The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications for a Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by enhancing the capacity of state and local jurisdictions in preventing and reducing crime.

Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program
FY 2015 Competitive Grant Announcement

Eligibility
Eligible applicants are limited to for-profit organizations, nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit or for-profit organizations), faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), and consortiums. For-profit organizations must agree to waive any profit or fees for services.

BJA welcomes applications that involve collaboration between two or more entities; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant and the others must be proposed as sub-recipients. The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for conducting and leading the program.

For additional eligibility information, see Section C. Eligibility Information.

Deadline
Applicants must register with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application. All applications are due to be submitted and in receipt of a successful validation message in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on April 27, 2015.

All applicants are encouraged to read this Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov.

For additional information, see How To Apply in Section D. Application and Submission Information.

Contact Information
For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, or via e-mail to support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must e-mail the BJA contact identified below within 24 hours after the application deadline and request approval to
submit their application. Additional information on reporting technical issues is found under “Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues” in the How To Apply section.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center: toll-free at 1-800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only); email responsecenter@ncjrs.gov; fax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp. The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Grants.gov number assigned to this announcement: BJA-2015-4122

Release date: March 11, 2015
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Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program
(CFDA #16.738)

A. Program Description

Overview
The FY 2015 Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program, administered by BJA, is designed to provide national support and promote safe firearms storage practices through the distribution of free firearm locks and safety kits and promote a greater awareness of simple precautions every gun owner can take to ensure his or her firearms don't pose a danger to children or the community. This program is funded through the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235),

Program-Specific Information
The purpose of this FY 2015 competitive funding announcement is to select a provider to distribute firearms locks and educate current or potential firearms owners about the dangers of unlocked firearms and the value of locking firearms. The campaign will include distribution of free firearm locking devices and safe storage educational materials on the use of these devices. Additionally, the effort will also include an education campaign to raise awareness of the firearm lock distribution program and the safety issues associated with unlocked firearms.

This effort will build on BJA’s 2014 safe storage messaging, which aims to raise awareness about how secure storage procedures can reduce the misuse of firearms, particularly by young adults. There are an estimated 250–300 million firearms in America and approximately 50 percent of households have at least one firearm. In the last 15 years, 70 million firearm locks have been included with new firearms by firearms manufacturers, but there are millions of firearms in the hands of gun owners that did not include a gun lock at the time of purchase.

The goal of the FY 2015 Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program is to reach gun owners through a variety of sources with whom gun owners come into contact, such as firearm retailers, shooting ranges, and firearm instructors. In addition to those listed above, applicants are also encouraged to consider collaborations with groups that may include but need not be limited to partners such as educational institutions, physician practices, religious organizations, and community groups that can assist in reminding firearm owners of the potentially tragic consequences of unlocked firearms. This program is intended to reach new gun owners (particularly those located in urban and suburban areas where new gun ownership has increased), and those who may not have had access to traditional firearms safety classes such as those offered in sport shooting venues.

Because the first point of contact for gun owners is typically a Federal Firearms Licensee (FFL), applicants should demonstrate the ability to collaborate with FFLS and firearms instructors as well as demonstrate a record of developing and building strong partnerships with law enforcement, community groups, and other organizations.

This grant announcement specifically requests applications for a national program provider; it does not solicit applications from individual jurisdictions to establish state and local firearm lock distribution programs.
Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The overall goals of the program funded under this FY 2015 National Firearm Locks and Safe Storage Distribution Program solicitation is to reduce deaths and injuries resulting from unlocked firearms and reduce the incentive for firearms theft by addressing three specific areas:

- Unintentional injury or death which results from unintended access to an unlocked firearm such as children finding and handling an unlocked firearm.
- Intentional death/suicide as a result of unapproved access to unlocked firearm.
- A reduction in injuries or death that result from stolen weapons without gun locks and their prevalence in a secondary market.

To meet these goals, one award will be made for the selected provider to implement a national program with efforts focused in up to five unique sites. The provider, in consultation with BJA, will select the sites which may consist of individual communities, cities, or regions. In each location, the initiative will focus on the specific goals outlined above. The project design should include the following elements:

1. Distribute, free of charge, firearm locking devices through partnerships as described above, in up to five sites, selected in consultation with BJA and based on data indicating an effort is likely to be successful. Site selection and program implementation should be done with a goal of determining that such a program is effective in preventing reducing unintended injury and death, access to known unlocked firearms, and reducing theft and misuse of firearms.
2. As a component of the program, coordinate outreach efforts to raise awareness of the program and bring a safe storage message to firearms owners in the selected locations.
3. Create a “culture of firearms safety” by raising awareness of the safe storage issue through: stories in the media, creative messaging on social media, direct interaction with gun owners and firearm retailers, a program web site, and partnerships entities as described above. The messages should be data driven and targeted to meet the goals outlined above.
4. Reinforce the message of safe storage with a series of public service announcements (PSAs). These should build on the messages of BJA’s prior Safe Storage Campaign.
5. Collaborate with BJA and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to evaluate the implementation of the program.

