

ATTACHMENT 1

STATE OF NEW JERSEY **EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT** **FY 2011 FORMULA PROGRAM**

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

1. STATE STRATEGY/FUNDING PRIORITIES

Funding awarded under the 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program State Solicitation (JAG 2011) will be used to continue and complement programs launched under New Jersey's crime strategy.

New Jersey experienced pockets of violent crime in many of our urban centers. Gangs that had been rooted in a city or region of our state began to travel and expand their turf, causing a rash of shootings and violent crime. Criminal gangs, fueled by the revenues of drug distribution and armed with illegally obtained guns, threatened the safety of our residents and the vitality of our cities and towns. A crime strategy was released after a year of research and meetings with representatives of our state departments, local governments, community stakeholders and experts in the field. New Jersey's strategic plan focused on three components critical to addressing violent crime: enforcement, prevention and reentry. The enforcement component encouraged and assisted law enforcement agencies to move towards intelligence-led, data-driven policing strategies. The prevention component developed and expanded evidence-based prevention and intervention programs for at-risk youth. The reentry component focused on discharge planning and wrap-around services for inmates in county jails and state prisons. These initiatives and many evidence-based programs were initiated under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program (JAG Recovery) and subsequent JAG funding.

Attorney General Paula T. Dow established a working group of state and local criminal

justice practitioners, including the 21 County Prosecutors, to identify current criminal justice needs and review gaps in services. Attorney General Dow focused on addressing spikes in crime in a time of decreased resources.

In 2010, the Attorney General mounted SWEEP, a Summer Warrant Effective Enforcement Program to address spikes in violence and property crimes in the summer months. Local police officers, state troopers, parole officers, U.S. Marshals, probation officers, sheriff officers, and county prosecutor investigators participated in the enforcement program. Under SWEEP, 1,162 high-risk absconding parolees, probationers and fugitives were arrested. SWEEP enabled New Jersey law enforcement agencies to: (1) incapacitate ongoing and persistent crime committed by previously convicted criminals; (2) reduce the number of potential crime perpetrators; (3) discourage parole and probation violations; (4) provide new sources of intelligence, confidential information, and cooperators; and (5) use intelligence-led policing strategies to supplement local law enforcement resources.

The Targeting Violent Crime Initiative (TVCI) began in seven municipalities experiencing high shooting violence. TVCI cities (Newark, Irvington, Paterson, Jersey City, Elizabeth, Trenton and Camden) use intelligence-led policing data to direct patrols in targeted areas experiencing the most violent crimes. Rutgers, The State University, School of Criminal Justice, serves as a research partner for this initiative to provide data analysis, identification and development of benchmarks for assessments, and recommendations for effective information sharing and crime reduction efforts. TVCI is supported with Byrne Discretionary funding and is continuing with JAG funds.

On April 6, 2011, Attorney General Paula T. Dow announced Law Enforcement Technology (LET) grants for 17 New Jersey cities facing high levels of violent crime to purchase “force multiplying” crime-fighting technologies for their police departments. Implemented with JAG, LET

provides critical funding to cities forced to layoff or curtail hiring while experiencing 89% of New Jersey's 2010 shootings.

JAG funds will support the Attorney General's state task forces: New Jersey State Police Organized Crime, Gangs, Gun and Narcotics Task Force and the Division of Criminal Justice's Multi-Jurisdictional Gangs Guns & Narcotics Task Force ("Statewide Task Force"). New Jersey State Police's task force consists of three regional bureaus in the northern, central, and southern areas of the state. These bureaus employ the intelligence-led policing model and state of the art intelligence analysis to target violent street gangs and narcotics traffickers. The Division of Criminal Justice's Statewide Task Force investigates and prosecutes members of criminal gang organizations, gun traffickers and gun trafficking organizations, whose operations transcend county jurisdictions or operate across state lines into or out of New Jersey. The Statewide Task Force works cooperatively with federal, county and local law enforcement officials.

New Jersey utilizes JAG funding to support criminal justice-community partnership programs to reduce violent crime. The Community Justice Program involves community residents and agencies working in partnership with law enforcement to identify and resolve problems at the local level. Ten projects implemented through the county prosecutors' offices engage community members and local agencies to resolve crime and quality of life problems.

Eleven Neighborhood Crime Prevention/Intervention (NCPI) projects conduct local gang prevention/intervention initiatives through multi-disciplinary community partnerships. The NCPI program includes six local Boys & Girls Clubs' projects that use their evidenced-based Delinquency Prevention Initiative (DPI) model to deter delinquency by creating support teams, need based programming, case management and community participation.

