

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Good morning—or good afternoon, everybody, and welcome to today's webinar, "Funding Opportunities for Your Community in 2020: An Overview of What's Ahead," hosted by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. At this time, I would like to introduce you to today's presenters, Alissa Huntoon, Rebecca Rose, Andre Bethea, and Alyse Altenburg.

REBECCA ROSE: Hi. Good afternoon, everyone. This is Rebecca Rose. Good to talk to you all. I'm so happy to have you all here on the webinar with us today. We are—have a lot of grant information to share with you. This is the beginning of our, you know, funding cycle for us here at BJA and we're just really excited to be able to share all these potential upcoming resources with you all to hopefully advance all of your great work in the field. So our agenda for today's webinar is going to be—I'm just going to give you a quick overview of OJP and BJA, if you're not familiar with what—who we are within the Department of Justice. And then we're going to dive into providing some explanation of upcoming funding opportunities and give you some other resources such as the, you know, US Department of Justice Program Plan and other available funding resources for you all to use as you're preparing to apply for funding from BJA. And as Mary Jo has already noted, we will also have time for questions and answers, which you guys can type in at any time in the Q&A Chat box on the WebEx. So one thing I just wanted to note here, as it's stated here, all of the information that we're sharing with you is subject to the availability of appropriations and potential legislative changes of statutory requirement. So it is—hold on one second. It sounds like we're—okay. So sorry if my sound was a little bit off there, but one thing I just wanted to note is that all of our—all of the information that we're sharing with you here today is subject to the availability of appropriations. We actually do not have a final approved budget yet for fiscal year 2020, but the information that we're providing you is really based on projected operational plans and, you know, our forecast for what we're expecting in 2020. So while we do hope it's the most up-to-date information, you know, please note that things may change as budgets are finalized by Congress and funding plans, overall program plans are finalized by OJP. If we can go to the next slide. Great.

So just a little bit of background, what is the Office of Justice Programs? OJP provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community. We do a lot. OJP is actually one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice. The other two are OVW, the Office on Violence against Women and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, otherwise more popularly known as COPS office. You can go to the next slide. This gives you just a little bit—a quick snapshot of our organizational chart here at OJP. So obviously, we—OJP—is under—falls within the Department of Justice and then you can see the different organization divisions under OJP. BJA is what we'll spend our time talking about today. But you have BJS, which is the Bureau of Justice Statistics; NIJ, which is the National Institute of Justice; OJJDP, which is our Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program; the SMART Office, and then OVC, Office for Victims of Crime. If you can go to the next slide.

So to dive in a little bit more on BJA and what we're about, our mission statement is stated here. We provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal

justice policy development with the ultimate goal of supporting you all—local, state, and tribal justice agencies, to reduce violent crime and strengthen communities. Throughout this presentation, you'll see links that we've provided. Obviously, right here, one of your key links that you should have bookmarked, if you don't already, is our homepage, bja.gov, and, of course, follow us on Facebook and Twitter. The reason that, you know, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter, we are constantly posting anytime funding opportunities do become available. They are going up on our social media channels as well as being sent out via e-blast if you're on the BJA distribution list, which you can do if you're not already, through bja.gov. Next slide.

And just a quick reminder, as we all are—my colleagues and I are preparing and writing solicitation for you all to respond to, we do keep in mind the administration priorities. And so you'll see, you know, some of this language referenced throughout all of the different funding opportunities that we do talk about. But just as a reminder of administration priorities, funding for BJA is aligned with those priorities and it's to reduce violent crimes, prosecute more drug and felonious cases, gun cases, while also supporting the safety of law enforcement officers. So many of our programs do focus solely on some of those things, but obviously expand upon some of those statements as well. Next slide.

So in general, there's two types of BJA grants. We have our discretionary grants and our formula grants. We're going to be talking to you about programs that fall under each of these categories. But just to give you a sense of how these are defined, 'discretionary grants are awarded directly to OJP—or by—I'm sorry, by OJP to eligible recipients. Applicants will apply directly to OJP or BJA. They are most often awarded on a competitive basis, so you're—submitting your application in response to a solicitation and you're competing with other applicants. And then applicants, as part of this process, you undergo a review process of what we call our peer review process. I'll talk a little bit about that at the end of our presentation today, but to ensure that they are complete and meet the eligibility requirements of our solicitations and our program requirements. Formula funds—they're usually administered and managed by state administering agencies or other BJA-approved fiscal agents, that will be very clearly stated on any solicitation, any formula solicitation that's released, on the cover page, who the formula grants are required to be administered by—most often are awarded on a non-competitive basis, and distribution of funds among eligible recipients is either statutorily defined or defined by distribution process specified by BJA. Again, this kind of information will be very clearly stated on the cover page of any solicitation that we release in terms of the formula funds as well. If we can go to the next slide. So now, in the next 20 or so slides, maybe even more, you're going to see every slide is going to be dedicated to a particular program where we anticipate funding to be available to you all in the field in the next couple of months. So every slide is going to be, you know, covering a different program. We're going to hit just the key highlights of the program, key purposes of the program, and then give you a sense of—you can see in the last bullet here, give you a sense of what we think fiscal year 2020 opportunities are going to look like in terms of total dollar amount available or expected award—number of awards available, again, with the caveat that some of those may change as we begin to

get our final budgets and roll out the solicitation. So I'm going to start with some of our programs and then turn it over to my colleagues who Mary Jo introduced and we're going to talk through all these different programs for you all just to give you some of the key highlights.

