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Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance



The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA) is seeking applications for the National Training and Technical Assistance: Intellectual Property Enforcement Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by enhancing the capacity of state and local jurisdictions in preventing and reducing crime.

National Training and Technical Assistance: Intellectual Property Enforcement Program Protecting Public Health, Safety, and the Economy from Counterfeit Goods and Product Piracy FY 2014 Competitive Grant Announcement

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations (including tribal for-profit or nonprofit organizations), faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government (including federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.

Applicants must also have experience in delivering training and technical assistance nationwide.

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

BJA may elect to make awards for applications submitted under this solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

Deadline

Applicants must register with <u>Grants.gov</u> prior to submitting an application. (See "How To Apply," page 17.) All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on March 17, 2014. (See "Deadlines: Registration and Application," page 4.)

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

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.

For assistance with any other requirement of this solicitation, contact the BJA Justice Information Center at 1–877–927–5657, via e-mail at JIC@telesishq.com, or via live web chat at http://www.justiceinformationcenter.us. The BJA Justice Information Center hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Grants.gov number assigned to this announcement: BJA-2014-3777

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National Training and Technical Assistance: Intellectual Property Enforcement Program Protecting Public Health, Safety and the Economy from Counterfeit Goods and Product Piracy (CFDA #16.752)

Overview

The Intellectual Property Enforcement Program (IPEP), administered by BJA, is designed to provide national support and improve the capacity of state, local, and tribal criminal justice systems to address intellectual property criminal enforcement, including prosecution, prevention, training, and technical assistance. This program is generally informed by section 401 of Public Law 110–403, which authorizes DOJ to provide funding to support state and local intellectual property theft enforcement efforts.

The purpose of this FY 2014 competitive funding announcement is to select a provider to deliver, nationwide, a wide range of training and technical assistance (TTA) services to law enforcement agencies participating in the IPEP. These services include, but are not limited to, training sessions and educational sessions developed and conducted by relevant subject matter experts, as well as onsite or remote guidance on matters relevant to the purposes of the IPEP program. The selected TTA provider will assist current BJA-funded IPEP grantees to more effectively address IP theft within their jurisdictions and across jurisdictions through multijurisdictional task forces. In addition, they will assist in the coordination of state and local task force activities with those of the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division, U.S. Attorneys' Offices, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, and other relevant federal agencies. The TTA provider will also deliver general Intellectual property (IP) theft awareness training to the law enforcement community.

This grant announcement specifically requests applications for a **nationwide TTA** assistance **provider**; it does not solicit applications from individual jurisdictions to establish state and local IPEP projects. See www.BJA.gov for additional FY 2014 IPEP funding opportunities.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application. 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. The deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on March 17, 2014. See "How To Apply" on page 17 for details.

Eligibility

Refer to the title page for eligibility under this program.

National Training and Technical Assistance: Intellectual Property Enforcement Program—Specific Information

Research has shown that intellectual property crimes are closely related to and support other crimes, including violent crime. A report by the Rand Corporation found that "Counterfeiting is widely used to generate cash for diverse criminal organizations. In the case of DVD film piracy, criminal groups are moving to control the entire supply chain, from manufacture to distribution to street sales, consolidating power over this lucrative black market and building substantial wealth and influence in virtually every region of the globe. Counterfeiting is a threat not only to the global information economy, but also to public safety and national security."

BJA launched the Intellectual Property Enforcement Grant Program in 2009 to build the capacity of state and local criminal justice systems to address intellectual property theft through increased coordination, investigation and prosecution through the establishment of multijurisdictional task forces, prevention efforts, and TTA. To date, over 30 law enforcement agencies have received funding support for this purpose, and this has resulted in a significant increase in enforcement activities around intellectual property crimes in jurisdictions across the country. IP grantees have seized more than \$270 million in merchandise and currency since the inception of the program, and disrupted or dismantled more than 300 piracy/counterfeit organizations between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

As part of its ongoing National TTA Program, BJA has partnered with the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) and the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) to deliver IP crime training to over 1,000 state and local law enforcement investigators and prosecutors across the country since 2009. In addition, the TTA program has provided targeted technical assistance to provide grantee agencies with information and guidance on how to enhance their IP investigations. Webinars and advanced training seminars have also been offered to grantees through these TTA providers. For more information on the IPEP TTA program, see the IPEP program site at www.bja.gov, or visit www.nw3c.org for descriptions of the NW3C's currently available IP training sessions.

