DARYL FOX: Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today’s webinar, Funding Opportunities for Courts in your Community in 2022, hosted by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. At this time, I’d like to introduce our first presenter, Greg Torain, Policy Advisor with the Bureau of Justice Assistance for some welcoming remarks. Greg?

GREG TORAIN: Thank you, Daryl. Welcome everyone to the BJA Funding Stakeholder Series, the FY 22 Programs that Support Courts. Like Daryl said, I’m Gregory Torain. I am a Policy Advisor at BJA. You’ll hear from me as well as Michelle White, Senior Policy Advisor at BJA. For today’s agenda, we’ll go over what is OJP as well as BJA. Again, you will hear from both your panelists. We’ll review available funding for FY 22. We’ll also go over some resources available for grant applicants, and then we’ll have a Q&A. Important note to make--the panelists for today’s webinar are not the subject matter experts for all the programs that will be covered today. If there are programs that you would like more information about, you may visit the program page which will be listed on each program slide at the end. You may also contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Services, NCJRS. There are--there will be a slide towards the end of our presentation that Michelle will review that has the contact information for NCJRS. Next slide.

So what is OJP? OJP provides grant funding, training, research, statistics for the criminal justice community and we are one of three grant-making components within Department of Justice. The other two is OVW as well as the COPS Program. On the right-hand side you’ll see the Office of Justice Program and you’ll see several offices and bureaus that sit within OJP, which is at the top, you’ll see BJS which is where we sit. Next slide. Okay. BJA is proud to support our nation, states, local, and tribal criminal justice agencies with the expressed purpose of reducing crime and strengthening communities. One of the most important ways that we do this is by providing grants to agencies and communities in order to support local efforts. We do our best to design programs that are responsive to real world challenges and provide maximum flexibility for local implementation. BJA is committed to streamline the application process and minimize the administrative burden of managing for our grants. We have made real progress in recent years in these areas and has been never easier to apply for and manage a BJA grant. In other words, we do not intimidate by this process or think that you need to be experienced grant manager to successfully apply for our funding. If you have the desire to apply, we have the support to help you succeed. It is however important that you do not procrastinate once your solicitation is open. Wait until the last week to apply may not leave you enough time to gather necessary information needed for the application. And we want you to be successful, so please start early in that process. Next slide. Okay.
There’s two type of grants, there’s a discretionary as well as a formula. The discretionary grant applicants apply directly to OJP or BJA. These grants are typically competitive, and awards are based on predetermined review processes and availability of funds. For most programs, we receive more applications than we have actual funding for, so we try to fund the strongest proposals based on objective review criteria. Formula grants are typically awarded on a noncompetitive basis, which usually means that every eligible applicant will receive some level of funding. The amount of funding for a specific agency or jurisdiction can vary based on a variety of factors, which often include population and crime rates. Most formula grant programs are administered by the State Administering Agency or the SAA. If you don’t have an active relationship with your SAA, please start one today. If you don’t know who your SAA is, you can find that information on a complete list within our website. Let’s move on to next slide where we talk about the programs. Next slide.

So the Adult Drug Court Program. So like I mentioned earlier, we’re not the subject matter experts on all the programs but this is the program which I manage as a Policy Advisor at BJA. So the Adult Drug Court Programs support state, local, and tribal governments to help them develop and implement drug courts that are effectively integrated and evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, drug testing, sanctions, and incentives in a judicially supervised setting. And we focus on those who are high-risk and high-need defendants to address substance use as well as prevent or risk of overdose. A lot of our significant investments have been in rural communities or rural jurisdictions, looking to enhance treatment and recovery support services again to prevent overdose. Next slide. BJA receives $83 million or have $83 million available to support the awards. We anticipate that we’ll receive 72 applications in FY 22. And within the drug court program, we have three categories of funding. Category one is planning and implementation. That is for a court looking to start a new adult drug court. We look to make about 11 awards in that category. And the funding is up to $700,000. And each of these categories that I’ll go over have a 48-month period of performance. Then you have category two, the enhancement, that’s for courts that are currently operate--adult drug courts that are currently operational can request money under that category. We’re looking to make 26 awards in the amount of $750,000. And then the last one is category three, statewide, which supports the enhancement or the capacity building of states to build up their adult drug court programs. We’re looking to make eight awards within that category. And the amount is up to $2 million. Eligible applicants are states, local and tribal governments, and courts can apply. Like I mentioned earlier, and you’ll see on each of the slides at the bottom, there’s a program page for that if you’re looking for more information. Next slide.
The next is the Veterans Treatment Court Program, similar to the Adult Drug Court. It supports states, local, and tribal governments to develop and implement veterans treatment courts. These are more specific in terms of BJA offer support not only just to courts to develop a veterans treatment court docket but also support veterans related services. And these are specifically to the needs of veterans who have suffered substance use disorders and a history of violence and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of their military experience. We also put heavy investments in rural jurisdictions, and also those jurisdictions that don’t necessarily have an active veteran treatment court or veteran-related services in those areas. Next slide. We have $25 million—in order to make awards we anticipate making or receiving 37 applications. And again, similar to the Adult Drug Court solicitation, we have the three categories. So I won’t go through each one of those, you can see to the right, how many awards that we anticipate or estimate that we’re going to make for the FY 22. And again, the eligibility requirement is the same as for the Adult Drug Court. Next slide. Okay.

