FY 2024 UPHOLDING THE RULE OF LAW AND PREVENTING WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS PROGRAM

Who May Apply:
Category 1 and 2: City, township, county, state, special district, and Federally recognized tribal governments; Native American tribal organizations; nonprofits with and without 501(c)(3) status, other than institutions of higher education; public, private, and state-controlled institutions of higher education; state, county, or local public defender offices with in-house post-conviction representation programs
Category 3: Public, private, and state-controlled institutions of higher education; Native American tribal organizations; and nonprofits with and without 501(c)(3) status, other than institutions of higher education

Why Apply:
Receive funding to support wrongful conviction review (WCR) entities and conviction integrity units (CIUs) that represent individuals with post-conviction claims of innocence to review individual cases and enhance criminal justice system integrity.

Maximum per Award:
Up to $600,000 for Category 1 and 2; up to $1,200,000 for Category 3

BJA encourages the following entities to apply:
• Agencies that have not previously received BJA funding.
• Convening or governing bodies that can apply on behalf of one or more entities.

Examples of strategies/activities that can be funded:
• Review post-conviction cases and appeal claims of innocence with a focus on those greatest at risk.
• Evaluate whether any systemic issues exist that may compromise the rule of law.
• Improve victim services, justice responses, prevention initiatives, reentry services, and other efforts to advance public safety.
• Collect and analyze data to support the prevention of error and enhance efforts to review and manage claims of innocence.
• Recommend practices for mitigating systemic issues and preventing wrongful convictions.
• Support partnerships that may enhance efficiency in relevant information sharing in post-conviction claims of innocence.
Where to get more information about this opportunity:

Visit bja.ojp.gov/program/urlpwc/overview for more information about the program and bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2024-172049 for full funding information.

Tips for Success:

- **Start early!** To apply, you must first have a valid registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). **Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days** to complete. Register at: sam.gov/content/home.

- For questions about the program’s requirements or the application process, see the full solicitation at: bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2024-172049.pdf for information on who to contact.

- Visit **BJA Funding Webinars** at: bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars and review the “Federal Funding Process: First Steps to Applying, How to Prepare Now, and Other Considerations.”

- **Subscribe** for email notifications from BJA about funding opportunities and other news at: bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-newsfrombja.

- To be in the know about funding opportunities across the Office of Justice Programs, sign up to receive **JUSTINFO** at: www.ojp.gov/news/justinfo and/or the weekly **Funding News** at: public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP_COMMS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDOJOJP_COMMS_25.

How to apply and when:

Submit a two-step application.

1. Register in Grants.gov and follow the prompts to submit two forms by May 15, 2024.

2. Then complete the full application in JustGrants.usdoj.gov by May 22, 2024. The application’s major elements are:

   a. **The proposal abstract** that summarizes the problem you wish to address with your project (no more than 400 words).

   b. **The proposal narrative** that describes your project’s strategies, activities, and major deliverables as well as your capacity to address the problem.

   c. **The web-based budget** form that details how you will allocate the grant funds by task, date, and responsible person.

ABOUT BJA

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