Finally, JAG funds will continue to support Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS)

improvement projects, vital to the integration of statewide information sharing networks. In an effort to digitize all fingerprinting and mug photos in New Jersey, JAG funds provide digital Live Scan fingerprint and Mug Photo systems for law enforcement agencies. Digital transmission of fingerprint and mug photo data rapidly identifies arrested persons (within New Jersey’s Automated Fingerprint Identification System and the F.B.I.’s Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System) aiding law enforcement and homeland security while reducing man hours from the outdated ink and print and photographic collection. Another CJIS project includes hiring a consultant, who will create an interface between the Administrative Office of the Courts, Probation Services’ central case management system (CAPS) and the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police’s computerized criminal history (CCH) to share DNA status information. An additional CJIS project involves the integration of offender release and recidivism data and the creation of a “data mart” to aid reporting efforts.

Timeline

Objectives/Activities	Subgrant Process	Completion Date
Law Enforcement	5 months local 2 months state	Ongoing from start of project
Prosecutors & Courts	5 months local	Ongoing from start of project
Crime Prevention & Education	5 months local 2 months state	Ongoing from start of project
Justice Information Sharing	5 months local 5 months state	Ongoing from start of project

The State Subaward Process

1. The Division of Criminal Justice, Program Development & Grants Section administers the JAG program.
2. Proposed subgrants are reviewed and approved by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), Department of Law and Public Safety through the Consolidated Grants Management Office (CGMO).
3. All projects are subgranted by Program Development & Grants Section to divisions within the Department (e.g., State Police), other State agencies (e.g., Department of Corrections), local units of government (municipal and county), and non-profit agencies.
4. Subgrants may be offered by formula, competitive or on a strategic basis. If required, a Notice of Availability of Funds is published in the New Jersey Register.
5. Subgrant projects are assigned to a Program Analyst. Once a completed subgrant application is received and considered satisfactory, the subgrant application is reviewed and approved by an Internal Grant Review Committee.
6. Upon approval, the Subgrant project grant package is processed within the Department of Law and Public Safety recommending the Attorney General or designee sign the contract.
7. Upon Attorney General or designee signature, the executed contract is sent to the subgrantee.

Description of Programs to be Funded

For a listing of the programs that will be funded under New Jersey's JAG 2011 program, see Attachment 2, Budget and Budget Narrative.

2. STATE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS & PRIORITIES & STRATEGY

Attorney General Paula T. Dow established a working group to address the current needs and priorities. The working group was made up of representatives of the State Parole Board, County Prosecutors' Offices, County Sheriff Offices, Administrative Office of the Courts-Probation, Division of State Police, Regional Operations Intelligence Center, Division of Criminal Justice and local police departments. The Attorney General, with input from the working group, looked at crime data, hot spots and made assessments about effective deployments. The priority has been to reduce violent crimes with the strategic use of limited resources.

The resulting strategy, including Project SWEEP (Summer Warrant Effective Enforcement Program), was launched to address crime in the summer months. Other components of the revised strategy include the Targeting Violent Crime Initiative (TVCI), building upon Violent Enterprise Source Targeting (V.E.S.T.) partnerships and directed patrols in hot spots as determined by analyzed data. Recently, the Attorney General launched Law Enforcement Technology (LET) grants for local municipalities with the highest incidents of shooting violence to provide "force multiplying" equipment and support personnel.

Engagement of Local Communities

Local communities are engaged in the planning process. Their data and analyses are utilized to support New Jersey's crime prevention strategies and funding priorities. JAG prevention programs focus on giving local communities the tools to analyze crime data and the flexibility to implement crime prevention projects to address the specialized needs of their neighborhoods. Focusing community members on crime data in their neighborhoods also leads to effective prevention and delinquency programming.

Through the County Community Justice program, local advisory boards serve as the vehicle to review crime data, discuss community problems and define short and long term objectives and to discuss trends and assess progress. County coordinators work within a minimum of two communities to examine their crime data and design programs to address their individual needs. The JAG strategy includes this community component which is designed and implemented by the local communities it serves.

JAG funded Neighborhood Crime Prevention and Intervention (NCPI) programs are structured to have local communities define a specific problem in their community, analyze the factors contributing to the problem, and implement a program that is tailored to the site-specific crime issue. NCPI advisory board/steering committees include police officials along with other key community stakeholders such as criminal justice agencies, faith-based leaders, education officials, social service providers, representatives of city government, and community and youth representatives. These advisory boards engage local communities in the planning process, monitor crime problems and are encouraged to implement evidence-based local programs.

Through these prevention programs, local communities share their data, crime issues, successes, needs and gaps in services which are considered when ultimately developing statewide priorities and a strategy. For example, the Recovery JAG funded YouthBuild program works with a research partner and technical assistance provider, Rutgers, The State University - Bloustein School for Public Policy, to share and collect data. The Bloustein School reports on outcomes and relative successes will assist in determining future prevention programming efforts.