This grant announcement will fund national TTA services to BJA grantee law enforcement agencies to implement and sustain their IP enforcement strategies as well as general outreach, education, and TTA to non-grantee agencies to increase awareness and importance of IP theft issues within the greater law enforcement community.

Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The goal of the IPEP TTA program is to support the needs of local IPEP sites in conjunction with their IP theft criminal investigation, prosecution, prevention, and education initiatives.

Specifically, the selected TTA provider will be expected to:

Assist current and future BJA-funded IPEP sites in successfully establishing
multijurisdictional task forces that include the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies
as active and contributing members, and mobilize those task forces to address IP crime in a
given jurisdiction or region.

¹ Film Piracy, Organized Crime, and Terrorism. The Rand Corporation. 2009. (www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG742/)

- Engage proactively with IPEP sites to assess progress, address challenges, and identify solutions.
- Communicate regularly with BJA to assess the impact of TTA services on the IPEP program goals and individual site progress.
- Conduct introductory and advanced regional training sessions for members of the law enforcement community on the topic of IP theft and applicable and evidence-based prevention, investigatory and prosecutorial approaches.

Applicants should address how they will produce the following deliverables:

- Provide ongoing TTA (both remote and onsite) to approximately 20 IPEP grantees throughout the duration of their BJA grant awards.
- Provide targeted outreach and onsite TTA to law enforcement and prosecution agencies within a jurisdiction that receives IPEP funding to ensure that they are collaborating effectively.
- Develop and deliver content for IP-specific law enforcement training for both the IPEP grantee community as well as the general law enforcement community, and employ a variety of training delivery mechanisms, such as regional trainings, online trainings and other electronic or distance-learning formats, including podcasts, webinars, etc.
- Recruit, maintain, and use a cadre of subject-matter experts (SMEs) to assist agencies with technical assistance needs; schedule and organize training venues; market trainings and recruit participants; administer and oversee implementation of the trainings; coordinate TTA and SME activities with BJA's National Training and Technical Assistance Center.
- Plan and deliver technical assistance to IPEP sites, for example: assisting with project implementation challenges, facilitating partnerships with relevant stakeholders and federal/state/local law enforcement entities (to include the Department of Justice's Criminal Division, U.S. Attorneys' Offices, the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, and other relevant federal agencies); sustainment planning; and any other issue that may hinder a site's progress or sustainment of activities beyond the life of the grant.
- Assist BJA with ongoing assessment of IPEP site progress by holding monthly calls with grantee agencies, assisting them with the development, validation, and submission of performance metrics to BJA, and producing reports outlining IPEP site progress and results.
- Maintain a web site where TTA services and other relevant resources are made available to IPEP sites and the law enforcement community.
- Provide technical assistance in implementing and disseminating evidence-based practices in IP theft prevention, investigation, and prosecution.
- Assist BJA in conducting national and/or regional meetings, including inaugural meetings for new grantee cohorts, or other educational sessions for existing and other agencies during the 36-month project period.
- In partnership with BJA staff, leverage additional BJA-funded training and technical assistance resources to further enhance the capabilities of IPEP supported task forces.

BJA TTA providers are required to coordinate all TTA activities with BJA's National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC). The successful applicant will be required to comply with NTTAC protocols in order to ensure coordinated delivery of services among TTA providers and effective use of BJA TTA grant funding. BJA reserves the right to reasonably modify these protocols at any time at its discretion.

The TTA provider also will be required to participate in BJA's GrantStat for specified grantees. Through GrantStat, BJA management and staff examine the performance of the grant programs funded by BJA by tracking grantee or program performance along several key indicators. GrantStat calls for the collection and analysis of performance data and other relevant grant-level information that enables BJA as well as our TTA partners to be held accountable for the grantee's and program's performance as measured against the program's goals and objectives.

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: and
- 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. OJP's 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.

Amount and Length of Awards

BJA anticipates that it will make 1 award of up to \$750,000 for a 36-month project period. The project start date should be on or after October 1, 2014.

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

Budget 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 2014 salary table for SES employees is available at www.opm.gov. 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.oip.gov/funding/confcost.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 of the OJP "Other Requirements for OJP Applications" web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other requirements.htm.

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.

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. Post award, recipients will be required to submit quarterly performance metrics through BJA's online Training and Technical Assistance Reporting System (TTARS), located at www.bjatools.org. Applicants should review the BJA training and technical assistance reporting matrix at: https://ttars.biatools.org/tta2/View/BJATTARSReportingMatrix.pdf.