Community Courts Program. This also supports effort to the state, and local, and federally recognized American Indian tribal governments to establish and enhance community-oriented court models. Really the ultimate goal—the ultimate goal is successfully replicate the community court model is the goal of this program. Next slide. For that we have $4.5 million to make awards, we anticipate we’ll receive 16 applications and we estimate that we’ll make up to 8 awards. This program has two categories. If you look it’s kind of similar to the Adult Drug Court and VTC. Yeah, category one is the planning and implementation of a community court. And then you have the enhancement that is supporting those community courts that are already operational. It’s up to $600,000 in award and the period of performance for this program is 24 months. So that’s 24 months, so $600,000 for the overall 24 months or 2 years. Again, eligible applicants are states, local courts, unit of local government, and federally recognized tribes. Again, the link is below for—you have more information. Next slide. Okay.

The Hate Crimes, these programs are for criminals—are criminal offenses motivated by some form of bias toward victims on the basis of their perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. This program supports state, local, and tribal law enforcement, and prosecution agencies in their outreach to the education of public—to the public, victims and their staff and partners about hate crimes. It’s important to note that the program also reimburses expenses associated with the investigation of hate crimes. Next slide. We have $8.7 million available for awards, so we expect to receive 35 applications and let them make between 20 and 22 awards in the amount for each award $400,000. Who can apply?
The state, local, and tribal law enforcement, and prosecutors. Remember the tribe must be federally recognized as well. Next slide.

Wrongful Conviction Program. This program helps to protect the integrity of the criminal justice system by supporting efforts to provide a high-quality and efficient representation for defendants in the pro--in the post-conviction claims of innocence and identify, whenever possible, the actual perpetrators of the crime. It also supports conviction integrity efforts to prevent future error. Next slide. With this we have $7.8 million available. We anticipate we'll receive 28 applications and we estimate that around 16 awards that we'll make in the amount of $500,000. Those who are eligible, state and local governments with the authority over offices that works to prevent, identify, correct false or wrongful convictions, state and local public defender’s offices, nonprofit organizations dedicated to judicial verdicts that comport to the rule of law and institution of higher education. Next slide.

The Emmett Till Program supports states and local law enforcement, and prosecution agencies to investigate and prosecute unsolved homicide cold case murders suspected of having been racially motivated. This also includes support for victims and stakeholders that are impacted by these cases. Again, funds are limited to the civil rights statute of December 31, 1997. And BJA also collaborates with the Department of Justice Community Relations Services to support reconciliation and support services for families of victims, as well as the other stakeholders. Next slide. We have $2.2 million available for awards under the Emmett Till Program. We anticipate 10 applications. And we’re looking to make between five to six awards. Each award will be on average $500,000. And we have the eligibility requirement here for you which indicates state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, agencies including prosecutor’s office. Next slide.

Next is the Cold Case Using DNA for Prosecuting. This program provides funding to prosecute violent crime, cold cases, and decrease the number of violent crime cold cases awaiting prosecution. It also provides direct assistance to increase the capacity of state and local prosecuting agencies to address violent crime cold cases. With that, we have available funding for award $7 million. We’re looking to receive around 30 applications and we’re going to make estimate of 14 awards in the amount of $500,000. In terms of eligible applicants, these are state governments, special district governments, city or township governments, county governments, American tribal organizations, and American tribal governments that are federally recognized. Please note that prosecuting agencies, law enforcement, state agencies, or local crime laboratories may partner with an agency that serves as a lead applicant for the award to work towards achieving the program goal of seeking resolution in the violent crime
cases. It’s important to have, however, that the prosecuting agency must be fully engaged in that project and within the application. It will require you to indicate what is your partnership with the program, so be keen to that if you look to apply for that application. Next slide.