Objectives and Deliverables

- Selection of up to five sites for participation in the program.
- Development of a data-driven, research-based distribution plan for the firearm safety locks that targets the specific goals of this program.
- Distribution of Firearm Locking Devices through innovative means, in a data-driven manner with the goal of reducing accidents, suicides, and theft of unsecured firearms.
- In coordination of the goals of the program, develop and distribute literature, PSAs, and online firearm safety materials to raise awareness of the program and the importance of storing firearms safely through non-traditional partnerships and to audiences not traditionally targeted.
- Create partnerships with FFLs to distribute information to gun owners on the importance of safely storing firearms.
• Create partnerships with law enforcement and other community partners to assist with the
development, implementation and strategy for distribution of the firearm locks and related
materials distribution of program information and firearm safety locks.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices
OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policy making and program
development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. OJP is committed to:

• Improving the quantity and quality of evidence OJP generates
• Integrating evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions within OJP and the field
• Improving the translation of evidence into practice

OJP considers programs and practices to be evidence-based when their effectiveness has been
demonstrated by causal evidence, generally obtained through one or more outcome
evaluations. Causal evidence documents a relationship between an activity or intervention
(including technology) and its intended outcome, including measuring the direction and size of a
change, and the extent to which a change may be attributed to the activity or
intervention. Causal evidence depends on the use of scientific methods to rule out, to the extent
possible, alternative explanations for the documented change. The strength of causal evidence,
based on the factors described above, will influence the degree to which OJP considers a
program or practice to be evidence-based. The OJP CrimeSolutions.gov web site is one
resource that applicants may use to find information about evidence-based programs in criminal
justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

B. Federal Award Information

BJA estimates that it will make 1 award of up to $2,600,000 for a 24-month project period
beginning on October 1, 2015.

BJA may, in certain cases, provide supplemental funding in future years to awards under this
solicitation. Important considerations in decisions regarding supplemental funding include,
among other factors, the availability of funding, strategic priorities, assessment of the quality of
the management of the award (for example, timeliness and quality of progress reports), and
assessment of the progress of the work funded under the award.

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or
additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Type of Award¹
BJA expects that it will make any award from this solicitation in the form of a cooperative
agreement, which is a particular type of grant used if BJA expects to have ongoing substantial
involvement in award activities. Substantial involvement includes direct oversight and
involvement with the grantee organization in implementation of the grant, but does not involve
day-to-day project management. See Administrative, National Policy, and other Legal
Requirements, under Section F. Federal Award Administration Information, for details regarding
the federal involvement anticipated under an award from this solicitation.

¹ See generally 31 U.S.C. §§ 6301-6305 (defines and describes various forms of federal assistance
relationships, including grants and cooperative agreements (a type of grant)).
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls
If selected for funding, the award recipient must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-federal entity is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the “Internal Control Integrated Framework”, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

(b) Comply with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal awards.

(c) Evaluate and monitor the non-federal entity’s compliance with statute, regulations and the terms and conditions of federal awards.

(d) Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings.

(e) Take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the non-federal entity considers sensitive consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

In order to better understand administrative requirements and cost principles, award applicants are encouraged to enroll, at no charge, in the Department of Justice Grants Financial Management Online Training available here.

Budget Information

Cost Sharing or Match Requirement
This solicitation does not require a match. However, if a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

Pre-Agreement Cost Approvals
OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs; an applicant must request and obtain the prior written approval of OJP for all such costs. If approved, pre-agreement costs could be paid from grant funds consistent with a grantee’s approved budget, and under applicable cost standards. However, all such costs prior to award and prior to approval of the costs are incurred at the sole risk of an applicant. Generally, no applicant should incur project costs before submitting an application requesting federal funding for those costs. Should there be extenuating circumstances that appear to be appropriate for OJP’s consideration as pre-agreement costs, the applicant should contact the point of contact listed on the title page of this announcement for details on the requirements for submitting a written request for approval. See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the Financial Guide, for more information.
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver
With respect to any award of more than $250,000 made under this solicitation, recipients may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the award recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the Federal Government’s Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. The 2015 salary table for SES employees is available on the Office of Personnel Management web site. Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a greater rate, provided the amount in excess of this compensation limitation is paid with non-federal funds. (Any such additional compensation will not be considered matching funds where match requirements apply.)