So the first one we want to talk about is the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. This is almost the flagship program of BJA. It is a formula-based program, but it is—as it's stated here—the leading source of federal justice funding to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. There are eight purpose areas that JAG funds may be used. I'm not going to read all those for you, but just to point out, in the past, there used to be seven purpose areas. It's been expanded and the last one listed here is the fairly new one, the mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections program, including behavioral health—or behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams. That's recently been added as a purpose area under JAG. For fiscal year 2020, what we're expecting, there is an estimated total funding available for local JAG, which is to local jurisdictions, up to \$113,000,000. The estimated total funding available for state JAG, which is to each—or to the state administered by the state administering agencies, is up to a total of \$175,000,000. If we can go to the next slide.

Another program that is also a formula-based program is the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment, or otherwise known as RSAT Program for state prisoners. The—this program, the RSAT program, the purpose of it is to assist state local governments to develop and implement substance abuse treatment programs in correctional and detention facilities. So then also we do have funds available through this program to create and maintain community-based aftercare services for offenders as well. In fiscal year 2020, the estimate number of awards is 56 and the average—estimated average amounts of awards is around \$460/\$470,000, again to be determined in terms of more accurate numbers once we get our budget and run the formula for this program. If you can go to the next slide.

The John R. Justice program, so this is actually a program that assists state and territories around loan repayment. So it's loan repayment assistance for local, state, and federal public defenders, and local and state prosecutors who commit to extend employment in those roles. So the purpose is really to hope, you know, to recruit and retain qualified attorneys to fulfill the department's mission to enhance criminal justice systems. So for the John R. Justice Program in 2020, again, we do expect the estimate number of awards up to 56, but the state award amount, around \$32,000 depending on the need. So for this Loan Repayment Program, all of the—all of the instructions will be very specific on the solicitation that is released but we do anticipate seeing this again this year. Next slide, please.

So this program is a fairly new program in the last two years, but it's the STOP School Violence Program. So the purpose of the STOP School Violence solicitation will be to ensure that students are safe in school by providing students and teachers with resources and tools for recognizing, responding quickly to, and preventing acts of violence. We do expect in this fiscal year to post one solicitation that will address these

things: the threat assessment piece, mental health training, and technology solutions such as anonymous reporting system. So there will be, you know, we do anticipate just one solicitation that will touch on those different things through a variety of categories. So it's something to start thinking about, if this is something that your jurisdiction is interested in looking into, these are the areas that will be the priority into the STOP School Violence Program this year. This is a significant amount of money. In fiscal year 2020, we do estimate a number of awards up to 75 and the average award amount of up to \$1,000,000. So, this is definitely something for you all to pay attention to in terms of the overall funding available under this program. If we can go to the next slide.

Another program that has a pretty significant amount of funding available is the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program, often referred to COAP because we love our acronyms here in the federal government. But the purpose here is to—is to support diversion and alternatives to incarceration programs for non-violent individuals who come in contact with the justice system as a result of abusing drugs, illicit and prescription opioids. Also to implement enhanced prescription drug monitoring programs that are often run by state agencies, to promote cross-system planning and coordination of service delivery, and to reduce the incidents of fatal overdoses associated with opioid use. In fiscal year 2020, we have a total estimate funding available of \$157,000,000. We don't have the estimate number of awards yet that we plan to make under that with that funding available, but, again, significant amount of money available. And once you, you know, once we release the COAP solicitation, you'll most likely see varying—or a number of different categories that align with these bullets that I've shared on this slide. If I can go to the next slide, thank you.

Project Safe Neighborhoods. So this is actually another formula program and it will be—it will be formula this year as well. It is designed—Project Safe Neighborhoods is designed to create safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in crime associated with gang and gun violence. They've really, you know, the program is based on—like effectiveness is based on the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies engaged in a unified approach, which is often led or almost always led by the U.S. Attorney in each of the 92 or 93 U.S. Attorneys' districts. So very active involvement from the U.S. Attorneys in the PSN project, but the funding actually does go to locals to be able to execute or implement the work. In fiscal year 2020, we do estimate the number of awards up to 93. Ninety-three is the number of U.S. Attorney districts. And average award amount has been—or in the last year, was at \$350,000, so we'll anticipate same level of funding but, again, to be determined as budgets are confirmed. So at this time, I'm actually going to turn it over to my colleague, Alissa Huntoon, who's going to talk through another set of programs with you all. Thank you.

ALISSA HUNTOON: Great. Thanks so much, Becky, and hello, everyone. Thanks again for joining. The first part I'm going to talk about is the Crime Gun Intelligence Centers. This is a program that we've had at BJA for a couple years and the funding is available for local law enforcement agencies to procure and learn how to use technology for collecting, processing, analyzing, investigating, and prosecuting illegal firearms. In FY

2020, our estimated number of awards is up to six and the dollar amount there available is projected to be about \$700,000 per award.

The Sexual Assault Kit Initiative, also known as SAKI, really focus on—focuses on supporting jurisdictions with processing those sexual assault kits. So through inventory, testing, tracking, etc., you're also able to access a variety of training, also really to engage in multidisciplinary policy development approach, implementation, and coordination. SAKI also seeks to help jurisdictions improve practices related to the investigation, prosecution, and victim engagement, and provide support connecting evidence with cases from this testing process. You'll see there for FY 2020, again, some significant funding available and a significant chunk per award there, about 1.25 million.

The Strategies for Policing Innovation Program gives eligible entities, local law enforcement agencies, units of local government the opportunity to target a particular operational or crime reduction issue and approach it and come at it from an innovative or intensive intervention approach. The key to that is partnering with a researcher whose role is to help evaluate the project and produce and write about the results. Through this program, the sites also receive intensive training and technical assistance. And it's a smaller chunk available, so it's somewhat competitive, but a lot of great awards have been given for this program, it has been at BJA for quite a few years.

