FY 2024 RURAL AND SMALL DEPARTMENT VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM

Thursday, April 11, 2024
3:00 p.m. ET
Presenters

• Juliana Palmer, Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
• Erin Rose Feeley, State Policy Advisor, BJA
• Craig Uchida, President, Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS)
• Shellie Solomon, Chief Executive Officer, JSS
• Jim Hackett, Director of Emergency Management, Crawford County, WI, Sheriff’s Department
• Chief Steven Lowell, Oneida, New York, Police Department
Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction to OJP and BJA
- Program Overview
- Guest Speakers and BJA Grant Experience
- Eligibility and Application Requirements
- Application Resources
- Q&A
SECTION 1

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.

- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).
U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Assistance

**Mission**: BJA’s mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director

https://bja.ojp.gov/
How BJA Supports the Field

**Fund**
Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

**Educate**
Research, develop, and deliver what works.

** Equip**
Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

**Partner**
Consult, connect, and convene.
Poll Question
Has your organization been awarded federal grants in the past?

Yes, my organization has extensive experience with federal grants.
Yes, though my organization does not currently have any federal grants.
My organization has limited experience with federal grants.
My organization is new to federal grants and looking to learn more!
SECTION 2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Initiative Overview

• BJA seeks to support small and rural agencies in their efforts to combat violent crime through the FY24 Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program.

• This program provides funding to small and/or rural agencies to implement or enhance the capacity of their organization around one or more critical elements found in the Violent Crime Reductions Operations Guide or the Prosecutors’ Guide to Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities.
Activities

Complete the **Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide** online assessment tool.

Select one or more of the critical elements within the Guide to improve capacity as part of an overall violent crime reduction strategy.

Partner with a researcher or subject matter expert to monitor the activities identified for the project.
Activities

Implement programming and activities that reflect an enhanced capacity, per the Guide.

Deploy agency resources such as personnel, services, or analytical tools that meet the capacity enhancement goal.

Document the development and implementation of strategies to reduce the violent crime problem(s) identified in the application.

Track progress and outcomes.

Additional program activities are outlined in the solicitation.
Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide

• The Guide outlines Critical Elements that discuss important capabilities for any agency in its fight against violent crime, including the most essential, overarching element: leadership.

• Law enforcement leaders can use this Guide and its Critical Elements as a resource to assess their agency’s capacity and identify additional actions that can assist them in their fight against violent crime.
Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide

The Guide outlines the Critical Elements, essential components of crime-fighting strategies, in a format that can assist agency executives in determining their respective capacity in each of these areas.
SECTION 3

GUEST SPEAKERS
BJA Grantee Insight and Experience

Jim Hackett
Director of Emergency Management
Crawford County, WI, Sheriff’s Department

and

Chief Steven Lowell
Oneida, New York, Police Department

Describe your experience:

- Writing and applying for the grant
- Receiving and managing the grant
- Working with BJA Training and Technical Assistance providers
- Implementing programmatic activities to reduce violent crime
SECTION 4

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Eligibility

• This solicitation is limited to small and/or rural law enforcement agencies and prosecutors serving rural communities or small departments.

• The following entities are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity:
  o A **small agency** is any law enforcement agency with 250 or fewer sworn officers.
  o A **rural agency**, as defined under this initiative, is (a) an agency serving any area or community, no part of which is within an area designated as a standard metropolitan statistical area by the Office of Management and Budget or (b) any agency serving one or more rural census tracts.
  o A **tribal agency** is any federally recognized tribe with a designated law enforcement agency.
Available Funding

• $300,000 maximum dollar amount.
• 15 anticipated awards.
• Funding begins October 1, 2024, for 36 months.
Previous Program Funding

Previous funding through this program has been used to support efforts to combat various rural violent crime challenges, including:

- Assaul ts, robberies, and sexual assaults
- Homicides
- Narcotics-related violent crime
- Intimate partner violence
- Gang-related violent crime
- Firearms-related violent crime
- Child abuse and exploitation
Things to Keep in Mind

• Applicants should reference the *Violent Crime Reductions Operations Guide* or the *Prosecutors’ Guide to Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities* throughout their application as stated in the solicitation.

• The program timeline should highlight and include major milestones and deliverables.
Important Dates

• Posting Date: March 19, 2024
• Grants.gov deadline: May 15, 2024, 8:59 pm Eastern
• Application JustGrants deadline: May 22, 2024, 8:59 pm Eastern
SECTION 5

APPLICATION RESOURCES
The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Grant Application Resource Guide ("Guide") provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding. It addresses a variety of policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP program applicants, or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2023. Some OJP programs may have program solicitations that expressly modify a provision of this Guide; in such cases, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in the solicitation as to any such expressly modified provision.

https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide
Learn About the Department of Justice’s Grants and Payment Management Systems

The Justice Grants System (JustGrants) is the Department of Justice's grants management system for the Office of Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

The JustGrants Resources website is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the system itself. Through this portal, both award recipients and applicants can access training resources and user support options, find answers to frequently asked questions, and sign up for the JusticeGrants Update newsletter.

Users can also log in to JustGrants through the site.

News Flash

Feb 21: Register Now! March Dates Added for Virtual Q&A Sessions

Aug 10: Review New and Updated JustGrants FAQs

https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/
Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications must be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

• **Step 1**: Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at Grants.gov by **May 15, 2024, 8:59 pm Eastern**.

• **Step 2**: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov by **May 22, 2024, 8:59 pm Eastern**.

**NOTE**: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59 p.m. ET, not 11:59 p.m. ET as in past years.

Read the solicitation carefully for further guidance.
Application Assistance

Grants.gov

• Provides technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL**.
  o **Customer Support Hotline**
    ▪ 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035
    ▪ Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
  o **Web and Email**
    ▪ [https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html)
    ▪ support@grants.gov

• Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

JustGrants Technical Support

Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ’s Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

• **Customer Support Hotline:**
  o 833–872–5175
  o Monday – Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. ET
  o Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

• **Web and Email**
  o [https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support](https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support)
  o JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov
Email Updates
Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.
(Message and data rates may apply.)

https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe
Stay Connected!

- **Facebook:** [https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)
- **X:** [https://x.com/DOJBJA](https://x.com/DOJBJA)
- **YouTube:** [https://www.youtube.com/dojbja](https://www.youtube.com/dojbja)

- Use the QR code to subscribe to “Justice Matters” and “News From BJA” to receive the latest information from BJA and the field.

- For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA’s website:** [www.bja.ojp.gov](http://www.bja.ojp.gov).
Contact the OJP Response Center:

- Email: grants@ncjrs.gov
- Toll free: 800–851–3420
- TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday.
Quick Reference: Important Contacts

For technical assistance submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL into Grants.Gov, call: 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, 24 hours a day, or email: support@grants.gov.

For technical assistance submitting the full application into JustGrants, call: 833–872–5175, 7–9 ET, M–F, and 9–5 ET, weekends and holidays, or email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.

For technical assistance with the programmatic requirements, call the OJP Response Center: 800–851–3420, 10–6 ET, M–F, or email: grants@ncjrs.gov.
Questions?
Enter in the Q&A box and send to All Panelists.