The Assistant Attorney General for OJP may exercise discretion to waive, on an individual basis, the limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. An applicant requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of the application. Unless the applicant submits a waiver request and justification with the application, the applicant should anticipate that OJP will request the applicant to adjust and resubmit the budget.

The justification should include the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service the individual will provide, the individual’s specific knowledge of the program or project being undertaken with award funds, and a statement explaining that the individual’s salary is commensurate with the regular and customary rate for an individual with his/her qualifications and expertise, and for the work to be done.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs
OJP strongly encourages applicants that propose to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity to review carefully – before submitting an application – the OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at www.ojp.gov/financialguide/PostawardRequirements/chapter15page1.htm. OJP policy and guidance (1) encourage minimization of conference, meeting, and training costs; (2) require prior written approval (which may affect project timelines) of most such costs for cooperative agreement recipients and of some such costs for grant recipients; and (3) set cost limits, including a general prohibition of all food and beverage costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)
If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable. Reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to services or benefits may include interpretation or translation services where appropriate.

For additional information, see the "Civil Rights Compliance" section under “Solicitation Requirements” in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

C. Eligibility Information

For additional eligibility information, see Title page.

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2 This limitation on use of award funds does not apply to the non-profit organizations specifically named at Appendix VIII to 2 C.F.R. part 200.
Cost Sharing or Match Requirement
For additional information on cost sharing and match requirement, see Section B. Federal Award Information.

Limit on Number of Application Submissions
If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, BJA will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted. For more information on system-validated versions, see How To Apply.

D. Application and Submission Information

What an Application Should Include
Applicants should anticipate that if they fail to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements, it may negatively affect the review of their application; and, should a decision be made to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of special conditions that preclude the recipient from accessing or using award funds pending satisfaction of the conditions.

Moreover, applicants should anticipate that applications that are determined to be nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that do not include the application elements that BJA has designated to be critical, will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration. Under this solicitation, BJA has designated the following application elements as critical: Project Abstract, Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative. Applicants may combine the Budget Narrative and the Budget Detail Worksheet in one document. However, if an applicant submits only one budget document, it must contain both narrative and detail information. Please review the “Note on File Names and File Types” under How To Apply to be sure applications are submitted in permitted formats.

OJP strongly recommends that applicants use appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., “Program Narrative,” “Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative,” “Timelines,” “Memoranda of Understanding,” “Resumes”) for all attachments. Also, OJP recommends that applicants include resumes in a single file.

1. Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and OJP’s Grants Management System (GMS) take information from the applicant’s profile to populate the fields on this form. When selecting “type of applicant,” if the applicant is a for-profit entity, select "For-Profit Organization" or "Small Business" (as applicable).

Intergovernmental Review: This funding opportunity is subject to Executive Order 12372. Applicants may find the names and addresses of their state’s Single Point of Contact (SPOC) at the following web site: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_s poc/. Applicants whose state appears on the SPOC list must contact their state’s SPOC to find out about, and comply with, the state’s process under Executive Order 12372. In completing the SF-424, applicants whose state appears on the SPOC list are to make the appropriate selection in response to question 19 once the applicant has complied with their state’s E.O. 12372 process. (Applicants whose state does not appear on the SPOC list are to make the
appropriate selection in response to question 19 to indicate that the “Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.”

2. **Project Abstract**
   Applications should include a high-quality project abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Project abstracts should be—
   - Written for a general public audience
   - Submitted as a separate attachment with “Project Abstract” as part of its file name
   - Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins

   As a separate attachment, the project abstract will **not** count against the page limit for the program narrative.

   All project abstracts should follow the detailed template available at [ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf](ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf).

**Permission to Share Project Abstract with the Public:** It is unlikely that BJA will be able to fund all promising applications submitted under this solicitation, but it may have the opportunity to share information with the public regarding promising but unfunded applications, for example, through a listing on a webpage available to the public. The intent of this public posting would be to allow other possible funders to become aware of such proposals.

In the project abstract template, applicants are asked to indicate whether they give OJP permission to share their project abstract (including contact information) with the public. Granting (or failing to grant) this permission will not affect OJP’s funding decisions, and, if the application is not funded, granting permission will not guarantee that abstract information will be shared, nor will it guarantee funding from any other source.