Body-Worn Cameras. This program serves to help agencies develop, implement, and evaluate a body-worn camera program. Obviously, that's one tool that a law enforcement agency has in developing a comprehensive approach to improving officer safety, enhance evidentiary values, and enhance officer interactions in ways that contribute to building community trust and facilitating cooperative agreements. 2020 opportunities there is up to 85, which is a significant number of awards, and you'll note that the award amount there is given out depending upon the agency size, so that there's a significant variance there in the dollar amounts that are awarded, and again, that will all be spelled out in the solicitation itself.

The next program is the Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking. This funding supports law enforcement, prosecution, other key partners that take a multidisciplinary approach to combating human trafficking, also to build agency infrastructure, increase their capacity, and really expand those investigative and prosecutorial skills to better identify, prevent, identify victims and also to prevent and combat all forms of human trafficking. And there is—the plan of course is to release this solicitation, but there isn't information available yet at this time about the number of awards or funding available.

Intellectual Property Enforcement Program provides support to improve the capacity of state, local, and tribal criminal justice systems to address IP enforcement and that includes prosecution, prevention, training, and technical assistance. We estimate about 10 awards. Those are about \$250,000 each.

The Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combating Violent Crime really focuses on supporting prosecutors at the state, local, and tribal level with information and resources to develop more effective strategies and programs to address violent crime.

For those of you that are familiar with the department's Project Guardian efforts, which is an initiative that really is also focusing on gun violence reduction and firearms, this program also aligns with that as well. 2020, about 18 awards and, again, those are about up to \$350,000.

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program, another long-standing BJA program, supports innovative cross-system collaboration to improve responses and outcomes for individuals that have mental illnesses or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders that may come into contact with the criminal justice system. The 2020 proposed award numbers are there, about up to 24, and those individual awards can be—or are proposed to be up to \$750,000.

And this is a long title for this one. It is the Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities Program. So this really is meant to help jurisdictions reduce the number of deaths and injuries for individuals that may have various forms of dementia like Alzheimer's Disease, or other developmental disabilities. It's really to help provide funding to jurisdictions to develop and operate programs that can help prevent wandering, increase individual safety, and facilitate rescues in public for those who may have wandered from their safe environment. The money goes to public safety agencies to implement locative technologies to help track those individuals and other agencies, and non-profit organizations, they may be partnering with. We expect to make about up to 12 awards for \$150,000 each. And with that, I'm going to turn it over to my colleague.

ALYSE ALTENBURG: Great. Thanks, Alissa. So hi, everyone. My name is Alyse Altenburg again. And I'm going to begin our conversation talking about the Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction Program. So this program focuses on high-crime communities with concentrated distressed areas and hotspots of crime. This program does directly support the department's priorities to reduce violent crime, assist communities struggling with drug abuse, and also support law enforcement officers. This program greatly focuses on integrating officers and enforcement strategies into their community-based crime reduction effort. Again, this program will also support the department's Project Guardian effort. And in FY 2020, we hope to make an estimated number of 10 awards, and also the average award amount can vary between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000.

The next program is Upholding the Rule of Law and Preventing Wrongful Convictions Program. So this solicitation presents competitive awards for creating multidisciplinary teams to assess and also address areas of risk for wrongful conviction, and also to review and assess these post-conviction claims of innocence. In FY 2020, we hope to make an estimated number of 12 awards and these awards can be anywhere—awards available—the estimated awards available, excuse me, will be up to \$3,600,000.

The next program is the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program. This program provides financial and technical assistance for states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and also Indian tribal governments to develop and implement their own drug courts that effectively integrate evidence-based substance abuse disorder treatment, mandatory drug testing, sanctions and incentives, and transitional services in a judiciary-supervised court setting with jurisdiction over substance misusers, and also include addressing the opioid epidemic across the United States. We hope to make an estimated number of 90 awards, and, again, the average award amount can vary between \$500,000 and even up to \$2,000,000.

The last program that I would like to speak to would be the Coordinated Tribal Assistance solicitation. The purpose of this solicitation is to provide comprehensive training and technical assistance for tribes in the areas of substance abuse and alcohol-related crimes, tribal court, tribal justice system, and Alaska Native justice systems. The hope is to address violent crime and also support prosecutors in tribal communities. In FY 2020, the estimated number of awards will be up to 45 grant awards, and the estimated award amount varies based upon purpose areas. So, for Purpose Area Two, the award amount may be up to \$150,000. For Purpose Area Three, the award amount may be \$250,000 to \$900,000. And then the last purpose area, Purpose Area Four, the award amount can vary between \$1,000,000 to \$4,000,000. So at this time, I would like to pass it on to my colleague, Andre.

ANDRE BETHEA: Thanks, Alyse. Hello, everyone. My name is Andre Bethea, and I am a Policy Advisor here at the Bureau of Justice Assistance or BJA. Please note that BJA continues its commitment to public safety by assisting institutional corrections, community corrections, as well as non-profit organizations who help with reentry. And the first one up is PREA, Prison Rape Elimination Act Program, where we're by directed by Congress to provide help and assistance to agencies as they try to protect inmates and safeguard communities. The BJA PREA grant program responds to the statutory obligation by supporting efforts in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions. Please note this includes prisons, jails, juvenile confinement facilities, as well as community confinement facilities, halfway houses, and police lockups. In fiscal year 2020, we estimate a number of up to 18 awards, with the average amount approximately \$250,000.

