. The focus of the meeting should be to prioritize warrant service, improve compliance by those under supervision for gun offenses, and enforce all relevant gun laws. The partners should also follow up on those who committed gun offenses who have been previously identified and discuss any new individuals identified through the most recent NIBIN leads. Note that awardees will receive training and technical assistance provided by BJA at no cost to them on the GunStat process and should indicate a willingness to implement it.

If the applicant's jurisdiction is utilizing a community violence intervention (CVI) program, they should outline how they will work with their partner agencies to coordinate on efforts to prevent gun crime gun through this approach. Information on CVI can be found at <a href="https://bja.ojp.gov/program/community-violence-intervention/overview">https://bja.ojp.gov/program/community-violence-intervention/overview</a>.

# Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

#### Goals

The primary goals of a CGIC are to develop leads to swiftly identify unlawfully used firearms and their sources and to effectively prosecute individuals engaged in violent crime.

# Objectives

Projects must include intensive, timely, ongoing collaboration with ATF, local and tribal police, local crime laboratories, probation and parole, prosecuting attorneys, U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs), crime analysts, community groups, and academic organizations.

# Deliverables

Awardees are required to provide the following deliverables at the conclusion of their grants:

- A collaborative working group, the CGIC integration team, including representatives from ATF, local/tribal police, probation and parole, prosecuting attorneys, USAO, local crime laboratory, crime analysts, community groups, and academic organizations. This working group will be formed using an MOU detailing partner roles and responsibilities.
- 2. A CGIC business process utilizing NIBIN and crime gun tracing through eTrace, including purchasing appropriate technology, if necessary. This process includes developing policy that governs a crime scene response, the processing of forensic evidence in a timely fashion, as well as prioritizes NIBN cases for prosecution.
- 3. The use of GunStat to support reductions in violent crime and recidivism by identifying individuals that are regularly involved in gun crime and gun-related cases. With GunStat, law enforcement, prosecution, and community supervision agencies prioritize these cases through shared data and intelligence as a way to disrupt the shooting cycle and effectively prosecute individuals engaged in violent crime.
- 4. Coordination with partner agencies to address gun trafficking and straw purchases.
- 5. Effective investigations and prosecutions of violent crime involving feloniously used firearms.
- Ability to train new staff and criminal justice partners to develop the skills necessary to effectively investigate and prosecute gun crime.
- 7. Violent crime prevention strategies in collaboration with community and nongovernmental organizations such as CVI.
- 8. Enhanced services for victims of gun crime or individuals at risk to become victims of gun crime
- 9. Improved responses to gun shots fired.
- Investment in/development of a tracking system for NIBIN leads and subsequent cases in coordination with the BJA TTA provider.
- 11. Collection of performance data that reinforce the CGIC goals.
- 12. A final analysis report describing the CGIC's implementation and outcomes.

The goals, objectives, and deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that show the completed work's results, as discussed in the "Application and Submission Information" section.

# **Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

# Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information and applicable documentation to be included in the application, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide section entitled "Information

Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

# **Priority Areas**

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

Executive Order 14074, Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices to Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety requires the Attorney General, through discretionary grantmaking and training and technical assistance, to encourage and support State, Tribal, local, and territorial governments and law enforcement agencies to adopt the policies, best practices, and guidelines addressed in the executive order, including, but not limited to: (i) investigating deaths in custody; (ii) recruiting and retaining diverse and service-oriented law enforcement professionals; (iii) collecting and reporting use of force and misconduct data; (iv) improving community and law enforcement dialogue; (v) responding to individuals in mental health crisis or with disabilities; (vi) the proper and responsible use of technology; (vii) restrictions on unannounced entries and certain restraints; (viii) addressing implicit bias; (ix) restricting the use of militarized equipment; (x) broader criminal justice reform; and, (xi) officer wellness and mental health.

As such guidance is developed in accordance with the executive order, and where the guidance is applicable to the specific solicitation, DOJ will identify specific opportunities for training and technical assistance and priority consideration for applications that support the policies of the executive order

For the purposes of this solicitation, OJP will provide priority consideration for the following items, for which the DOJ has already issued policies, guidance, and/or best practices:

- 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:
- 3. Restrictions on unannounced entries and neck/carotid restraints; and,
- 4. Restrictions on the possession and use of militarized equipment.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how they currently support one or more of the identified policy areas within the department.