**Note:** OJP may choose not to list a project that otherwise would have been included in a listing of promising but unfunded applications, should the abstract fail to meet the format and content requirements noted above and outlined in the project abstract template.

3. **Program Narrative**
   Applicants must submit a program narrative that is responsive to the solicitation and the requirements outlined below.

   The program narrative should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman preferred); have no less than 1-inch margins; and **should not exceed 15 pages**. Pages should be numbered “1 of 15,” “2 of 15,” etc.

   If the program narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, BJA may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

   The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative:
   a. Statement of the Problem
   b. Project Design and Implementation
   c. Capabilities and Competencies
d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures

To assist the Department with fulfilling its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, Public Law 111–352, applicants that receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work done under this solicitation. OJP will require any award recipient, post award, to provide the data requested in the “Data Grantee Provides” column so that OJP can calculate values for the “Performance Measures” column. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Performance Measure(s)</th>
<th>Data Grantee Provides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distribute firearm locking devices and safety kits to reduce access to unlocked firearms</td>
<td>Number of Firearm Locking Devices and Safety Kits distributed</td>
<td>During the reporting period:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish an educational campaign and develop partnerships with key stakeholders to distribute information and create a “culture of firearms safety.”</td>
<td>Number of firearm safety locks and safety kits distributed by partners</td>
<td>• Total number of Firearm Locking Devices and Safety Kits distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of promotional PSAs created</td>
<td>• Number of firearm safety locks and safety kits distributed by partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage of newly created promotional PSAs aired on TV/Radio/Social Media</td>
<td>• Number of promotional PSAs created</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of minutes PSAs aired on TV/Radio/Social Media</td>
<td>• Number of newly created PSAs aired on TV/Radio/Social Media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of program promotional materials developed</td>
<td>• Number of promotional materials developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of promotional literature disseminated</td>
<td>• Number of promotional literature disseminated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage increase in visits to web site(s)</td>
<td>• Number of unique visitors who access online resources/web site(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage increase in number of new partnerships established with FFLs</td>
<td>• Number of new partnerships established during the current reporting period, by type:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage increase in new partnerships established law enforcement and/or other groups</td>
<td>o Federal Firearms Licensees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>o Law Enforcement</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>o Community Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>o Other (define)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BJA does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their application. Performance measures are included as an alert that BJA will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. For the application, applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.
Note on Project Evaluations
Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations should be aware that certain project evaluations (such as systematic investigations designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge) may constitute “research” for purposes of applicable DOJ human subjects protection regulations. However, project evaluations that are intended only to generate internal improvements to a program or service, or are conducted only to meet OJP’s performance measure data reporting requirements likely do not constitute “research.” Applicants should provide sufficient information for OJP to determine whether the particular project they propose would either intentionally or unintentionally collect and/or use information in such a way that it meets the DOJ regulatory definition of research.

Research, for the purposes of human subjects protections for OJP-funded programs, is defined as, “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge” 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d). For additional information on determining whether a proposed activity would constitute research, see the decision tree to assist applicants on the “Research and the Protection of Human Subjects” section of the OJP Funding Resource Center web page (ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/EvidenceResearchEvaluationRequirements.htm). Applicants whose proposals may involve a research or statistical component also should review the “Data Privacy and Confidentiality Requirements” section on that web page.

4. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative

a. Budget Detail Worksheet
A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/BudgetDetailWorksheet.pdf. Applicants that submit their budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the Financial Guide at www.ojp.gov/financialguide/index.htm.

b. Budget Narrative
The budget narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. OJP expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Applicants should demonstrate in their budget narratives how they will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should generally describe cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project. For example, a budget narrative should detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary, or how technology and collaboration with outside organizations could be used to reduce costs, without compromising quality.

The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how they are relevant to the completion
of the proposed project. The narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative should be broken down by year.

c. Non-Competitive Procurement Contracts In Excess of Simplified Acquisition Threshold
If an applicant proposes to make one or more non-competitive procurements of products or services, where the non-competitive procurement will exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (also known as the small purchase threshold), which is currently set at $150,000, the application should address the considerations outlined in the Financial Guide.

d. Pre-Agreement Cost Approvals
For information on pre-agreement costs, see Section B. Federal Award Information.