Postconviction Testing of DNA Evidence. This program provides funding to assist in defraying the costs associated with postconviction case identification, case review, evidence location, and DNA testing in violent felony cases where the results of such tests--testing might show actual innocence. While successful exonerations and correct injustice are notable program outcomes, the careful review, consideration, and closing of cases subjected to postconviction DNA testing that do not ultimately demonstrate innocence also work to advance the public’s interest that justice has been fairly. Next slide. Okay. We have $10 million available in awards. Anticipate 20--about 20 applications as well as we look to make approximately 20 awards. Estimated award is $500,000 and the eligible applicant is state governments, city or township governments, county governments, and public or state-controlled institutions of higher education. Next slide.

Then we have the JR--the John R. Justice Grant Program. This assists states and territories in providing loan repayment to the local, state, and federal public defenders and local and state prosecutors who commit to extending employment in those roles. They also assist in the recruitment and retention of qualified attorneys. The program helps to fulfill DOJ’s mission to enhance criminal justice system. And the program also reimburses expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. Next slide. This provides approximately $2 million available for awards. We anticipate receiving 40 applications, but estimate that we’ll make up to 56 awards in the average amount of $35,000. This is eligible to states and U.S. territory government agencies designated by the governor or the mayor of the District of Columbia to administer the JRJ Grant Program. Again, you have a link to the program page if you’re interested in that program. And with that, I’d like to turn it over to Michelle White, Senior Policy Advisor.

MICHELLE WHITE: Thank you so much, Greg. We’re going to shift gears just a tiny bit. Most of the grant opportunities that Greg referenced were very centric to courts, prosecutors, and defense. So now, we’re going to talk a little bit more about opportunities that require a great degree of collaboration and are also broader in scope in terms of the types of activities that can be applied for. So, the first one is the portfolio at BJA that I happen to work on, which is the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program, or we fondly call COSSAP. So the purpose of this is to provide financial and technical assistance to states, units of local government, tribal governments to develop, implement, or expand comprehensive efforts to identify,
respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioid, stimulants, and other drugs of use. So again, that’s very broad language. And so I want to give you a couple of examples of the types of projects that you can request support for. And it’s really helpful to think of these across all of the intercepts in the justice system.

So, a number of examples of those include first responder in law enforcement diversion; prosecutor diversion; pretrial and court diversion; jail-based services including medication for the treatment of opioid use disorder and other jail-based services; reentry and community supervision; harm reduction including distribution of naloxone and fentanyl test strips; recovery supports including the utilization of peers; programming that focuses on children, youth, and families; and also activities that support data collection, analysis, data sharing. Such examples include the implementation use of ODMAP and Overdose Fatality Reviews. So, I want to share a little bit now, as Greg did, around what these solicitations look like.

So there’s going to be $132 million available under COSSAP for awards. We anticipate receiving approximately 230 applications and ultimately making a total of approximately 83 awards. There are two categories. The first category are for local and site-based, and they range in three subcategories that are different award amounts based on population, so can range from anywhere to $1 million to $1.6 million. And then category two is for state-based awards that are eligible for up to $6 million in total awards and require the states to retain a small portion of funds and then to make subawards out to local sites and support the work that they are doing. Eligible applicants depending on the category are city or local governments, county governments, tribal governments, or state governments. Also, one important designation here is that jurisdictions without a county or local government-based addiction service system may designate the State Administering Agency to serve as the primary applicant. I would urge you to check out this website that will link you to additional resources that discuss the types of projects that are currently being funded under COSSAP. Next slide, please.

So, you’ll see again, the word collaboration used to describe the next opportunity, which is the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program, which supports innovative cross-system collaboration for individuals with mental illness or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders who come into contact with the justice system. So again, some examples of this are law enforcement and mental health provider partnerships; diversion and alternative sentencing programs; cross-system and cross-sector training across justice, mental health, and SUD providers; community supervision--supervision; and also reentry strategies where there is collaboration again across these systems. Next slide, please. So for this solicitation, we expect to receive 50 applications for up to $15 million in awards, with an estimated number of awards of
60, with the average amount being about $550,000. Very similar and clear in terms of eligibility requirements to your town governments, county governments, tribal governments, and also public and state-controlled institutions of higher ed as well as states and, again, the link to learn a bit more about these programs. Next slide.

So, Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation is one that is very focused on tribal governments. And you will see here that we only list a few of the purpose areas, as this solicitation brings together a very large funding pool that stretches across multiple agencies within OJP. BJA oversees three of those, which support comprehensive strategic planning; programs for adult tribal justice systems for prevention and treatment to tribal courts, corrections, and reentry; strategies to address violent crime; and tribal justice infrastructure investments through renovation and modular building. Next slide, please. So there is $42.61 million available for funding. For those awards, we expected to receive, and I don’t know if this is yet true, 135 applications and expect to make 36 to 43 awards. You can see that depending on the category, there are different funding awards that were--are possible. I should note that—I believe even after we did this slide deck that the solicitation dates was extended to March 22. However, I believe the Grants.gov deadline has already passed. We decided to keep this in the slide deck for reference in future years in terms of the dearth of different things that folks can apply for funding here to be starting discussions in the local tribal communities now as to what potential applications might look like for next year. Next slide, please.

So continuing sort of down the road of where collaboration is super important. The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant or JAG, as it is commonly referred to, is our flagship grant program at OJP and the largest source of federal justice funding to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. There are eight broad purpose areas here, law enforcement, prosecution and court, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement programs, planning evaluation and technology improvement, crime victim and witness programs, and mental health programs that intersect with justice. Next slide, please.

So as Greg mentioned previously, one of the things I would strongly urge you all to do particularly where the JAG programming is concerned is to make sure you not only know who your State Administering Agency is, but you also foster a relationship with them. And, again, you can find out who that agency is and make some contacts there with their identifying information and contact information on our website. Also, I would advise you to figure out who at the local level, the primary applicant is for the JAG funds, and also ask questions about how decision--decisions are made around that funding, and have a ready list of needs supported by data that demonstrate the broad system impacts of any projects that you may wish to fund. So as you can see, that $290
million available for awards. We anticipate approximately 1,000 applications and being able to make a great deal of awards under this program. So the reason that it's super important, again, to know who the SAA, your State Administering Agency is and also who's involved in making local funding decisions, is because that's how the awards are made with JAG funds. So for state awards, only states may apply under that solicitation, and they must designate the SAA as the single authority to apply. For the local JAG, only units of local government appearing in the JAG allocation list may apply under this solicitation. So again, I can't stress this enough. This is one of the most flexible programs at BJA. Be thinking really hard about who you might talk with either at the state or local government, and be looking out for these funding opportunities in late spring. There's the JAG webpage, where you can find a lot more information about this program. And please reach out and ask a lot of questions at the local, state, and to us at BJA if you would like to learn more. Next slide.

So the next small series of slides, I want to transition from solicitations to something that I think is extraordinarily important for folks to understand, which is what training and technical assistance offerings there are, and really what training and technical assistance means. So, one of my favorite words is the word free. And so when you think of training and technical assistance, I'd like that to be the first word that comes to your mind. So when we go through the next few slides, really think about how you might use the training and technical assistance offerings that are available, in many instances, not just to grantees, but really to anyone working in the criminal justice space that can propose a fundable project. Next slide, please.

So, the first is the National Training and Technical Assistance Center. Not unlike JAG, this is a very broad and far-reaching opportunity for local and state entities to request. Again, no-cost training and specialized assistance to support work that you might want to do, or might need to help figure out how to solve an issue that you're having locally. So, this is a great way to get some of that free assistance. Next slide. So, in terms of some examples of what training and technical assistance or shorthand we refer to as TTA, some of those potential services that you can request are specialized. So individualized around a specific issue that you're having at the local level, assistance implementing any number of evidence-based programs or practices, the development of curriculum, data analysis, both remote and in-person training, peer-to-peer visits, research and information requests, and strategic planning assistance. So this is a very long list that actually encompasses a lot of things. And so if you're even considering if this might be a good fit for your community, I really urge you to access more information about NTTAC and, again, think about the fact that it's free and it never hurts to ask. So please keep this on your ready list of potential supports that you might look out for in your jurisdiction. Next slide, please.
So I also put together kind of a list of other more focused training and technical assistance that is available. You’ll see many of these opportunities align with the solicitations that Greg and I discussed. So for many, many of the different grant programs that we offer, there’s also a separate training and technical assistance with experts in the fields that focus on those topics, so here are some examples. There is a training and technical assistance provider or multiple providers in many cases for all of the Adult Drug Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Community Courts, COSSAP as I mentioned, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program that many, if not all of these, you are not required to be a grantee to request any of the training and technical assistance. It could be that you just have a question or an issue related to any of these particular topic areas. And there are a few more on the next slide.