Next up is JRI, or Justice Reinvestment [Initiative]: Reducing Violent Crime by Improving Justice System Performance. Again, in fiscal year 2020, this program will provide funding for tribal, state, and local justice agencies to implement data-driven strategies to improve public safety by reducing corrections spending and reinvesting those savings in efforts to decrease crime and strengthen neighborhoods. In fiscal year 2020, we will be providing up to 11.5 million for this effort. The amount of awards that will actually be given out will be determined, and we'll make that note on the actual JRI solicitation.

Not that I'm supposed to have favorites, but I do, right? Improving Reentry for Adults with Substance Use Disorders Program. This is our new SUD Program that replaces

our former cooccurring program. And everyone, please pay attention to the eligibility that will be announced during the solicitation. SUD will, you know, enhance corrections systems' ability to address the substance use treatment needs of offenders in order to reduce recidivism, promote recovery, and to improve public safety and public health. This includes prison-based family treatment programs to incarcerated parents of minor children, and pregnant women. We're really excited about this opportunity and in fiscal year 2020 we plan to make up to 12 awards at an estimated price of—well, an estimated award—grant award of \$1,000,000, or up to \$1,000,000. So look for that, this is really exciting.

Another piece of the Second Chance Act is Innovations in Reentry Initiative: Building System Capacity and Testing Strategies to Reduce Recidivism. This initiative supports state, local, and tribal jurisdictions' engagements in a three-part recidivism reduction program: strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation. In fiscal year 2020, we only anticipate making up to four awards, and the maximum amount available for each grant award will be up to \$1,000,000.

Listing up the excitement again in the Second Chance Act Portfolio, we have our newly branded CAREERS Program, which is Correctional Adult Reentry Education, Employment, and Recidivism Reduction Strategies. Of course, we're really looking at how the other "R" is silent, but CAREERS Program helps communities establish education, vocation, and job training programs in their correctional systems that address employment challenges facing incarcerated youth and adults reentering those communities and the workforce. We're really happy to offer in fiscal year 2020 up to 10 awards. The estimated award amount for each will be up to \$900,000.

And another long-standing program in the Second Chance Act Portfolio is the Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program. This program supports community and faith-based organizations in developing and implementing comprehensive and collaborative programs that support people who are reentering communities from incarceration who are at medium- to high-risk of reoffending, reduce recidivism, and improve public safety. In fiscal year 2020, we intend to make up to 10 awards of about up to \$1,000,000 each—for each award.

Innovations in Supervision Initiative, ISI. The Innovations in Supervision Program seeks to improve the capacity and effectiveness of community supervision agencies. This is about parole, probation, as well as halfway houses. In fiscal year 2020, we anticipate making up to five awards with the average amount of each award available being up to \$900,000.

And last on my list will be the Swift, Certain, and Fair, the Innovative Responses to Behavior in the Community. BJA is issuing this solicitation to work with jurisdictions and agencies interested in developing or enhancing supervision strategies that comport with the Swift, Certain, and Fair principles, the SCF Principles, and implementing them as part of models informed by research and responsive to local circumstances. SCF strategies are designed to improve supervision outcomes which will reduce recidivism

and, in turn, improve public safety. In fiscal year 2020, we anticipate making up to five awards, and for each amount, we're offering up to \$600,000. Back to you, Becky.

REBECCA ROSE: Thank you, Andre. I appreciate that. And so for everybody participating on the webinar today, just a reminder, I see a lot of questions coming in but just a reminder, if you have questions about any information we've shared, please type them in in the Q&A box to all. We'll get through to those in a minute. I'm going to go over another couple slides to give you some resources, to help you prepare for our funding season. So, we've given you a lot of information over the last 20 minutes. We've thrown a lot of ideas, you know, in terms of the topics we expect funding to be available. And the reason for doing this, we—and we know that solicitations are—all these solicitations aren't released yet, but we do expect them in the next couple of months, but we really just want to give you ideas on what the topics are going to be for this year for our BJA funding and help, you know, you all to start planning and thinking about what you might want to apply for. So, again, over the next couple of slides, I'm going to give you some resources that you could potentially use to continue that, you know, where we are kind of in this planning phase of planning to apply for funding for BJA.

So what's next? We do expect solicitations to be released by March of 2020. So I would—there's already some solicitations out there that are released by—have been released by BJA so just—I would keep on the lookout for solicitations to be released, you know, no later than March 2020 but they're going to be, you know, potentially released on a rolling basis, so keep your eyes and ears open as solicitations are announced. Application submission deadlines. Again, just to think about in your—in terms of your planning, you can start planning now, but I know it's hard when you don't actually have the solicitation in front of you. But something to keep in mind is that we do—in years past, it kind of has varied in terms of how long solicitations are open, depending on when they're released. But because we're hoping to have everything released by March, they'll typically or usually be open for at least 60 days, some may be longer. So just keep that in mind in your planning that, you know, you would have a good two months to actually get the application materials together once the solicitation is released. Also not noted here, but I do want to point out to you all is that there is an effort by our leadership at OJP to reach out to rural jurisdictions this year. You'll see some language in some of our solicitations that specify this, you know, outreach to rural jurisdictions, and you'll see that in some of our outreach communication around the solicitation. So we really encourage smaller and rural jurisdictions to, you know, look at their base funding opportunities to apply directly and/or partner with other agencies in your region to apply for the funding as well, so keep that in mind. If we can go to the next slide.