5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
Indirect costs are allowed only if the applicant has a current federally approved indirect cost rate. (This requirement does not apply to units of local government.) Attach a copy of the federally approved indirect cost rate agreement to the application. Applicants that do not have an approved rate may request one through their cognizant federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant organization, or, if the applicant's accounting system permits, costs may be allocated in the direct cost categories. For the definition of Cognizant Federal Agency, see the “Glossary of Terms” in the Financial Guide. For assistance with identifying your cognizant agency, please contact the Customer Service Center at 1-800-458-0786 or at ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov. If DOJ is the cognizant federal agency, applicants may obtain information needed to submit an indirect cost rate proposal at www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/IndirectCosts.pdf.

6. Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)
Tribes, tribal organizations, or third parties proposing to provide direct services or assistance to residents on tribal lands should include in their applications a resolution, a letter, affidavit, or other documentation, as appropriate, that certifies that the applicant has the legal authority from the tribe(s) to implement the proposed project on tribal lands. In those instances when an organization or consortium of tribes applies for a grant on behalf of a tribe or multiple specific tribes, the application should include appropriate legal documentation, as described above, from all tribes that would receive services or assistance under the grant. A consortium of tribes for which existing consortium bylaws allow action without support from all tribes in the consortium (i.e., without an authorizing resolution or comparable legal documentation from each tribal governing body) may submit, instead, a copy of its consortium bylaws with the application.

Applicants unable to submit an application that includes a fully-executed (i.e., signed) copy of appropriate legal documentation, as described above, consistent with the applicable tribe’s governance structure, should, at a minimum, submit an unsigned, draft version of such legal documentation as part of its application (except for cases in which, with respect to a tribal consortium applicant, consortium bylaws allow action without the support of all consortium member tribes). If selected for funding, BJA will make use of and access to funds contingent on receipt of the fully-executed legal documentation.
7. **Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status**

Applicants are to disclose whether they are currently designated high risk by another federal grant making agency. This includes any status requiring additional oversight by the federal agency due to past programmatic or financial concerns. If an applicant is designated high risk by another federal grant making agency, you must email the following information to OJPComplianceReporting@usdoj.gov at the time of application submission:

- The federal agency that currently designated the applicant as high risk
- Date the applicant was designated high risk
- The high risk point of contact name, phone number, and email address, from that federal agency
- Reasons for the high risk status

OJP seeks this information to ensure appropriate federal oversight of any grant award. Unlike the Excluded Parties List, this high risk information does not disqualify any organization from receiving an OJP award. However, additional grant oversight may be included, if necessary, in award documentation.

8. **Additional Attachments**

   a. **Timeline**

   Include a comprehensive timeline that identifies milestones, numerically listed deliverables, and who is responsible for each activity.

   b. **Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications**

   Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federally funded grants or sub-grants (including cooperative agreements) that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation. The disclosure should include both direct applications for federal funding (e.g., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to state agencies that will sub-award federal funds).

   OJP seeks this information to help avoid any inappropriate duplication of funding. Leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive programs or projects is encouraged and is not seen as inappropriate duplication.

   Applicants that have pending applications as described above are to provide the following information about pending applications submitted within the last 12 months:

   - The federal or state funding agency
   - The solicitation name/project name
   - The point of contact information at the applicable funding agency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal or State Funding Agency</th>
<th>Solicitation Name/Project Name</th>
<th>Name/Phone/E-mail for Point of Contact at Funding Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOJ/COPS</td>
<td>COPS Hiring Program</td>
<td>Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; <a href="mailto:jane.doe@usdoj.gov">jane.doe@usdoj.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applicants should include the table as a separate attachment, with the file name “Disclosure of Pending Applications,” to their application. Applicants that do not have pending applications as described above are to include a statement to this effect in the separate attachment page (e.g., “[Applicant Name on SF-424] does not have pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded grants or subgrants (including cooperative agreements) that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation.”).

9. **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire**
In accordance with 2 CFR 200.205, federal agencies must have in place a framework for evaluating the risks posed by applicants before they receive a federal award. To facilitate part of this risk evaluation, all applicants (other than an individual) are to download, complete, and submit this form.

10. **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**
All applicants must complete this information. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities are to provide the detailed information requested on the form Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities are to enter “N/A” in the text boxes for item 10 (“a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant” and “b. Individuals Performing Services”).

**How To Apply**
Applicants must register in, and submit applications through Grants.gov, a “one-stop storefront” to find federal funding opportunities and apply for funding. Find complete instructions on how to register and submit an application at [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Applicants that experience technical difficulties during this process should call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays. Registering with Grants.gov is a one-time process; however, processing delays may occur, and it can take several weeks for first-time registrants to receive confirmation and a user password. OJP encourages applicants to register several weeks before the application submission deadline.