OJP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. Instead, applicants should discuss in their application their proposed methods for collecting data for performance measures. Refer to the section "What an Application Should Include" on page 9 for additional information.

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 "Other Requirements for OJP Applications" Web page (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm). Applicants whose proposals may involve a research or statistical component also should review the "Confidentiality" section on that Web page.

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: 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.

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 preapplications, 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).

2. Project Abstract

Applicants should provide an abstract identifying the applicant's name, title of the project, and dollar amount requested. The abstract should include goals of the project, a description of the strategies to be used, a numerical listing of key/major deliverables, and coordination plans.

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 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/Project Abstract Template.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

The program narrative must respond to the solicitation and the Selection Criteria (1–4) in the order given. The program narrative should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman is preferred) with 1-inch margins, and should not exceed 15 pages. Number pages "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 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.

4. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative

a. Budget Detail Worksheet

A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at www.oip.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.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 OJP Financial Guide at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/index.htm.

b. Budget Narrative

The budget narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe <u>every</u> 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 <u>all</u> 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 \$100,000, the application should address the considerations outlined in the OJP Financial Guide.

5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Indirect costs are allowed only if the applicant has a 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 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.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect costs.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.

7. 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 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. 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 subaward 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.

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name/Project Name	Name/Phone/E-mail for Point of Contact at Funding Agency
DOJ/COPS	COPS Hiring Program	Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; jane.doe@usdoj.gov
HHS/ Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Drug Free Communities Mentoring Program/ North County Youth Mentoring Program	John Doe, 202/000-0000; john.doe@hhs.gov

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.").

c. Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity

If a proposal involves research and/or evaluation, regardless of the proposal's other merits, in order to receive funds, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence, including appropriate safeguards to ensure research/evaluation objectivity and integrity.

For purposes of this solicitation, research and evaluation independence and integrity pertains to ensuring that the design, conduct, or reporting of research and evaluation funded by BJA grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts will not be biased by any personal or financial conflict of interest on the part of the investigators responsible for the research and evaluation or on the part of the applicant organization. Conflicts can be either actual or apparent. Examples of potential investigator (or other personal) conflict situations may include those in which an investigator would be in a position to evaluate a spouse's work product (actual conflict), or an investigator would be in a position to evaluate the work of a former colleague (potential apparent conflict). With regard to potential organizational conflicts of interest, as one example, generally an organization could not be given a grant to evaluate a project if that organization had itself provided substantial prior technical assistance to that project, as the organization in such an instance would appear to be evaluating the effectiveness of its own prior work. The key is whether a reasonable person understanding all of the facts would be able to have confidence that the results of any research or evaluation project are objective and reliable. Any outside personal or financial interest that casts doubt on that objectivity and reliability is a problem.

In the attachment dealing with research and evaluation independence and integrity, the applicant should explain the process and procedures that the applicant has put in place to identify and eliminate (or, at the very least, mitigate) potential personal or financial conflicts of interest on the part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients. It should also identify any potential organizational conflicts of interest on the part of the applicant with regard to the proposed research/evaluation. If the applicant reasonably believes that no potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest exist, then the applicant

should provide a brief narrative explanation of how and why it reached that conclusion. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard could include organizational codes of ethics/conduct or policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest.

For situations in which potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest exist, in the attachment, the applicant should identify the safeguards the applicant has or will put in place to eliminate, mitigate, or otherwise address those conflicts of interest.

Considerations in assessing research and evaluation independence and integrity will include, but may not be limited to, the adequacy of the applicant's efforts to identify factors that could affect the objectivity or integrity of the proposed staff and/or the organization in carrying out the research, development, or evaluation activity; and the adequacy of the applicant's existing or proposed remedies to control any such factors.

8. Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire

Any applicant (other than an individual) that is a non-governmental entity and that has not received any award from OJP within the past 3 years must download, complete, and submit this form.

Selection Criteria

The following five selection criteria will be used to evaluate each application, with the different weight given to each based on the percentage value listed below after each individual criteria. For example, for the first criteria, "Statement of the Problem," this section is worth 15 percent of the entire application in the review process.

1. Statement of the Problem (15 percent of 100)

Provide an overview of IP crime and its relevance to the U.S. economy, public health, and contemporary crime problems. Describe generally both successes and challenges to preventing, investigating, and prosecuting these crimes. Describe generally the need for training and technical assistance among and across local jurisdictions, as well as federal/state/local law enforcement collaboration, in an effort to achieve results as described in this grant announcement.