Related to our Sixth Amendment portfolio, the Capital Case Litigation Initiative, we also have a National Center on Restorative Justice. And one that we have not really talked about yet but is certainly a great program and you can request TA through our Public Safety Partnerships. And one other note that I would add is in addition to getting very sort of specialized training and technical assistance, a number of these different providers also have created very robust websites with more resources than you can maybe wrap your brain around in one sitting. So I really strongly urge you to go and take a look at any of these if they interest you and find out additional information. Next slide.

So, one example of how we make awards and identify training and technical assistance providers, this is a solicitation that will be forthcoming to help identify capital case litigation training and technical assistance. So this provides training and technical assistance to prosecutors and defense attorneys who work on the adjudication of the capital cases as Greg went through the description of this—the companion solicitation earlier. Next slide. So for this solicitation, there’s approximately $2 million. We expect to receive approximately six applications and likely make two awards with the estimated award amount being $1 million. Eligible applicants are public or nonprofit organizations or for-profits that agreed to forego profit or management fees, institutions of higher ed, all that have experience and expertise in overseeing capital cases and providing training on death penalty cases. They also must have the ability to demonstrate experience in delivering training and technical assistance nationwide. So if this is something that you are interested in or know of other entities that might be, please feel free to share this as well. Next slide.

So what’s next? I think I saw a couple of questions about when will a specific opportunity be released? Currently, I see new ones from BJA now every day. So this—we are definitely in primetime solicitation season. I saw several yesterday, there might
be a couple more before the week is out. Realistically, expected solicitation release dates are now in March through June, though the bulk of them will be sooner rather than later in the spring. They're usually open for at least 60 days. Some may be open longer and the ones that are released closer to June time, may actually be open for shorter periods of time. Oftentimes the solicitations for TTA providers are also open for shorter periods of time. So how do you find out when these releases occur? What I strongly encourage folks to do is utilize technology to alert you to when this happens. So subscribe to News From BJA to receive announcements on funding releases. I think I'm going to repeat some of these things a couple of times to really sort of drive home the point to make the system work for you in terms of notification. So next slide, please.

All right. I'm going to talk about a couple of resources available for grant applicants. So the first, and I believe Greg and I previously mentioned this, is Grants.gov. So this--Grants.gov is where you can find so much information if you've never been there and looked around. I would encourage you to do so. Before the solicitation you're interested in is released, or to look for opportunities, to look for training on grant writing, grant management, any number of other things. But when you are in the throes of writing and submitting your grant, this is also another great resource. So Grants.gov provides technical assistance with submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL. There's a customer support line. You can also email your questions. There's also, as I mentioned, a plethora of information on available funding across many, many, many federal funding agencies. Next slide.

So then there's JustGrants and a support line and email address is also to submit your questions. So this is where for any DOJ application, you will submit the full application. So the Grants.gov is just a couple and then everything else that is the bulk of what you would submit with your grant application would be submitted through JustGrants. So this is where you can find additional support for that. Next slide. And then finally, the OJP Resource Center. This is where you can obtain solicitation support and general broad assistance. This is not necessarily where you would go when you are in the middle of making the submission and having either some issues in Grants.gov or JustGrants, but this is for broader questions.

And again, some more places to subscribe, so you can receive all kinds of information about new funding opportunities as well as some other resources. You can sign up to receive the twice-monthly JUSTINFO newsletter as well as the weekly funding news email that's particularly helpful this time of year as new solicitations are released. There's a link here to subscribe and make sure that you select grants and funding as an area of interest so you do receive all of those notifications. Next slide. So this is an additional list of things that might be helpful to you while you're writing and certainly
then if you are awarded BJA funds. Assistance around management, the financial guide is a great resource, the online management training. And also the application resource guide. There’s any number of questions you can find detailed answers to in all of these different resources. We have also been putting on a series and I believe Greg actually did one of these webinars for applicants that really take a deep dive into all the different steps and pieces of putting application together in applying with tips and tricks, and all kinds of right information. This is a link to where you can locate all of that information online as well. Next slide.