In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

BJA strongly encourages all prospective applicants to sign up for Grants.gov email notifications regarding this solicitation. If this solicitation is cancelled or modified, individuals who sign up with Grants.gov for updates will be automatically notified.

**Note on File Names and File Types:** Grants.gov only permits the use of certain specific characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may include only the characters shown in the table below. Grants.gov is designed to reject any application that includes an attachment(s) with a file name that contains any characters not shown in the table below.
Grants.gov is designed to forward successfully submitted applications to OJP’s Grants Management System (GMS).

**GMS does not accept executable file types as application attachments.** These disallowed file types include, but are not limited to, the following extensions: ".com," ".bat," ".exe," ".vbs," ".cfg," ".dat," ".db," ".dbf," ".dll," ".ini," ".log," ".ora," ".sys," and ".zip." GMS may reject applications with files that use these extensions. It is important to allow time to change the type of file(s) if the application is rejected.

All applicants are required to complete the following steps:

OJP may not make a federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the federal awarding agency is ready to make a federal award, the federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a federal award to another applicant.

1. **Acquire a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.** In general, the Office of Management and Budget requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal funds include a DUNS number in their applications for a new award or a supplement to an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and differentiating entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information for federal assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Call Dun and Bradstreet at 866–705–5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply online at [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com). A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.

2. **Acquire registration with the System for Award Management (SAM).** SAM is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and sub-recipients. OJP requires all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance to maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants must be registered in SAM to successfully register in Grants.gov. Applicants must **update or renew their SAM registration annually** to maintain an active status.

Applications cannot be successfully submitted in Grants.gov until Grants.gov receives the SAM registration information. **The information transfer from SAM to Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours.** OJP recommends that the applicant register or renew registration with SAM as early as possible.

Information about SAM registration procedures can be accessed at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov).
3. **Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password.** Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a username and password. The applicant organization’s DUNS number must be used to complete this step. For more information about the registration process, go to [www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html).

4. **Acquire confirmation for the AOR from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC).** The E-Biz POC at the applicant organization must log into Grants.gov to confirm the applicant organization’s AOR. Note that an organization can have more than one AOR.

5. **Search for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov.** Use the following identifying information when searching for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this solicitation is 16.738, titled “Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program,” and the funding opportunity number is BJA-2015-4122.

6. **Submit a valid application consistent with this solicitation by following the directions in Grants.gov.** Within 24–48 hours after submitting the electronic application, the applicant should receive two notifications from Grants.gov. The first will confirm the receipt of the application and the second will state whether the application has been successfully validated, or rejected due to errors, with an explanation. It is possible to first receive a message indicating that the application is received and then receive a rejection notice a few minutes or hours later. Submitting well ahead of the deadline provides time to correct the problem(s) that caused the rejection. **Important:** OJP urges applicants to submit applications **at least 72 hours prior** to the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

   Click [here](http://www.grants.gov) for further details on DUNS, SAM, and Grants.gov registration steps and timeframes.

**Note: Duplicate Applications**

If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, BJA will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted. See Note on File Names and File Types under **How To Apply.**

**Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues**

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline or the SAM Help Desk to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number. Then applicant must e-mail the BJA contact identified in the Contact Information section on page 2 **within 24 hours after the application deadline** and request approval to submit their application. The e-mail must describe the technical difficulties, and include a timeline of the applicant’s submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant’s DUNS number, and any Grants.gov Help Desk or SAM tracking number(s). **Note: BJA does not automatically approve requests.** After the program office reviews the submission, and contacts the Grants.gov or SAM Help Desks to validate the reported technical issues, OJP will inform the applicant whether the request to submit a late application has been approved or denied. If OJP determines that the applicant failed to follow all required procedures,
which resulted in an untimely application submission, OJP will deny the applicant’s request to submit their application.

The following conditions are generally insufficient to justify late submissions:

- Failure to register in SAM or Grants.gov in sufficient time
- Failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its website
- Failure to follow each instruction in the OJP solicitation
- Technical issues with the applicant’s computer or information technology environment, including firewalls.

Notifications regarding known technical problems with Grants.gov, if any, are posted at the top of the OJP funding web page at [www.ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm).

E. Application Review Information

Selection Criteria

1. **Statement of the Problem (20 percent)**
   Provide an overview of the importance of the safe storage of firearms and how this impacts the targeted goals of the program: reduction in accidents, suicides, and theft. Describe generally why providing free firearm locks and safety kits will aid in the goal of improving the safe storage of firearms and prevent accidents, suicides, and theft and how partnerships with Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLS), law enforcement, and other community partners will advance the goal of reaching all firearms owners.