So, this link here is what we call our DOJ Program Plan, Department of Justice Program Plan. All of the information that we shared with you here today can be summarized at this link here. But it's a tool to help you all find different funding opportunities that may address your needs. The plan, it provides, you know, pretty high-level summary details on the funding opportunities that we're expecting to release in the current fiscal year. So, all of the information that we provided to you today is available

through this program plan. We do update the program plan as, you know, as different funding decisions or plans, I should say, are made. So, you may see different programs added or eliminated or, you know, adjustments in terms of the program descriptions and funding available as we, you know, become more aware of what our funding outlook is. But definitely something for you all to bookmark, in addition to BJA, program plans that are included on here, all the other grantmaking components that I mentioned earlier at the presentation are also listed here as well. So, a great resource for you, you can actually search by DOJ division or you can actually search by topic, too. So it's a great tool for you all to use to see what might be coming down the pike in terms of funding opportunities. You can go to the next slide.

So again, this is a lot of links here, but we wanted to be sure to include them. They're important. They're things for you to bookmark and keep in mind. But you can see here bj.gov, I already mentioned that, but they're on the homepage of bj.gov you'll see news, stories, or, you know, they're kind of little callout boxes of different things, new publications that might be released, but also funding opportunities that are available. On the bj.gov website, there's actually a—well, on the—one of the top menu pieces is a funding tab that you can click on to give you—will give you a list of all the open solicitations and that'll be updated as solicitations are released.

We also have through OJP our Grant Application Resource Guide. If you all are not familiar with this website, I would encourage you—strongly encourage you to become familiar with it. This is something that's being updated on a regular basis but there is a ton of resources available through this website in terms of preparing to apply for OJP Funding, not just BJA Funding, but OJP Funding. Just thinking for some of the requirements that you might have to consider, the Financial Guide is linked through this page, just a lot of really good detailed information for you all, especially, you know, if you have grant writers that are, you know, maybe new to applying to OJP funding, I would encourage them to spend some time on this website and take all this in. You'll also see this link in our solicitations, but definitely something you can kind of familiarize yourself prior to the release of funding opportunities.

So grants.gov, another very important website to bookmark. [Grants.gov](http://grants.gov) is most likely going to be the mechanism through which you submit your application. So grants.gov has a lot of resources available for you. Not only will the funding opportunities be available to you through grants.gov, to submit all of your application materials, but there is a plethora of resources in terms of, you know, recommendations on how to apply, what are best practices around applying..they have a whole webinar series through YouTube, through grants.gov, that's very helpful to first time or just needing—or first time applicants or just needing a refresher on how to apply. And then it explains all of the different requirements in terms of what you need to have to setup in place before you actually submit applications. We're not going to dig into that during this presentation, but grants.gov has all of that information and I'll reference another resource when we wrap-up later today that has a lot of that information as well.

The next link is an Office of Justice—or OJP's Award Data. What's interesting about this, and one of the reasons I put it in there, is that you, you know, it's always helpful especially when you're planning or thinking about applying for funding, is just the, you know, who's gotten the funding in the past? While, you know, priorities might change for these programs or the way that we, you know, write solicitations based on administration priorities might change, it is always very interesting to see who might have gotten this funding in the past, especially in your neighborhood, or in your region, or in your city, whatever it may be. So, award data, you can actually go on to this publicly available site and search, you know, award data by your state, or search award data by a particular solicitation topic or title. And you can do it all by fiscal year. I find this very beneficial just to see, again, what's going on in my region. Hey, I saw that, you know, a community, you know, right next to me got this funding that I'm interested this year, they got it two years ago, and maybe I should reach out to them and see what their experience was like or if they have any tips for me or if they can just share their application with me. So it's a great way for you to connect locally with folks, grantees, current grantees of BJA to help you prepare for this funding season.

And then finally, the last thing here is the NIJ crimesolutions.gov. So, this is a web-based clearinghouse of programs and practices that have been rated in terms of effectiveness in addressing different criminal justice issues. So you can see the link here at crimesolutions.gov. The reason that we include those in here is just—it's always a great way to get ideas. If you're interested and you have a need, you've got a—you know, you need a—you have a need that needs to be addressed but you don't necessarily, you know, know which direction you want to head in terms of the best strategy around it. This will provide you some great program examples of different, you know, different approaches to different needs. So if you're looking for ideas about, you know, how to tackle your issue, whatever it may be, you know, this will provide you some things to think about or maybe ways to structure your ideas or your strategy to help respond and write your application for different funding opportunities.

The other thing that's not mentioned on here but on bj.gov, on their funding page, we do anticipate posting what we call kind of exemplary applications. So we're collecting that information now but for applications that, you know, were funded last year under many of these programs, we do like to share examples with you and—so that information will be posted on bj.gov. Again, just another kind of tool, very helpful to see, you know, what a winning application might look like in terms of the Program Narrative. So be on the lookout for that in terms of resources posted on our website. And then the other thing I wanted to mention is that many of our programs actually have web pages within bj.gov, so if you go to the sub-topics or topic areas, you can find different information on all these different programs that we've talked about, but also other external websites, so for example, COAP, the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program has this, you know, the training and technical assistance provider has put together this, you know, very comprehensive website that highlights the COAP Program. And the reason I mentioned this is that, again, it's just another tool to see what's out there. So if you're considering applying for COAP, you know, for example, I would go—I would encourage you to see everything that's available on BJA's website.