2. Project Design and Implementation (40 percent of 100)

Describe project strategy that is linked to the specific goals and deliverables previously listed in this grant announcement. Include a comprehensive timeline that identifies milestones, numerically listed deliverables, and who is responsible for each activity. Describe how the training and technical assistance will encompass data-driven and evidence-based practices. Describe how the applicant will identify and assess training and technical assistance needs for individual grantee sites as well as for the general law enforcement. Explain how the applicant will work with law enforcement agencies to promote and to sustain IP enforcement activities. Identify methods to promote the results of the IPEP grantees.

3. Capabilities and Competencies (30 percent of 100)

Fully describe capabilities and the competencies of the staff assigned to develop and deliver training and technical assistance nationwide as outlined in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section of this solicitation. Applicants must demonstrate experience in

developing introductory and advanced training curricula and programming to law enforcement audiences; providing technical assistance on a range of IP-related issues; and serving as a resource evidence-based practices to practitioners and the law enforcement community in the area of IP theft prevention, investigation, and prosecution. The applicant must demonstrate capacity to deliver training and technical assistance services on a national basis.

4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5 percent of 100)

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 process to accurately report implementation findings.

5. Budget (10 percent of 100)

Provide a proposed budget for the entire project period 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 the goals of the project. ²

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. 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 evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. 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, and available funding.

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with BJA, reviews applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants, examines proposed costs to determine if the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs, and determines whether 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

² 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.

including, but not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards.

Additional Requirements

Applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional legal requirements upon acceptance of an award. OJP encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting an application. Additional information for each requirement can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other requirements.htm.

- Civil Rights Compliance
- Civil Rights Compliance Specific to State Administering Agencies
- Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations
- Confidentiality
- · Research and the Protection of Human Subjects
- Anti-Lobbying Act
- Financial and Government Audit Requirements
- Reporting of Potential Fraud, Waste, and Abuse, and Similar Misconduct
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- DOJ Information Technology Standards (if applicable)
- Single Point of Contact Review
- Non-Supplanting of State or Local Funds
- Criminal Penalty for False Statements
- Compliance with <u>Office of Justice Programs Financial Guide</u>
- Suspension or Termination of Funding
- Non-profit Organizations
- For-profit Organizations
- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- Rights in Intellectual Property
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)

- Awards in Excess of \$5,000,000 Federal Taxes Certification Requirement
- Active SAM Registration
- Policy and Guidance for Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conferences (including Meetings and Trainings)
- OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees

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. 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 notified.

Note on File Names and File Types: Grants.gov <u>only</u> permits the use of <u>certain specific</u> characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may include <u>only</u> the following characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (_), hyphen (-), space, and period. Grants.gov is designed to reject any application that includes an attachment(s) with a file name that contain <u>any</u> other characters. 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:

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 subrecipients. 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. 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 subrecipients. 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.

- 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/applicants/get_registered.jsp.
- 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 16.752, titled "Economic High-Tech and Cyber Crime Prevention," and the funding opportunity number is BJA-2014-3777.
- 6. Complete the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities. All applicants must complete this information. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.
- 7. 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 an e-mail validation message from Grants.gov. The message will state whether the application has been received and 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 <u>here</u> for further details on DUNS, SAM, and Grants.gov registration steps and timeframes.

Note: Duplicate Applications

If an applicant submits multiple versions of an application, BJA will review <u>only</u> the most recent valid version submitted.

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 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 Web site
- 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.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

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 2014 National Training and Technical Assistance: Intellectual Property Enforcement 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 17) Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see page 18) To Register with Grants.gov: Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see page 18) Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see page 18) To Find Funding Opportunity: Search for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov (see page 18) Download Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see page 18) Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see page 17) Read Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov
General Requirements:
Review "Other Requirements" web page
Scope Requirement:
The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$750,000
Eligibility Requirement: Eligible applicants are limited to national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations (including tribal for-profit or nonprofit organizations), faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government (including federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior).
What an Application Should Include:
 Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 9) Project Abstract (see page 10) *Program Narrative (see page 10) *Budget Detail Worksheet (see page 11) *Budget Narrative (see page 11) Employee Compensation Waiver request and justification (if applicable) (see page 7) Read OJP policy and guidance on "conference" approval, planning, and reporting available at www.ojp.gov/funding/confcost.htm (see page 8) Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see page 18)

 Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 11)
 Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see page 12)
 Additional Attachments
Timeline (see page 12)
Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications (see page 12)
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see page 13)
Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable) (see page 14)

^{*} NOTE: 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.