So I would also really strongly recommend folks to have the ability to consider being a peer reviewer. If you are interested in doing this, it’s quite easy process, you submit an up-to-date resume or CV including your valid email to this address, and then include as a subject line “peer reviewer candidate resume.” I will say that as a former practitioner, I have been a peer reviewer long before I was at BJA and it’s an extraordinarily valuable experience to really understand things from a different perspective. So it helps to make you a better grant writer, having sort of been on the other side of reading a whole lot of applications, to give you ideas of what other jurisdictions are doing. But also in the ways that they—what a really successful grant application looks like. So again, if this is something you’re interested in, please reach out and let us know. Next slide.

So again, I want to talk about the two-step process that is not new this year, but relatively new if you’ve been writing BJA grants for a number of years. There are two deadlines. The first is in Grants.gov, as I mentioned with the two forms, and then the second step is submitting the full application with all the attachments in JustGrants. The submission deadline times for both of those are now 8:59 p.m. eastern time as opposed to 11:59 p.m. eastern time in past years. Your best source of information for details around how to do this will be each individual solicitation. I can tell you that as a guiding rule that they’re usually about 5 to 7 days in between the deadlines for step one and for step two. So make sure you pay special attention to those separate deadlines. Next slide.

So some more ways to stay connected and make sure that you receive all kinds of notifications. You can text your email address to obtain email updates if you don’t want to sign up or subscribe online. You can also follow us on Facebook or Twitter as we also include every new release of funds along with a lot of other really great information and resources on social media. And then also just generally visit our website and look around for information on funding opportunities, the release of recent publications, detailed information about initiatives including all of the project and program areas that we discussed today.
And then one more sort of final plug for—if you are having issues during the grant writing and submission process, please reach out as soon as you have the issue and to Greg’s—one of this first points he made earlier in the hour, don’t wait for the last minute to start thinking about your project, writing your project, bringing your partners together, and don’t wait until the last minute to submit. As a person who has done that and ultimately had some success and some not success, waiting for the last minute does not always work out in your favor, so please be very planful and reach out for help as many times as you need it. These are some great resources, again, for solicitation content, for information and support from Grants.gov, and also separately around submitting your full application in JustGrants.

So our final slide is we’re just going to sort of open the floor for questions. Please use the Q&A box and send any message to all panelists when you submit your questions, and I think I’m going to turn it back over to Daryl to kind of help us run through some of these questions. We’ll try to answer as many as possible in the time that we have left.

DARYL FOX: Great. Thanks so much, Michelle. Thanks Greg, for the presentation. So as we transition to the Q&A, just a couple announcements as several questions are coming in about it. The presentation, PowerPoint, transcript, and recording from today will be posted to the BJA website in approximately 10 to 15 business days, so certainly be on the look for that if you need to go back reference these slides. Also, any others in this series or past webinars that BJA has done to date will be posted—or are posted on that site. So great reference point for you. And also, you know, just generally, as Michelle mentioned, the release date of these are starting to come in and will probably run, you know, from now through June. So, certainly get on the BJA website under current funding, and you’ll see those listed as they are announced. So the first one question come in is regarding the Adult Drug Court Program. “If an Adult Drug Court’s enhancement grant is ending, is there a way to apply for another enhancement grant? Or would expanding the program allow for applying for enhancement grant?”

GREG TORAIN: Yes. So for the Adult Drug Court, if you have an Adult Drug Court enhancement award currently and it’s getting ready to end, you would be able to apply for another Adult Drug Court enhancement award. Yes, you would be able to apply.

DARYL FOX: “Regarding training, has BJA made the decision to cover the cost of in-person events such as sending an expert to a conference or a trade show?”

GREG TORAIN: BJA and OJP haven’t provided any—hadn’t put out any new guidance as it relates to training or paying for trainings through cooperative agreements. We hope
to hear something soon. But there’s no new guidance on that yet. Once the new guidance is out, OJP and BJA will send that out to all grantees as well as stakeholders.

DARYL FOX: "Maybe not relevant to today’s topic, but do you know if there will be a solicitation for the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, SAKI, this year?"

