

# BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY REPORT

## JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

### Activity Report, Fiscal Year 2020<sup>1</sup>

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. JAG provides these jurisdictions with funding critical to support a range of programs, activities, and equipment purchases.

The Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) gathers the JAG performance data that grantees self-report. All data in this report are presented by the fiscal year (FY) of the award. This report includes all grantees that are or have been active during the October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020, time period. Grantees that have not begun to expend JAG funds as of September 30, 2020, are not included.

The first section of this report provides information on funding allocations by total and by program area for FYs 2017 to 2019 grantees. The rest of the report is a more detailed analysis of FY 2019 grantees and how JAG funds are used in programs addressing specific issues that communities are facing. This includes the funding of task forces and collaborative approaches to address human trafficking as well as conducting outreach to community stakeholders.

### Fiscal Years 2017–2019 Grantees

#### Performance Measurement Tool Allocations

BJA asks grantees to provide their total expected JAG funding allocations for the life of the award<sup>2</sup> during their first reporting period (Table 1). Note that some funding allocations are not yet captured in the PMT as grantees are only required to answer PMT questions when they begin to draw down their award. Because of this, allocations data are more complete for the older cohorts than the newer ones.

**Table 1. Funding Allocations Reported in PMT Compared with BJA Award Amounts**

Cohort	Total funds allocated in PMT	Total amount awarded by BJA	Percent of award captured in PMT
FY 2017	\$206,383,046	\$254,386,587	81%
FY 2018	\$129,497,880	\$255,961,157	51%
FY 2019	\$61,190,361	\$252,802,312	24%
Total	\$397,071,287	\$763,150,056	52%

<sup>1</sup>The following data come from the Performance Measurement Tool for recipients of FYs 2017–2019 JAG funding. Values are calculated for all available reporting periods. As with any PMT report, accurate data rely on accurate data entry by the grantees, meaning the data provided reflect the information as entered by the grantees.

<sup>2</sup>The PMT is not a financial reporting tool, and these allocations do not reflect the amounts spent to date.

## Program Area Allocations

JAG grantees and subgrantees can use their funds for a program, which is defined as a continuous initiative, process, or other focused effort defined by goals and objectives. Program examples include a drug court, law enforcement task force, or behavioral health treatment. FY 2015 through current grantees allocate funds into 13 program areas. In addition, a JAG recipient may use up to 10 percent of the award, including up to 10 percent of any earned interest, for costs associated with administering JAG funds (Table 2).

**Table 2. Funding Allocations by Program Area, FYs 2017–2019 Grantees**

Program Area	FY 2017 Amount (Percent)	FY 2018 Amount (Percent)	FY 2019 Amount (Percent)
Law Enforcement	\$117,275,977 (57%)	\$86,219,209 (67%)	\$43,363,772 (71%)
Other <sup>3</sup>	\$29,352,220 (14%)	\$10,996,160 (8%)	\$4,833,366 (8%)
Prosecution	\$14,339,949 (7%)	\$7,872,259 (6%)	\$2,081,488 (3%)
Crime Prevention	\$7,231,459 (4%)	\$3,355,528 (3%)	\$1,588,428 (3%)
Reentry Services	\$5,709,015 (3%)	\$2,011,903 (2%)	\$1,210,996 (2%)
Crime Lab/Forensics	\$4,213,864 (2%)	\$2,771,463 (2%)	\$1,644,601 (3%)
Indigent Defense	\$3,905,364 (2%)	\$2,048,115 (2%)	\$545,448 (1%)
Courts	\$4,450,431 (2%)	\$4,715,380 (4%)	\$1,740,048 (3%)
Corrections	\$3,626,839 (2%)	\$2,633,581 (2%)	\$737,309 (1%)
Community Corrections	\$4,548,087 (2%)	\$1,790,576 (1%)	\$1,287,556 (2%)
Behavioral Health	\$3,118,433 (2%)	\$1,272,353 (1%)	\$542,472 (1%)
Assessment and Evaluation	\$3,836,256 (2%)	\$2,470,768 (2%)	\$332,842 (1%)
Crime Victim/Witness Services	\$4,775,152 (2%)	\$1,340,585 (1%)	\$1,282,035 (2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$206,383,046</b>	<b>\$129,497,880</b>	<b>\$61,190,361</b>

<sup>3</sup>Includes all uses of JAG funding not captured in any other activity area; for example, administrative agencies that manage justice organizations or strategic planning activities.

In general, the funding allocation percentage for each program area has remained consistent across cohorts, although the allocations for law enforcement have increased over the 3-year period. Additionally, the funding allocation percentage for "Other" and "Prosecution" declined over this same period.

## Fiscal Year 2019 Grantees Only

### Funding Use Area Allocations

Grantees can also divide their allocations into five funding use areas (Table 3). These funding use areas are derived from the categories in the Office of Justice Programs' budget detail worksheet and are further defined in the appendix.