In addition, specific to crime gun intelligence work, applicants who can demonstrate the following will receive separate priority consideration:

- 1. High volume of nonfatal shootings
- 2. High volume of firearm-related homicides
- 3. Demonstrated strong partnerships, including with tribes and sheriffs' offices

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address one or more of the identified CGIC priority areas.

BJA may also give priority selection consideration to those jurisdictions that have never received CGIC funding in previous years.

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making Page 10 of 26 funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas does not guarantee an award.

# Federal Award Information

#### **Solicitation Categories**

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

# Awards, Amounts and Durations

# **Anticipated Number of Awards**

7

# Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards \$700,000.00

Period of Performance Start Date 10/1/23

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

36

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation \$5,000,000.00

# **Continuation Funding Intent**

BJA may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress, when making continuation award decisions.

# **Availability of Funds**

This solicitation, and awards under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

# Type of Award

BJA expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

## **Financial Management and System Controls**

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303,

Page 11 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486 comply with standards for financial and program management. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

### **Budget Information**

The applicant must clearly delineate the amount of funding requested for personnel and CGIC integration. The personnel cost could include, but is not limited to, analysts, investigators, detectives, crime lab staff, prosecutors, and project coordinators.

A limited amount of funds may be used for technology and equipment such as, but not limited to, test-fire equipment, NIBIN machines, analytic software, data collection software, and gunshot detection systems and for costs to implement the NIBIN Enforcement Support System (NESS).

It is critical to track the final outcome of cases generated from both NIBIN and eTrace leads. Accordingly, at least 20 percent of grant funding should be allocated to support the work of local/tribal prosecutors to ensure they are able to track and prioritize CGIC cases. This funding could be used for personnel, technology, tools for data collection and analysis.

### Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

### Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on pre-agreement costs (also known as pre-award costs).

# Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

## Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

## Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

# **Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

The use of BJA grant funds for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV), and/or any accompanying accessories to support such UAS/UAV devices/systems etc. is unallowable.

The applicant should identify within their budget which items, services, etc., will/would be covered by matching sources and explain what type of match will be provided.

# Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see the "Federal Award Information" section

For the purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Notice regarding law enforcement agencies: State, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be eligible for FY 2023 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, and (2) the agency's use-of-force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit <a href="https://cops.usdoi.gov/SafePolicingEO">https://cops.usdoi.gov/SafePolicingEO</a> to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

# Application and Submission Information

#### Content of Application Submission

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- · Proposal Abstract
- · Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)

If OJP determines that an application does not include these elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

# Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. It is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information (*email address*) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation ("funding opportunity") is subject to Executive Order

(E.O.) 12372. An applicant may find the names and addresses of State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) at the following website: <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPOC-4-13-20.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/SPOC-4-13-20.pdf</a>. If the applicant's State appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact its SPOC to find out about, and comply with, the State's process under E.O. 12372. On the SF-424, an applicant whose State appears on the SPOC list is to make the appropriate selection in response to question 19, once the applicant has complied with its State E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose State does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review."

# Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The "Standard Applicant Information" section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. The applicant will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Organization Representative; and verify and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

# **Proposal Abstract**

A Proposal Abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project — including its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known) — must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for an example of a proposal abstract.

# **Proposal Narrative**

The Proposal Narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 12 numbered pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the Proposal Narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, BJA may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decision. Applicants may include tables, charts, and graphs in a legible font smaller than 12-point but they will still be considered part of the page limit.

The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

Description of the Issue

Describe why this project/these proposed activities are necessary (significance/value) or address a need. Include supporting information and data on violent guns crime.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue.

Clearly identify and discuss the priority area(s) the applicant will address as listed in the Priority Areas discussion.

List the activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the program's objectives and reach the program's goal(s). Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out

Page 14 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486 each activity.

Provide a timetable indicating roughly when the activities or program milestones are to be accomplished.

## c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe the capabilities and competencies required to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures

Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data; who is responsible for performance measurements; and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the project's impact. Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: An applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as a notification that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements. Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/performance">www.ojp.gov/performance</a> for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at <u>Local Law Enforcement</u> Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative (ojp.gov).