But then, also, you know, just do a quick Google search of the COAP BJA website, and you'll, you know, be directed to this external website that includes program examples, what kind of, you know, training and technical assistance opportunities are available to COAP grantees, you know, webinars on the topic, many, many different variety of resources that would be available under that topic area. And I just provide COAP as an example, but almost all of our other programs that, you know, my colleagues talked about today do have their own websites that will provide that some of that basic information. So this time of year is really a time for you to investigate all of that, get ideas for what, you know, what kind of applications you want to write, what strategies you want to propose and you can do that through all of the resources that I've shared with you. So, you can turn it to the next slide. So, again we're going to pause right now and take some questions and try to answer them to the best of our ability. As a reminder, just please type in your questions in the Q&A box, through the WebEx and I'm going to turn it over to Mary Jo.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Hi, everybody. Before we get into the each individual questions, there are several that are coming in through that is the same, and they're about the PowerPoints, as well as how to stay in touch and find out about new opportunities. So, with regards to the PowerPoints and the transcript for this webinar, they will be posted to the BJA website. The PowerPoints will probably be posted within the next week, along with the recording and transcript, maybe a week or so later. You will receive an email letting you know when that has been done. With regards to staying in touch with BJA, and finding out how to—about new opportunities, as Rebecca mentioned, and I've just switched it back to the previous slide, you can sign up to be on BJA's mailing list at www.bja.gov. They also have a Twitter and Facebook and that is, the URL for that was located in one of the earlier slides, and I think we have it in another slide later, so we will get that for you. And you'll be able to write that down. The other thing I recommend and I believe again, this is in another later slide, is the National Criminal Justice Reference Service has a weekly funding newsletter. It comes out every Friday, and it has funding opportunities that are available from not only BJA, but other—the other offices and bureaus within the Office of Justice Programs. So, they will let you know when an opportunity has been released, and if that opportunity has an associated webinar with it to explain the eligibility, and regulations, and so forth, they'll also let you know that. So that is another recommendation to sign up for that. And you can go to ncjrs.gov, and go under their funding link and subscribe to their funding newsletter. So, without any further delay, we will get into some of the questions that we have here. Is the STOP School Violence formula more discretionary?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Becky?

REBECCA ROSE: That program is discretionary.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Does STOP apply to higher education institutions?

REBECCA ROSE: It does not, the eligibility requirements will be explained on the cover page, but it's state, local, tribal jurisdictions.

ALISSA HUNTOON: And this is Alissa, I think we got a lot of questions in general about eligibility across the solicitations, and so that information will be clearly spelled out on that first page when it's released, because again, we could tell you what it was like last year, but we want to make sure we give you the most accurate information up-to-date. So we would just encourage you to read the eligibility on the solicitation when it's released, and as Mary Jo mentioned and Becky, often times there is an actual solicitation-specific webinar, which is when we're going to go through that solicitation much more detailed once it's been posted and you can ask more questions specifically about eligibility, length of awards, dollar amounts, all of that information, I've seen quite a few questions come through there. So, we appreciate those questions, I think you'll be able to get some more specific answers once the solicitation have been posted. And Becky, also, I don't know if you wanted to say anything else again, there's quite a few questions that have come in about when certain solicitations will be posted, so if you just want to maybe refresh your statements around projected posting dates?

REBECCA ROSE: Sure, thanks, Alissa. So, in general, we expect all solicitations to be posted by March 2020. That's a, you know, that's our goal actually this year. So, hopefully, you know, everything falls into place to make that happen. But we do expect things to be released on a rolling basis, but hopefully all the things by March 2020.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So, one of the questions that came through is, are the STOP School Violence Program grants only for state and local government?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Again, we—so we answered questions generally about eligibility that will be spelled out specifically when the solicitations are posted. So, the questions about eligibility, we'll just going to answer with that broad response. There's a question in here about the COPS Office funding. Becky, I don't know if you want to address that one?

REBECCA ROSE: So unfortunately, we can't address anything about the COPS Office funding, we are focused here on BJA, but unfortunately, we can't tell you the status of any COPS Office funding, but definitely, we'd encourage you to reach out, they've got contact information on the COPS website, so if you just Google the COPS and you can see their contact information, you can feel free to reach out to them to ask the COPS funding questions, thank you.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: A question came through about equipment grants and if BJA offers grant opportunities for small agencies to obtain equipment?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Becky, do you want to try to address the one on JAG and just equipment?

REBECCA ROSE: Sure. Yup. So, equipment often is an allowable expense under JAG and so that's—again, that's the Justice Assistance Grant, that's the first slide that I started off with in terms of—that's the formula grant program that is available to local

entities, eligible local entities and state agencies, often the state administering agency. So equipment is allowable—an allowable expense under that program. And I'll just—I'll just state generally, equipment is, you know, can be allowable under all of our other discretionary programs, it just it would have to be aligned with the overall purpose of the—and strategy of the—of the program. So, if they're, you know, you're writing the application to support, you know, under Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program and your overall strategy, you know, you have a certain approach that may involve the purchase of equipment, it just have to be justified appropriately so. So, just wanted to make that general statement. Alissa, do you want to just touch on body worn camera again, quickly?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So, somebody would like us to explain the differences between formula and discretionary grants.

ALISSA HUNTOON: Becky?

REBECCA ROSE: Sure. So, formula grants are those that are usually administered by or managed by the state administering agency or another approved BJA fiscal agent. They are most often awarded on a noncompetitive basis based on the distribution of funds among eligible recipients that is either statutorily defined or defined by distribution process specified by BJA. So, for example, the JAG funds are a formula grant program, a very complicated formula, but based on, you know, loosely on crime statistics within your local or state jurisdiction. It's not that simple, but that's just, you know, kind of a broad example of how the formula is run. And the discretionary grant programs are awarded through an application process. So, they're awarded directly by OJP to eligible recipients, but you are often going through an application process in response to a solicitation, and they are most often awarded on a competitive basis through the application process for discretionary awards, all applications will go under our review process, a preliminary review process, to determine eligibility, and then a peer review process to determine the overall rating and score of the application. Thanks.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Another question about if the Gulf States Technology Awardees and when they will be announced.

