

In the Spotlight

On February 13 in Washington, D.C., BJA Director Denise E. O'Donnell participated in an event hosted by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) titled "Active Shooters: The Unique Problems They Pose to Law Enforcement." The event highlighted several expert speakers who discussed the trends in active shooter incidents and how to learn from previous incidents that can help prevent future active shooters.



PERF Active Shooters Meeting

BJA funds active shooter training sessions through a program called ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training). The recent tragic events in Colorado, Connecticut, and California have placed a spotlight on the unfortunate need for active shooter first responder training. Since 2002, BJA has partnered with Texas State University—San Marco's ALERRT program to provide active shooter response training to state, local, and tribal law enforcement. More than 7,000 law enforcement professionals have been trained under this BJA initiative. The training is taught by a team of subject-matter expert adjunct instructors and ALERRT staff and is in high demand, with over 100 requests for one of the four active shooter courses available. These trainings have become a national standard in active shooter response training. BJA is committed to working to fulfill as many of the requests for training as possible in the upcoming months through BJA's VALOR (Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability) initiative.



For more information on the ALERRT active shooter response training, visit www.alertt.org. For more information on VALOR, visit www.valorforblue.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

BJA's Planning Office has released several Program Performance Reports (PPRs), which analyze the performance measure data that grantees submit over an extended period of time. PPRs have recently been released for [Second Chance Act programs](#), the [Adult Drug Court Grant Program](#), and the [Intellectual Property Theft Enforcement Program](#).

BJA has also issued a [Closeout Report for the RSAT Program](#) on performance measure data covering a 2-year period (January 2010–March 2012); RSAT grantees began reporting on the revised RSAT measures in April 2012.

And last, BJA released the [JAG Survey Results](#), which summarizes BJA's survey of JAG grantees about our performance measures and monitoring activities.

News You Can Use

SAA Strategic Planning Assessment Released

With BJA support, the National Criminal Justice Association has released [SAA Strategic Planning: Stakeholder Engagement Strategies](#). This document describes how State Criminal Justice Administering Agencies engage in strategic planning and examines stakeholder identification, outreach, and the most commonly used engagement strategies.

Motorola Awards Grant to the G.R.E.A.T. Foundation

The G.R.E.A.T. Foundation, Inc., which supports the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program, received a \$100,000 grant from the Motorola Solutions Foundation's Public Safety and Security Institute. The grant will be used to increase the number nationwide of certified G.R.E.A.T.-trained law enforcement officers by providing financial support to cover their transportation costs to G.R.E.A.T.-related training. [Learn more.](#)



Grants & Funding

BJA has released the following solicitations:

[Visiting Fellows Program](#)

Applications are due March 28, 2013

[Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Grants, Training, and Technical Assistance](#)

Applications are due April 4, 2013

Follow us on [Twitter](#) to learn about newly released solicitations.

View all [FY 2013 BJA and OJP open solicitations](#).

This Month in Law Enforcement

International Best Practices Project

Unlike most of the rest of the world, policing in the United States is a local—not a federal—responsibility. Thus, U.S. law enforcement agencies have been free to experiment with different practices and policies as long as they are consistent with U.S. constitutional restrictions. The result has been many effective practices developed by local law enforcement agencies. BJA has played a key role in recognizing and promulgating innovative practices and supporting the development of new technologies.

Many of these practices have been adopted by law enforcement organizations in other countries. One outstanding example is COMPSTAT, which was developed in the early 1990s by the New York City Police Department to raise accountability of police commanders. COMPSTAT spread to law enforcement agencies and other municipal agencies across the country, and BJA played a significant role in its widespread adoption by providing funding to encourage agencies to develop the human and IT capacities necessary for implementation. Today, COMPSTAT-like programs can be found across the globe in both developed and developing countries.

Through the BJA-funded International Best Practices project, RAND Corporation looked at the opposite side of the coin to determine what programs and practices have been developed in other countries that might be applied to policing in the United States. The project included an intensive worldwide search: RAND contacted 131 police officials, academics, and human rights organizations on 6 continents, and asked them to nominate local best policing practices. Using information gained from this search, an initial list of 32 best practices was gleaned and eventually distilled to three topics, consistent with current BJA priorities. RAND's recently released report addresses these three topics: programs to improve police-community relations, British and German staff development programs, and a British social networking site for police officers



Read [New Ideas in Policing: Learning from Other Countries](#).

Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program

Enacted in 1976, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death, disability, and education benefits to those eligible for the program. For details regarding these federal benefits for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders killed or catastrophically disabled in the line of duty, call the PSOB Office toll-free at 888-744-6513 or 202-307-0635, or visit the PSOB [web site](#).

FEATURED PROGRAM

BJA has released the [FY 2013 solicitation](#) for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) program. BCJI is a part of the Administration's larger Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) that helps local and tribal communities develop place-based, community-oriented strategies with coordinated federal support to change neighborhoods of distress into neighborhoods of opportunity. BCJI is a data-driven approach, leveraging research and innovation to identify the drivers of crime in a location and to develop multi-faceted strategies to reduce it. BCJI will also develop the ability of the community—through training and technical assistance provided by the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)—to more effectively target these issues. Applications are due March 4, 2013.

BJA hosted a [webinar](#) that provided potential BCJI applicants with a brief overview of: 1) NRI and its centerpiece revitalization grant programs; 2) the BCJI program model, including information about researcher/practitioner partnerships, and what a successful application should include; 3) what a budget should include; and 4) BCJI's training and technical assistance component.

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