2. **Project Design and Implementation (45 percent)**
   Describe the project strategy linking it to the specific goals and deliverables previously listed in this grant announcement. Include a comprehensive plan for distributing the firearm locks and how the project design will serve the goals of reduction in accidents, suicides, and theft in five specific sites. Outline the selection process for the specific sites and the types of data that will be considered. Describe the plan for developing a data-driven marketing plan to accompany the effort and to meet the goals of reduction in accidents, suicides, and theft. Include a comprehensive timeline (as an attachment) that identifies milestones, numerically listed deliverables, and who is responsible for each activity. Describe the applicant’s past successful firearm safety efforts and outreach to firearms owners, and how it will assist in the successful completion of the goals and deliverables described in this announcement. Explain how the applicant will develop innovative partnerships, the type of partners (i.e., law enforcement, FFLs, community partners, veteran groups, public health or other groups, etc.) and how those partnerships will ensure the greatest reach of the program goals and activities. Describe how this strategy will build on past BJA safe storage efforts.

3. **Capabilities and Competencies (20 percent)**
   Fully describe capabilities and the competencies of the staff assigned to develop and deliver the activities as outlined in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section of this solicitation. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to successfully work with the firearms community, including firearms retailers and firearms owners and demonstrate that they are a trusted source of information for firearms owners as it relates to the use of firearms and
firearms storage. The applicant must also demonstrate the capacity to deliver the program on a national basis. Finally, applicants should also describe how the capabilities of any proposed partners will assist in successful completion of the deliverables described in this announcement.

4. **Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures (5 percent)**
Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurement, and how the information will be used to guide and assess the program. Describe the process to accurately report implementation findings.

5. **Budget (10 percent)**
Provide a budget that is complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities). Budget narratives should generally demonstrate how applicants will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should demonstrate cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project.³

**Review Process**
OJP is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. BJA reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation.

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. For purposes of assessing whether applicants have met basic minimum requirements, OJP screens applications for compliance with specified program requirements to help determine which applications should proceed to further consideration for award. Although program requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all solicitations for funding under OJP grant programs:

- Applications must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant
- Applications must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable)
- Applications must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation
- Applications must include all items designated as “critical elements”
- Applicants will be checked against the General Services Administration’s Excluded Parties List

For a list of critical elements, see “What an Application Should Include” under Section D, Application and Submission Information.

BJA may use internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to review the applications. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current DOJ employee. An internal reviewer is a current DOJ employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of this solicitation. A peer review panel will

³ Generally speaking, a reasonable cost is a cost that, in its nature or amount, does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the costs.
evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. Peer reviewers’ ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only, although their views are considered carefully. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations for award recommendations and decisions may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance under prior BJA and OJP awards, and available funding.

OJP reviews applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the risks posed by applicants before they receive an award. This review may include but is not limited to the following:

1. Financial stability and fiscal integrity
2. Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in the Financial Guide
3. History of performance
4. Reports and findings from audits
5. The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-federal entities
6. Proposed costs to determine if the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs, and whether those costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable federal cost principles and agency regulations

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider factors including, but not limited to, peer review ratings, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance under prior BJA and OJP awards, and available funding when making awards.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices
OJP award notification will be sent from GMS. Recipients will be required to log in; accept any outstanding assurances and certifications on the award; designate a financial point of contact; and review, sign, and accept the award. The award acceptance process involves physical signature of the award document by the authorized representative and the scanning of the fully-executed award document to OJP.

Administrative, National Policy, and other Legal Requirements
If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the agency-approved project proposal and budget, the recipient must comply with award terms and conditions, and other legal requirements, including but not limited to OMB, DOJ or other federal regulations which will be included in the award, incorporated into the award by reference, or are otherwise applicable to the award. OJP strongly encourages prospective applicants to review the information pertaining to these requirements prior to submitting an application. To assist applicants and recipients in accessing and reviewing this information, OJP has placed pertinent information on its Solicitation Requirements page of the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Please note in particular the following two forms, which applicants must accept in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds, as each details legal requirements with which applicants must
provide specific assurances and certifications of compliance. Applicants may view these forms in the Apply section of the OJP Funding Resource Center and are strongly encouraged to review and consider them carefully prior to making an application for OJP grant funds.