GREG TORAIN: Yes. There will be a solicitation issued. Obviously, it wouldn’t be a part of this presentation. But that will be a solicitation that will be issued this year.

DARYL FOX: “Regarding the Adult Drug Court funding program as well, are DUI Courts eligible under that?”

GREG TORAIN: Yes, DUI Courts fall within the category of Adult Drug Court as well as Co-Occurring Courts and Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts.

DARYL FOX: Okay. Now, I’ll ask this next one, it’s a little general to JustGrants, maybe perhaps answer or we could refer them. “Does JustGrants need a special login authorization? Or does SAM or Grants.gov login work for that?”

GREG TORAIN: You know what, I would--I’m not completely sure. I don’t want to give you a wrong answer on that. But if you can go back to the JustGrants slide. Yeah, you see it here. So you would probably need to contact them. And if you go on to Google JustGrants training, there’s a plethora of different trainings to tell you how to do pretty much anything in JustGrants. I don’t want to say yes or no, whether you have to have an ID--I would believe you would. But I don’t want to provide you with the incorrect answer. But just please go to the JustGrants training website, you can just Google that. There’s a lot of different trainings, and it’ll provide you with information on how to go about getting into the JustGrants system.

DARYL FOX: Next question is regarding the peer review. The person wanted me to put up the email address for the peer review resume submission again, which I will go ahead and--so from this slide here, want to just jot that email down. It was also entered into the chat as well so you can copy and paste that as you need to. And just a note to put the peer reviewer candidate resume in the subject line when you are submitting. “We’ve served as a peer reviewer in the past. Do we need to resubmit the resume? Or is that in a database for future consideration?”

GREG TORAIN: We do have a database that we pull on at BJA. So it’s probably in a database, but I would--if you have an account or you’ve done it before, you want to
make sure that you are. So we do have a database so you’re probably still be in that—in that database, but to make sure I’d still go through the process.

DARYL FOX: “How do I find out who the primary applicant is in our county for JAG awards?”

GREG TORAIN: So BJA has a new website. I can probably put in into the chat box or the Q&A box. It’s a new link that has all of our BJA-related funds or awards that we’ve made over the past few years and as recent as FY 21. So there’s a link to where you can go to see where we made all of our awards to, which is a good—great idea, because then you’ll be able to see who done what and what states and it—within your state, you’ll be able to—if you’re interested maybe contact your partners in your state. So that’s definitely a great idea. But yeah, I’ll try to put that into the Q&A, that link.

MICHELLE WHITE: Greg, to add to that there should also for JAG, in particular, be a list of both who the SAAs are for the states and then for each locality, who the eligible recipients of funds are at—in the local government so all of that should be on the website. I don’t know Daryl, if you can go to that slide, the JAG slide. I believe there’s the website where those things can be accessed, those lists.

DARYL FOX: “Do you anticipate another Smart Probation grant solicitation for 2022?”

GREG TORAIN: No, there won’t be another Smart Prosecution solicitation issued for FY 22.

DARYL FOX: If topics do—I’m not sure what particular opportunity they’re referencing. “But if the topics do not overlap, can an agency apply for multiple grants at the same time?”

GREG TORAIN: If the topics do not overlap—yes, they would be able to pull—you can apply as much—as much funding as possible here at BJA, you submit the application. Even if it’s within the same topic, you could apply for a same award as long as the focus is different or you’re focusing on a different population or target age or just different target population.

DARYL FOX: Regarding the training technical assistance section, “Besides the Capital Case Litigation TTA, are those opportunities for providers of TTA to apply for the grants to act in this capacity or are BJA staff providers of all these TTA you mentioned?”
MICHELLE WHITE: So those are—all of the TTA solicitations are for outside providers. So they are competitive solicitations. So BJA is not the TTA provider. We are looking for other experts that are in the field to deliver the training and technical assistance.

DARYL FOX: This was touched upon generally as far as travel, but “Are BJA grantees permitted to use award funds to attend, for example, NADCP ‘22 this year?”

GREG TORAIN: Yes, they are to use those funds to attend the NADCP conference. Yeah.

DARYL FOX: And then generally, “Human Trafficking Intervention Courts do not fall under Drug Treatment Courts or Mental Health Courts specifically. Generally, do you know where they would be able to direct their court focus to help apply for the available funding?”

GREG TORAIN: You know what, I’m not sure at this point who they would be able to... I’m sorry.