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is selected for award.

#### Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance in the "Note on Project Evaluations" section in the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a>.

# Goal, Objective and Deliverables

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. The projected fiscal year and quarter the objectives and deliverables will be completed is also entered into the form. Please refer to the <a href="Application Submission Job">Application Submission Job</a> Aid for step-by-step directions.

Goals. The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the previous section and outline the project's goals.

Program Objectives. The applicant should explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be measureable and clearly linked to the goal.

Deliverables. Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible or intangible—that are submitted within the scope of a project.

# **Budget and Associated Documentation**

### Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants –</u> Budget training.

# **Pre-agreement Costs**

See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post Award</u> Requirements for more information.

# Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

If applicable, the applicant will upload their indirect cost rate agreement as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for more information on indirect costs.

#### Consultant Rate

See the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> for information on the consultant rates which require prior approval from OJP.

# **Employee Compensation Waiver**

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000: Waiver.

# Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

## Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

If applicable, the applicant will upload a description of the process used to determine executive compensation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the "Application Attachments" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information.

## Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents

Applicants should include for each named partner, a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Letter of Intent, or subcontract that confirms the partner's agreement to support the project through commitments of staff time, space, services, or other project needs. For

Page 16 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486 applications submitted from two or more entities, applicants are encouraged to develop and submit signed MOUs or signed Letters of Intent that provide a detailed description of how the agencies will work together to meet project requirements.

Each MOU or Letter of Intent should include the following: (1) names of the organizations involved in the agreement; (2) scope of the direct service(s) and other work to be performed under the agreement; (3) duration of the agreement. Subcontracts, MOUs, or Letters of Intent should be submitted as one separate attachment to the application.

# **Additional Application Components**

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

## **Curriculum Vitae or Resumes**

Provide resumes of key personnel.

# Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will upload the tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

# Letters of Support

# Letter of Support from ATF Field Office

The letter of support must outline how the applicant will work with the local ATF field office t to expand upon its work and indicate that an MOU between the grantee and ATF will be developed in the event the applicant is granted an award. The applicant will submit the letter by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

# Letter of Support from Chief Executive of the Law Enforcement Agency and Partner Agencies

Attach a letter of support signed by the chief executive of the applicant law enforcement agency stating their support of the program and including support from the following agencies: local/tribal prosecutor, parole and probation, and the crime lab director. The applicant will submit the letter by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

## Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will upload documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

#### Disclosure and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

#### Disclosure of Lobbving Activities

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. Once the applicant submits in Grants.gov, this information will pre-pend into JustGrants. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for additional information.

#### **DOJ Certified Standard Assurances**

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant</u> Application Resource Guide for additional information.

# Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

# DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

# Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees

If applicable, submit the DOJ High Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance; financial instability; management system or other internal control deficiencies; noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards or is otherwise not responsible. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application">OJP Grant Application</a> Resource Guide for additional information.

## How to Apply

<u>Registration</u>: Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete.

<u>Submission</u>: Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

Step 1: After registering with SAM, the applicant must submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a> by the Grants.gov deadline. Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline. If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

**Step 2:** The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at JustGrants.usdoi.gov by the JustGrants deadline.

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. Register the Entity Administrator and the Application Submitter with JustGrants as early as possible but no later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive an emailed link to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. The Entity Administrator also will need to log into JustGrants to review and invite the applicant's Authorized Representative(s) before an application can be submitted.

Submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 24 – 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the application components will be entered directly into JustGrants, and others will require uploading attached documents. Therefore, applicants will need to allow ample time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare each component. Applicants may save their progress in the system and revise the application as needed prior to hitting the Submit button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>DOJ Application Submission Checklist</u>.

#### Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by February 6, 2023 8:59 PM ET.

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by February 14, 2023 8:59 PM ET.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates with sufficient time to correct any errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.

# Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application after the deadline when the applicant can document that a technical issue with a government system prevented application submission.

If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. However, the waiver request will not be considered unless it includes a tracking number generated when the applicant contacts the applicable service desks to report technical difficulties. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desks; and for this reason applicants are encouraged to email the appropriate service desk, even if they also intend to call the service desk for phone support. Experiencing wait times for phone support does not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of getting a tracking number.