- **Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements**

- **Standard Assurances**

Upon grant approval, OJP electronically transmits (via GMS) the award document to the prospective award recipient. In addition to other award information, the award document contains award terms and conditions that specify national policy requirements with which recipients of federal funding must comply; uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements; and program-specific terms and conditions required based on applicable program (statutory) authority or requirements set forth in OJP solicitations and program announcements, and other requirements which may be attached to appropriated funding. For example, certain efforts may call for special requirements, terms, or conditions relating to intellectual property, data/information-sharing or -access, or information security; or audit requirements, expenditures and milestones, or publications and/or press releases. OJP also may place additional terms and conditions on an award based on its risk assessment of the applicant, or for other reasons it determines necessary to fulfill the goals and objectives of the program.

Prospective applicants may access and review the text of mandatory conditions OJP includes in all OJP awards, as well as the text of certain other conditions, such as administrative conditions, via Mandatory Award Terms and Conditions page of the OJP Funding Resource Center.

As stated above, BJA anticipates that it will make any award from this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreement awards include standard “federal involvement” conditions that describe the general allocation of responsibility for execution of the funded program. Generally-stated, under cooperative agreement awards, responsibility for the day-to-day conduct of the funded project rests with the recipient in implementing the funded and approved proposal and budget, and the award terms and conditions. Responsibility for oversight and redirection of the project, if necessary, rests with BJA.

In addition to any “federal involvement” condition(s), OJP cooperative agreement awards include a special condition specifying certain reporting requirements required in connection with conferences, meetings, retreats, seminars, symposium, training activities, or similar events funded under the award, consistent with OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting.

**General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

Recipients must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, final financial and progress reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.

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4 See generally 2 C.F.R. 200.300 (provides a general description of national policy requirements typically applicable to recipients of federal awards, including the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)).
Special Reporting requirements may be required by OJP depending on the statutory, legislative or administrative obligations of the recipient or the program.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For additional Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s), see the Title page.

For additional contact information for Grants.gov, see the Title page.

H. Other Information

Provide Feedback to OJP
To assist OJP in improving its application and award processes, we encourage applicants to provide feedback on this solicitation, the application submission process, and/or the application review/peer review process. Provide feedback to OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov.

IMPORTANT: This e-mail is for feedback and suggestions only. Replies are not sent from this mailbox. If you have specific questions on any program or technical aspect of the solicitation, you must directly contact the appropriate number or e-mail listed on the front of this solicitation document. These contacts are provided to help ensure that you can directly reach an individual who can address your specific questions in a timely manner.

If you are interested in being a reviewer for other OJP grant applications, please e-mail your resume to ojppeerreview@lmbps.com. The OJP Solicitation Feedback email account will not forward your resume. Note: Neither you nor anyone else from your organization can be a peer reviewer in a competition in which you or your organization have submitted an application.
Application Checklist
FY 2015 Firearm Locks Distribution and Safe Storage Program

This application checklist has been created to assist in developing an application.

What an Applicant Should Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:
_____ Acquire a DUNS Number (see page 16)
_____ Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see page 16)

To Register with Grants.gov:
_____ Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see page 17)
_____ Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see page 17)

To Find Funding Opportunity:
_____ Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov (see page 17)
_____ Download Funding Opportunity and Application Package
_____ Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see page 15)
_____ Read Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov

After application submission, receive Grants.gov email notifications that:
_____ (1) application has been received,
_____ (2) application has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see page 17)

If no Grants.gov receipt, and validation or error notifications are received:
_____ contact the NCJRS Response Center regarding experiencing technical difficulties (see page 17)

General Requirements:
_____ Review the Solicitation Requirements in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Scope Requirement:
_____ The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of $2,600,000.

Eligibility Requirement: Eligible applicants are limited to for-profit organizations, nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit or for-profit organizations), faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), and consortia. For-profit organizations must agree to waive any profit or fees for services.

What an Application Should Include:

_____ Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 8)
_____ *Project Abstract (see page 9)
_____ *Program Narrative (see page 9)
_____ *Budget Detail Worksheet (see page 12)
_____ *Budget Narrative (see page 12)
_____ Employee Compensation Waiver request and justification (if applicable) (see page 8)
_____ Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting
available at ojp.gov/financialguide/PostawardRequirements/chapter15page1.htm
(see page 8)

_____ Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see page 15)
_____ Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 13)
_____ Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see page 13)
_____ Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status (see page 14)
_____ Additional Attachments

______ Timeline (see page 14)

_____ Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications (see page 14)

_____ Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (if applicable) (see page 15)

* These elements are the basic minimum requirements for applications. Applications that do not include these elements shall neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration by BJA.