



April 2012

In the Spotlight

The FY 2012 State and Local Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program solicitations and allocations have now been posted to the [BJA JAG web page](#). The due date for applications under both solicitations is May 14, 2012. BJA's JAG Program continues to be a leading source of federal justice funding to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions and supports a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution and courts, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, and crime victim and witness initiatives. In FY 2012, there are a total of 56 states and 1,217 local jurisdictions eligible for JAG funds, with a total of \$295.58 million available (approximately \$193 million to states and territories, and \$95 million to local units of government).

To plan for your 2012 application, please ensure you have taken the following steps:

- Check your state or jurisdiction's FY 2012 JAG allocation on the [JAG web page](#).
- Review the FY 2012 solicitations and pay special attention to updated information (which has been highlighted in the table of contents) on the [JAG web page](#).
- Review the updated JAG FAQs, including new guidance related to the Sex Offender Notification Act (SORNA) penalty, which are posted on the [JAG web page](#).
- Review the updated [JAG Technical Report](#).
- Review the updated [JAG Fact Sheet](#).

BJA has identified Indigent Defense, Funding Evidence-Based Programs, Statewide Criminal Justice Planning, Recidivism Reduction and Community Corrections, Evidence-Based "Smart Policing" Programs, and Officer Safety and Wellness as key priority areas in FY 2012. BJA invites each state and local JAG recipient to join in addressing these challenges as a part of the JAG partnership. Refer to the FY 2012 JAG solicitations for additional information on these priority areas.

DID YOU KNOW?

The JAG Showcase highlights JAG projects that have demonstrated success or have shown promise in meeting the objectives and goals of JAG while positively impacting communities. Because the JAG Program provides jurisdictions with flexibility to tailor the programs to fit their needs, a wide variety of programs have been funded across the country. New success stories have recently been added, so visit BJA's [JAG Showcase](#) to learn more about successful and promising JAG-funded projects, including the Maryland Violent Offender Warrant Initiative highlighted below.

Maryland Violent Offender Warrant Initiative

At the direction of Governor Martin O'Malley, Maryland set in motion an intensified effort to arrest violent offenders wanted on open arrest warrants in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Prince George's County. Using JAG grant funding provided by the Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, teams of local and state law enforcement officers worked collaboratively to aggressively target and apprehend violent offenders that prey on Maryland neighborhoods and who pose a threat to the safety and security of our citizens.

Starting in June 2011 in Baltimore City and later expanding to Prince George's County and Baltimore County, law enforcement officers were able to apprehend 2,064 offenders wanted for crimes such as murder, attempted murder, rape and other sexual assaults, child abuse, robbery, and aggravated assaults. In addition to the 2,064 offenders who were arrested, detainees were placed against 468 other offenders found to be already incarcerated on unrelated charges.

News You Can Use

Upcoming Opportunities for Law Enforcement

The 2012 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) application will open in mid-May. For more information, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bvpbasi/.

The 2011–2012 Medal of Valor nomination period will open May 31, 2012 and close July 31, 2012. More information is available at www.medalofvalor.gov.

2012 Organized Crime Symposium

Middle Tennessee State University's Forensic Institute for Research and Education is sponsoring a FREE conference entitled "2012 Organized Crime Symposium: Technology, Trafficking, and Terrorism" on May 8-10. [Read more](#).

Harvard Executive Session Publications Available

Two publications resulting from the [Harvard Executive Session for State Court Leaders in the 21st Century](#) are now available. Through its six meetings over three years, the Executive Session set out to both develop and answer questions that U.S. state courts will face in the foreseeable future, attempting to clarify what leaders of state courts can and should do to distinguish their role in our system of democratic governance.

FEATURED PROGRAM

BJA has released the solicitation for the newly appropriated [Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation](#) (BCJI) program. Recognizing that community safety is essential to

Grants & Funding

BJA currently has numerous competitive solicitations open, including:

- [Answering Gideon's Call: Improving Indigent Defense Delivery Systems](#)
- [Ensuring Procedural Justice Throughout the Adjudication Process: Pretrial Reform, High Performance Prosecution, and Smarter Sentencing Practices](#)

For the complete listing, go to: www.bja.gov/funding.aspx. For other funding opportunities available through the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), visit www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

OJP's 2012 Program Plan, Resources for the Criminal Justice, Juvenile Justice and Victims' Services Fields, is now available at: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ProgramPlan/.

neighborhood revitalization, the goal of BCJI is to support neighborhoods in the design and implementation of comprehensive criminal justice strategies to address targeted crime within neighborhoods as a foundation to or component of broader neighborhood revitalization goals. To achieve this goal, the BCJI program requires a consortium of partners to work with neighborhood residents, community leaders, law enforcement, and a research partner to develop a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to address the drivers of crime. Eligible applicants include states, units of local governments, non-profit organizations, and federally recognized tribal governments. Applications are due June 7, 2012.

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This Month in Law Enforcement

National Police Week Honors Law Enforcement

Law enforcement personnel from around the world will come to Washington, DC to participate in National Police Week from May 13-16. This annual event honors officers, survivors, and supporters of law enforcement officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. In support of this event, BJA's [Public Safety Officers' Benefits Office](#) will support a number of events, including the Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) [National Police Survivors' Conference](#), where new and returning survivors are provided a wide range of peer support and counseling services.

National Police week began in 1962 when President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day. A Memorial Service was first held in 1982 at Senate Park with a small gathering of approximately 120 survivors and law enforcement supporters, and this year the event is expected to draw between 25,000 and 40,000 people. For more information on Police Week events, visit www.policeweek.org.

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](#).

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