**Table 3. Funding Allocations by Funding Use Area, FY 2019 Grantees**

Funding Use Area	Allocation Amount	Allocation Percent
Equipment, Supplies, and Technology	\$26,196,767	43%
Personnel	\$24,033,235	39%
Consultants and Contracts	\$5,989,196	10%
Other Use (Vehicles, Police Canines, etc.)	\$3,524,892	6%
Training and Conferences	\$1,446,271	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,190,361</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Personnel

Table 4 shows the number of personnel whose salaries were funded at least partially by JAG. It does not include personnel who only received JAG funds as overtime pay. Overall, 636,284 people were funded in whole or in part with JAG funds, the majority 90 percent were in law enforcement.

**Table 4. Personnel, FY 2019 Grantees**

Program Area	Number of Personnel
Law Enforcement	571,407
Crime Victim/Witness Services	34,889
Courts	12,896
Crime Prevention	11,743
Prosecution	5,279
Community Corrections	43
Assessment and Evaluation	6
Behavioral Health	6
Reentry Services	5
Corrections	5
Public Defense	3
Crime Lab/Forensics	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>636,284</b>

## Equipment, Supplies, and Technology Purchases

One main use of JAG funds is the purchase of equipment, supplies, and technology (EST). Table 5 shows the top 10 categories of expenditures by quantity purchased and the total amount of JAG funds spent on each from October 1, 2019–September 30, 2020, by FY 2019 grantees.

**Table 5. EST Purchases by General Category, FY 2019 Grantees**

Category	Quantity Purchased	Total Amount of JAG Funds Spent
In-Car Cameras	168,934	\$460,122
Other Computers	152,503	\$1,593,267
Surveillance Equipment	151,609	\$1,103,097
Mobile Data Terminals	111,977	\$694,175
Portable Radio Equipment	73,220	\$1,591,485
Patrol Cars	71,027	\$1,029,273
On Person/Body-Worn Cameras	67,807	\$310,070
Forensic Lab Equipment	56,879	\$1,655,332
Less-Lethal Weapons	54,240	\$649,045
Personal Transport Vehicles	46,919	\$47,976
<b>Total</b>	<b>955,115</b>	<b>\$9,133,842</b>

## Programs

During FY 2020, over 170 programs were funded for FY 2019 JAG grantees. Grantees and subgrantees established the most programs for law enforcement (101, 59 percent).

**Table 6. JAG Programs, FY 2019 Grantees**

Grantee Type	Number of Grantees/Subgrantees	Percent of Grantees/Subgrantees
Law Enforcement	101	59%
Non/For-Profit Organizations <sup>4</sup>	27	16%
Local Government	10	6%
Court	9	5%
Prosecutor	9	5%
State Government	3	2%
Correctional	3	2%
Community Corrections	6	3%
Crime Lab/Forensics	3	2%
Public Defense	0	0%
College/University	1	<1%
Tribal	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	

<sup>4</sup>Includes businesses and organizations that receive JAG funds as a subaward.

## Addressing Community Problems

Grantees perform numerous activities to enhance their communities. Focusing on the FY 2019 grantee awards, 25 percent of all law enforcement grantees indicated they are conducting outreach activities to minority populations. When focusing on activities conducted by the programs, 17 percent of the law enforcement and prevention programs conducted community-oriented policing and community building, and 10 percent of the law enforcement programs used problem-solving methods. Behavioral health was also a focus for the specific programs, with 50 percent of problem-solving courts focusing on substance abuse or mental health disorders.

**Table 7. Community Enhancement Activities, FY 2019 Grantees**

Grantee or Program Activity	Number of Grantees or Programs	Percent of Grantees or Programs
Law Enforcement grantees conducting outreach services to minority populations	450	25%
Law Enforcement and Crime Prevention Programs conducting community-oriented policing and community building	88	17%
Law Enforcement Programs and Task Forces involving problem-solving methods	51	10%
Court Programs using problem-solving courts focusing on substance abuse and/or mental health	14	50%

## Law Enforcement Program and Task Force Focus

In 2020, 497 of the law enforcement grantees reported having a program or task force. These grantees focused on a wide variety of crimes. Although 22 percent of the programs and task forces indicated focusing on crimes such as property crime and status offenses, most (29%) focused on one or more types of violent crime, and 29 percent focused on drug crime. It is important to note that there are JAG-funded programs which focus on important problems in communities such as prostitution (9%); human trafficking (5%); child abuse, pornography, and exploitation (4%); as well as hate crime (4%).

**Table 8. Law Enforcement Programs/Task Force Focus, FY 2019 Grantees**

Types of Problems in a Community	Number of Law Enforcement Programs/Task Forces	Percent of Law Enforcement Programs/Task Forces
Violent Crime (All Violent Crime, Homicide, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Terrorism, Gun Crime)	146	29%
Drug Crimes, Including Prescription Drugs	146	29%
Other <sup>5</sup>	107	22%
All Crime in the Jurisdiction	72	14%
Prostitution	47	9%
Human Trafficking	26	5%
Child Abuse, Child Pornography, Exploitation	20	4%
Hate Crime	18	4%

<sup>5</sup>All property crime in the jurisdiction such as auto theft, burglary, disorder/quality-of-life incidents, cybercrime, white-collar crime, health care fraud, status offenses (e.g., truancy, underage drinking), traffic/auto violations/crashes, other (please describe).