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties must contact the associated service desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- SAM.gov contact the <u>SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)</u>, Monday Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov contact the <u>Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline</u>, 24 hours a day, 7 days a
  week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or <u>support@grants.gov</u>.

 JustGrants - contact the JustGrants Service Desk at <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> or 833-872-5175, Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a> within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline.

If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a> within 24 hours of the JustGrants deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline.

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must -

- · describe the technical difficulties experienced,
- include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., date and time the error occurred, date and time of actions taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and date and time support representatives responded),
- include an attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials
- · include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and
- include any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking numbers documenting the technical issue.

OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied. An applicant who does not provide documentation of a technical issue or who does not submit a waiver request within the required time period will be denied.

For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>.

# Application Review Information

## **Review Criteria**

## Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

- Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (25%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- Project Design and Implementation (25%)- evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
- 3. Capabilities and Competencies (15%) evaluate the applicant's administrative and technical capacity to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
- 4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (15%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.

5. Budget (20%) - evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

#### Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities ( specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned, if applicable), available funding, past performance, a good partnership with ATF, and the extent to which the Budget Web-Based form accurately explains project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

#### Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting the peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant entity. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant entity is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant entity that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

**Important Note on FAPIIS:** An applicant may review and comment on any information about its organization that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant entity.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and BJA recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

# Federal Award Administration Information

# **Federal Award Notices**

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30th. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and

instructions

# Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

# Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for more information

# General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the "Program Description" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

Required reports. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

# Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), contact information for Grants.gov, and contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

#### Other Information

# Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

# Provide Feedback to OJP

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

# Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at <u>Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative (ojp.gov)</u>.

Page 22 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486

# Application Checklist

#### Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference the OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

## Pre-Application

# Before Registering in Grants.gov:

 Acquire or renew your Entity's <u>System Award Management (SAM) Registration Information</u> (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

# Register in Grants.gov

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

# Find the Funding Opportunity

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s)
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email <u>notifications</u> (optional) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> Guide)
- Read <u>Important Notice</u>: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8">https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8</a> (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

# Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements

 Review the "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

# Review the Scope Requirement

• The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$700,000.

# Review Eligibility Requirement:

 Review the Eligibility section on the cover page and Eligibility Information section in the solicitation.

#### Application Step 1 Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

- In Section 8F of the SF-424, include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov
- Submit Intergovernmental Review (if applicable)

Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive four (4) Grants.gov email notifications:

- · a submission receipt
- · a validation receipt
- · a grantor agency retrieval receipt
- · an agency tracking number assignment

If no Grants.gov receipt and validation email is received, or if error notifications are received:

 Contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, <u>Grants.gov customer support</u>, or <u>support@grants.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

· Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants

## **Application Step 2**

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

**Application Components** 

- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract\*
- Proposal Narrative\*

**Budget and Associated Documentation** 

- Budget Web-Based form\*
- · Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)

Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (If Applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant</u> Application Resource Guide

Page 24 of 26 O-BJA-2023-171486

- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Timeline
- · Letters of Support
- · Résumés of key personnel (if applicable)
- List of procurement contracts (if applicable)

#### Disclosures and Assurances

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

\*Note: Items designated with an asterisk must be submitted for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

Review, Certify and Submit Application in JustGrants

- Any validation errors will immediately display on screen after submission.
- Correct validation errors, if necessary, and then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen to submit the application. Access the <u>Application Submission Validation Errors Quick</u> Reference Guide for step-by-step instructions to resolve errors prior to submission.
- Once the application is submitted and validated, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the "bell" alerts confirming submission.

If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation is received, or if error notification is received:

Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

#### Standard Solicitation Resources

OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

<u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> serves as the primary reference manual to assist award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and to ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. It compiles a variety of laws, rules and regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of DOJ awards. This guide serves as a starting point for all award recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants and cooperative agreements in ensuring the effective day-to-day management of awards.

<u>JustGrants Resources Website</u> is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the grants management system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access training resource and user support options, find frequently asked questions and sign-up for the <u>JustGrants Update e-newsletter</u>.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training Page</u> offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

<u>Virtual Q&A Sessions</u> are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance and support on JustGrants system functionality.