ALISSA HUNTOON: Great. This is Alissa, so that's a question about a previous solicitation, so not any of the current ones that we talked about here, so the solicitations that were released last year. All those awards are always completed on a rolling basis, some of the solicitations were released much later in the year, so those awards are just going to be announced a little bit later than previously, but unfortunately I can't give you a date. There's never a specific date for those awards.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. Give us one moment please, we are looking through the questions and we'll be back with you. Another question about eligibility: Are institutions of higher education eligible grants—eligible applicants—for any of the opportunities you reviewed?

ALYSE ALTENBURG: And this is Alyse, I'm happy to answer that question. So again all of the eligibilities for our solicitations will differ slightly. So you will just have to wait and see until a solicitation is posted. Again, we estimate to have all solicitations posted by March 2020. So please carefully review those eligibility requirements to see if you are eligible to apply.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Next question: Can one agency apply for both the Byrne grant and CBCR funding? I thought they were the same project?

ALYSE ALTENBURG: So as far as applying for both, I believe that you may apply for the CBCR Grant Program. So that would be a separate solicitation as compared to any type of JAG funding that your community would be receiving, but again, we prefer simply to the eligibility requirement and the information outlined in the solicitation, because they will differ, and they are separate programs.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: What do the application categories mean on the DOJ program sites?

ALISSA HUNTOON: This is Alissa, so again, that is for those solicitations that we talked about if there are any proposed categories within that particular solicitation, that's what you're going to see reflected in the program plan. So if it's targeted towards a particular topic area or a particular population, it may be a separate category.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: For clarification regarding release of solicitations, did you mean everything will be released on a rolling basis prior to March 2020 or solicitations will begin releasing on a rolling basis in March 2020?

ALLISA HUNTOON: Going to toss that to you Becky.

REBECCA ROSE: Yes. Thank you. So the goal is to release everything by March 2020. Thank you.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Will there be a solicitation for Swift, Certain, and Fair, Project HOPE?

ANDRE BETHEA: Yes. As described in the review of the slides, we take over the Swift, Certain, and Fair Programs. So yes, there will be a solicitation for that program.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Are you planning to release the Gulf States and Southwest Border grant programs this year?

ALYSE ALTENBURG: So again, generally, this is Alyse talking, so referring to that specific grant program, all of the grant programs that we have currently listed, we try to be as comprehensive as possible in this presentation but always be monitoring for those new solicitations to be coming again, monitor our websites to see if there's information

available. We wish we could've provided you with all the information today but I would only say stay tuned.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Just give us a moment. We are reviewing a couple of the questions. So are most of the solicitations that were reviewed today discretionary or formula grants.

REBECCA ROSE: So most of the ones today were described, are discretionary. So those first few slides captured the formula grant program, I think there were at least three or four, but a good bulk were discretionary.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. So somebody wanted to repeat the newsletter address for NCJRS. It is ncjrs.gov, and if you go to their website, you'll go to the funding tab and within the description under the funding tab, will be a link for the funding newsletter. Is there a single website or email list that will provide all grants that are made available in March? It depends on what you're referring to by all grants. If you mean all BJA grants, or all grants available from the Office of Justice Programs. You can sign up under grants.gov and have access to all grants that are available across all federal agencies that use grants.gov as their funding source or notification source. You can go to the BJA website and subscribe to the BJA newsletter if you're interested in specifically BJA grant opportunities, and you can go to NCJRS if you are interested in any grant opportunity offered through the Office of Justice Programs. And again, that email does come out every Friday, well, every week. All right. So give us a good second again so we can go through these questions. Did you mention rural is a given priority and how do you assign it when it comes to a county?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Okay. This is Alyssa, I just want to be able to respond to overall in terms of defining it and that specific definition of rural will be included in the solicitation itself. So sometimes it's based on population, sometimes that's spelled out specifically in the legislation. So that's why we can't give you a specific answer right now but it will be listed in that solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: So, Rebecca, we're going to kick it back to you to go over the last couple slides.

REBECCA ROSE: That's great. Thank you, Mary Jo. And thank you all for the great questions. To my fellow presenters I just wanted to—one quick technical thing, my WebEx is frozen, but hopefully you all can still hear me okay, but I just want to let you know that if you're trying to chat with me, I cannot get that right now. Thank you all for that. So if you can go to the "Becoming a peer reviewer" slide. So one of the things that we encourage you all to do, you know, we've talked about, you know, giving you guidance on how to apply for funding or the different, you know, programs that you might be interested in, but one of the opportunities that I think is a great learning tool is, you know, serving as a peer reviewer for our application. So obviously you cannot be a peer reviewer for a solicitation for which you are applying or an applicant for, which your agency is an applicant for. But there's a lot of other different solicitation programs that

we're going to be, you know, putting out there in the field as we stated here today. So I definitely encouraged you to, you know, look into becoming a peer reviewer if you haven't already, it's a great way to learn about the peer review process. How we, you know, run an external peer review on BJA applications, what we look for, you know, how we evaluate the criteria that's laid out in the solicitation, how we score applications. Just a great learning tool to help you in the future, you know, craft your applications so that you're really aligned with the requirements of solicitation. So if you're interested in becoming a peer reviewer please submit an up-to-date resume or vitae including a valid email address to BJAreviewer@ojp.usdoj.gov. In the subject line please indicate peer reviewer candidate resume. So we can pay attention to it and get into our peer review database as soon as possible.