MICHELLE WHITE: Yeah. I was going to jump in, Greg.

GREG TORAIN: Okay.

MICHELLE WHITE: And say, it’s a—I don’t think there’s BJA funding that is human trafficking specific at this point. But another place potentially to look would be OVC, which is the Office for Victims of Crime. They may very well have funding opportunities that could be a fit. No promises, but could be a fit for what you might be trying to achieve.

DARYL FOX: And related to that, yeah, they do have a series of human trafficking solicitations each year. And they’ll be forthcoming. So definitely check the OVC website under current funding. And typically they do host webinars as well for those solicitations. Those will be announced as well on that site, so definitely a great resource. Thanks, Michelle. “Does Family Recovery Court fall under drug courts?”

GREG TORAIN: Not with BJA. It would be with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, who supports family treatment drug courts. So you would be able to apply under the OJJDP solicitation, which they will be putting out as well this year.
DARYL FOX: “Most of the opportunities discussed prosecution and law enforcement. Is there any available that assist public defender offices and operations?”

MICHELLE WHITE: So there are a number of opportunities that while the primary focus isn’t assisting public defender offices and their operations, they are either eligible, or they are collaborative partners in the different applications. I would also say that if your question is in terms of sort of basic operations, that is less likely, as opposed to this specific sort of targeted topic areas where public defender agencies and offices might be involved around a topic, but there are another--a number of other potential funding entities outside of BJA that support public defender and public defense entities that you might look into as well. Legal Services Corporation, I believe is one place you could look for additional resources.

DARYL FOX: “Will there be a solicitation for the Upholding the Rule of Law and Preventing Wrongful Convictions Program this year?”

GREG TORAIN: Yes, that was one of the programs we actually covered the day that we talked about. So that will be a solicitation also this year.

DARYL FOX: A couple more are coming in still. Regarding the CTAS project, I know Michelle, you did mention that that was coming up, to definitely check the website out on those details for that grant opportunity. “May grantees use program funds for legal services for individuals involved in the judicial system, such as protective orders, expungements, obtaining documents for driver’s licenses, etc.?”

MICHELLE WHITE: So I would say the answer to that question is very program-specific, and I would take a deep dive into each individual solicitation to see if there are any prohibitions against doing that. I think it very much depends on the program or the solicitation that you would be responding to.

DARYL FOX: “Regarding peer review, can you apply for grants if you are a peer reviewer, or conflict of interest there?”

MICHELLE WHITE: You cannot be a peer reviewer for a grant portfolio or program that you are also an applicant. So yes, you would conflict yourself out of being able to be a peer reviewer. But if you were a peer reviewer one year, you could be an applicant potentially the next year, you just can’t do them at the same time. So Daryl, I see a question about COSSAP that I’ll answer really quickly. “Our state has a current COSSAP grant, but our local county would like to apply. Is that allowable? If so, how does that impact funding requests?” Yes, you are still very much eligible to apply as a
local jurisdiction. And I would say the only potential impact is if you’re receiving any of the state COSSAP funds as one of their sites, then you could not duplicate or supplant the funds that you might receive as a local applicant. And that, realistically, is the only thing I think you maybe need to look out for.

DARYL FOX: A question did come in about some language. I think they’re pulling it from a specific solicitation. But the statement is, “Any awards under the solicitation will be made another statutory authority. As of this writing, the Department of Justice is operating under a short-term continuing resolution, no full-year appropriations have been enacted for FY 2022. Is that relevant to the ones that will be coming out? Or is that for an older solicitation or any continuing resolution?”

MICHELLE WHITE: We’re no longer operating under a continuing resolution. So that solicitation was likely released in the middle of sort of that process. So moving forward, the other solicitations should not contain that language, which means that during a continuing resolution final appropriations have not been--had not been made.

DARYL FOX: Great. Yeah. Thanks for that clarification. Okay. So we’re coming up on 2 p.m. here. So Michelle, Greg, unless there’s anything else in closing you wanted to add before we end the program?

GREG TORAIN: No, I’ll just add, again, as we mentioned earlier, if you’re looking to apply--when the solicitation is released, please apply early, do not procrastinate. Please move forward applying. And we look forward to the application that we receive.

MICHELLE WHITE: Thank you for your time and interest today.

DARYL FOX: Okay. So on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Assistance and our panelists, we want to thank you for joining today’s webinar. This will end today’s presentation.