## Conclusions

The JAG Program impacts all aspects of the justice system by providing valuable funding for personnel, equipment, training, and other uses. Over 600,000 people had at least part of their salary paid for with JAG funds, and over \$9 million in funding helped grantees purchase equipment. JAG funds also supported 172 programs for FY 2019 grantees. Additionally, over a quarter of law enforcement programs and task forces focused on addressing violent crimes in their communities.

## Training and Technical Assistance to Improve Outcomes

The National Criminal Justice Association, with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), offers training and technical assistance (TTA) to State Administering Agencies to support your strategic planning efforts and the implementation of evidence-based policies and practices. This TTA is designed to help states meet the 2019 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program requirement of a comprehensive statewide strategic plan. TTA will be delivered in a variety of ways to best meet your needs, including onsite facilitation, phone/email contact, web-based learning, regional trainings, and personalized support. To learn more and request assistance, visit: <https://www.ncja.org/copy-of-training-and-technical-assi>.

<https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/>

BJA recognizes that grantees may require assistance with specific aspects of their JAG-funded programs. As such, the BJA National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) provides many training and technical assistance (TTA) services, including:

- Assistance implementing evidence-based programs
- Crime/data analysis
- Classroom and virtual training
- Peer-to-peer visits
- Research assistance
- Strategic planning assistance



**Request TTA through NTTAC:** <https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/working-with-nttac/requestors>

**NTTAC TTA Catalog and More:** <https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/tools>

**TTA Today Blog:** <https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/media/blog>

## APPENDIX

### Activity and Funding Use Area Definitions

#### Activity Areas

**Law enforcement:** Includes all programs (e.g., crime prevention, intervention), activities, or spending conducted by a law enforcement organization. This includes all task force activity but does not include crime lab/forensics activity/programs.

**Crime lab/forensics:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending focused on the identification, collection, or processing of forensic evidence; for example, a sexual assault nurse examiner or sexual assault response team, or a sexual assault kit testing initiative or DNA backlog reduction program.

**Crime prevention (NOT as part of a law enforcement agency):** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for crime or juvenile delinquency prevention conducted through engaging communities, institutions (e.g., schools), or individuals. These include such programs as a rape aggression defense class, an alcohol/drug awareness class for students, or a bullying prevention program.

**Prosecution:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending related to the prosecution of criminal defendants.

**Public defense:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for public defense.

**Courts:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for courts. This includes drug courts and other specialty courts.

**Corrections:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending by a residential correctional agency such as a jail or prison. This includes corrections programs focused on reentry services for inmates.

**Community corrections:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending by a community corrections agency. This includes community corrections programs focused on reentry.

**Reentry services (NOT as part of a corrections, community corrections, or court program):** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for reentry. This includes reentry programs run by private, nonprofit, or other noncorrectional government organizations.

**Behavioral health (NOT as part of a corrections, community corrections, or court program):** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for mental health, substance use disorder, or co-occurring treatment that are run by private, nonprofit, or other noncorrectional government organizations.

**Assessment and evaluation:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending for the assessment or evaluation of programs, policies, practices, or technology. This also includes strategic planning activities; for example, development of a strategic plan, an evaluation of a drug treatment service, or a cost-benefit analysis of adopting body-worn cameras.

**Crime victim/witness services:** Includes all programs, activities, or spending focused on assisting crime victims, families, or witnesses; for example, this could be a 24-hour domestic violence hotline, an emergency shelter, or food distribution services for displaced victims.

**Other areas:** Includes all uses of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program funding not captured in any other activity area; for example, administrative agencies that manage justice organizations or strategic planning activities.

## Funding Use Areas

**Personnel:** Includes any overtime or salary expenditures paid for with JAG funds.

**Equipment, supplies, and technology:** Includes all items that are paid for with JAG funds.

**Consultants and contracts:** Includes all fees associated with a consultant (including travel expenses) as well as any contract for a product or service.

**Training and conferences:** Includes costs associated with hosting, developing, or attending a training or conference such as travel, lodging, or registration. Note: Salaries for personnel or pay for people attending the training should be reported under the personnel section.

**Other use:** Includes administrative costs, approved construction costs, and miscellaneous expenses such as indirect costs or investigative/confidential funds.

## ABOUT BJA

BJA helps to make American communities safer by strengthening the nation's criminal justice system; its grants, training and technical assistance, and policy development services provide state, local, and tribal governments with the cutting-edge tools and best practices they need to reduce violent and drug-related crime, support law enforcement, and combat victimization. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](http://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and Twitter (@DOJBJA). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.