If you can go to the next slide, Mary Jo, which is "BJA Grant Applicant Education Series." So this webinar today is part of our BJA grant application series. Again just one of those tools that we want to provide you all to help you become more aware of what funding opportunities are available but last month we hosted our first webinar in this education series, and it was called the first steps to applying, how to prepare now and other considerations. So if you go to this link here to access previous webinar recordings, and transcripts, and slides you will see the actual transcripts and presentation for this webinar we offered in October. This webinar really focused on kind of the nuts and bolts of how to apply for funding. So I mentioned to you all previously, you know, about grants.gov and how it has all those resources about what it takes to become an applicant. There's a lot of steps, not to scare you, but it's just something that you can start now, there's a lot of steps that need to be taken in terms of a process perspective to be eligible to, you know, apply for funding through grants.gov. So this webinar that was offered in October is a great overview of all of those different steps that are needed or required to set yourself out nicely for when these funding opportunities start being released. So I definitely encourage you to go to that link to see the latest and greatest on any other, you know, grant applicants education tools that we can make available to you all.

A couple other notes just staying on this slide, Mary Jo, couple other notes I wanted to mention. I think Alissa in our Q&A mentioned solicitation webinars. So just to reiterate that when solicitations are released, for many of them we do expect to have what we call solicitation webinars where we're focusing our webinar solely on that solicitation, digging into the eligibility requirements, digging into the priorities, different categories, funding available, criteria and, you know, overall requirements of the application process. So during this presentation today we gave you a high-level review of what we anticipate to become available, but for many of our programs especially our larger programs, we do expect them to have webinars focused solely on that solicitation, and it will be after that solicitation is released so we can actually refer to all the specific guidance, and answer all those questions that you guys have about eligibility that we may have been a little vague on today, just because we don't know right now. So we don't have the final plans right now in place. So just be on the lookout for that. Again all of the resources that we share in terms of like the BJA newsletters, NCJRS newsletter, you know, social media, you know, these will be announced through those mechanisms.

So be on the lookout for those as well. And then we do plan to host those or at least link to the presentations on this application—applicant series webpage that's linked here.

Another couple of points still staying on this slide, Mary Jo, is we did not specifically talk about training and technical assistance. So you heard us reference it a little bit throughout our presentations and potentially as a resource to look at our training and technical assistance providers, but we do expect to have opportunities available to national organizations to provide training and technical assistance. So often, for many of our grant programs if you become a grantee, if you're from a state, local, or tribal jurisdiction, you will have what we call training and technical assistance support. So you'll have support from BJA and other national partners to help you successfully implement or enhance your project that you have been awarded for. And so while we did not specifically mention any, you know, training and technical assistance opportunities, funding opportunities that we, you know, have coming up, you know, for those of you that are on this call from national organizations that might be interested in those types of opportunities, just keep your eyes and ears open, you know, on the cover page of solicitations it will very specifically say, you know, whatever the topic or program title is and then training and technical assistance. And then you'll be able to determine where or not you're eligible based on the eligibility criteria. So just be on the lookout for any of those solicitations if you're from a national organization that has that skillset or an expertise to be able to provide training and technical assistance, we would expect those to be released around the same timeframes by March 2020.

Also, I would just ask, put in the plug, if you are a national organization we really encourage you to help us get the word out to our state, local, or tribal partners. You are such, you know, sought leaders in the field and helping us spread, you know, all of the good processes that are—we learned from our grant programs and different policies, initiatives that are happening but we really want to rely on you in this funding cycle to help us get the word out, to make sure that we're reaching all of those state, local, tribal jurisdictions that my need our assistance and make sure that they have the opportunity to apply for our funding as well.

Mary Jo, if we can go to the next slide which is "Stay connected." So again this is just a reminder of the social media and—that we have available through BJA, so these links—they're linked here, Facebook, Twitter, and the RSS feed. Definitely encourage you were, you know, we have a very strong social media outreach plan around these funding opportunities to encourage to stay connected through those social media networks as well. And then if we can go to the next slide, Mary Jo, which is additional questions. So, Mary Jo has mentioned the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center. This is our response center for all funding questions. So in every solicitation you actually see this information listed. If you have questions, when solicitations are open, if you have questions about eligibility or any, you know, any questions that might come up as you're reviewing solicitations, this is going to be your go-to place. And NCJRS Response Center works very closely with me and my colleagues in terms of trying to address any and all of your questions. But here's the contact information for you, email and web chat, and then there's a toll free number, and

for our hearing impaired number as well. So the NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM Eastern Time Monday through Friday. If you happen to call or reach out, you know, off-hours they will get back to you as soon as they can. But I just want to let you know that the great resource for you if you have any follow up questions from this webinar or if you have any additional questions or questions as solicitations are released. So with that let me just—I have a couple other closing remarks but Mary Jo and team, is there anything else you'd like to add before we wrap up? Okay. I will take that as a—as a no, but thank you all for attending today's webinar. We really appreciate your participation, we hope what we provided here is valuable and gives you a good idea of what's to come. Again, this is really, you know, our intent here is to help you start planning and thinking about ideas based on the different funding opportunities that we anticipate being available. As Mary Jo has said, the presentation will be online in the next week or so. So the actual PDF documents of this PowerPoint presentation will be available to you, and then the recording would be available hopefully in a few weeks or a little bit less than then. So thank you all for participating, I really appreciate it. We look forward to hearing from you as our different funding opportunities are released and working with you in the future. Thank you.