Local law enforcement is directly engaged in the State's strategy through the collection and sharing of crime data with the New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC)

and research partner, Rutgers, The State University, for assessing local hot spots, reviewing strategies and designing effective responses. Through the TVCI program, seven local police departments implement strategies tailored to address violent crime and shooting, using intelligence-led policing while providing crime data used in the overarching state crime strategy. The ROIC collects, assesses, and produces information and intelligence products aimed at targeting recidivist offenders and suppressing gun violence. The ROIC in turn utilizes this local collected data for violence prediction purposes and to better assist communities to prevent and address violent crime.

Data and Analysis Supporting State Strategy

The data and analysis supporting the State strategy comes from local and state sources -- the nucleus being the New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC). The ROIC is operated by the Division of State Police and is comprised of more than ten agencies, 40 analysts and interagency liaisons. The ROIC collects, analyzes and distributes crime data to all of its partners. The ROIC spearheads interagency collection efforts, primarily with local jurisdictions throughout the state, to collect, assess and produce information and intelligence products aimed at targeting recidivist offenders and suppressing gun violence.

For example, the ROIC produces “NJ POP (Pins on Paper) Monthly Report” which provides current and warning intelligence on threat, crime and gun violence analysis. The NJ POP Monthly Report examines the shooting-hit data throughout the state using CrimeTrack, which is available to all law enforcement using the National Criminal Information Center (NCIC). Each NJ POP report identifies hot spots by region, provides temporal and spatial analysis, shows gang-involved shootings, and draws associations between weapons recovered,

recidivist offenders, and shooting motivations across jurisdictional boundaries. The NJ POP report assists local municipal and county law enforcement agencies to combat violent crime using accurate, timely and effective data analysis and to employ intelligence-led, data-driven policing strategies.

The ROIC works with police departments in Jersey City, Newark, Trenton, Paterson, Perth Amboy and Camden, which come together with federal and state law enforcement partners to exchange intelligence and coordinate enforcement operations through bi-weekly meetings called V.E.S.T. These meetings seek to focus interagency resources on reducing violent crime trends in these cities. V.E.S.T. meetings are driven by statistical analysis and specific crime information provided by the host agency and participants. V.E.S.T. information is published in the NJ POP report. The ROIC also works with TVCI cities to exchange crime data and trends.

New Jersey analyzes violent crime data using information provided from the ROIC and Uniform Crime Data to make determinations on how best to strategically provide sorely needed resources to local-level police departments and county prosecutors' offices in the effort to reduce violent crime through intelligence-led policing initiatives. New Jersey law enforcement professionals and police organizations are no longer working in silos. Crime patterns and trends are being tracked and shared to assist New Jersey to implement strategies that cross traditional borders.

Additionally, firearm data is used to assist in intelligence-led policing efforts. Firearms trace data is entered into the federal eTrace system and gun crime evidence is entered into the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN).

Other forms of local data analysis supporting the State strategy include quarterly meetings of the County Narcotics Commanders Association which share information and discuss

strategies being employed by the County Gangs, Gun and Narcotics task forces to address violent crimes; and Law Enforcement Training initiatives creating a law enforcement officer network to share and discuss crime and effective responses. Additionally, New Jersey's JAG crime prevention/intervention programs are based on local communities using crime data to design their own strategies to address specific crime problems in their neighborhoods.

The exchange of crime data by local communities and the ROIC is critical as violent crime evolves in New Jersey. Gang violence in New Jersey has changed as street gangs matured and consolidated their networks. According to the January 2011 release of "Gangs in New Jersey: Municipal Law Enforcement Response to the 2010 NJSP Gang Survey," compiled by the New Jersey Division of State Police, gang presence in New Jersey remains widespread, having a presence in all 21 counties, including urban, suburban and rural areas. Forty-three gangs were identified with more than 100 members. These gangs were spread out among 14 towns, six of which had multiple gangs of more than 100. Half of all municipalities report the presence of gangs in their schools. Of those municipalities that reported the presence of gangs, one-third reported an increase in gang activity. The 2011 gang survey's data is being used by New Jersey's criminal justice, state and local law enforcement agencies to direct their strategies to the most pressing violent crime needs.

Gaps in State's Needed Resources

New Jersey continues to face an unprecedented financial crisis. In February 2010, the Governor signed Executive Order 14 declaring a state of fiscal emergency to address the \$2.2 billion budget gap in the remaining five months of the 2010 State Fiscal Year that had to be closed without raising taxes. Facing an \$11 billion budget deficit in the State's Fiscal Year 2011

budget, the State Treasurer noted the fiscal crisis as causing “the most challenging budget in our history.” The State Fiscal Year 2012 budget anticipates further reductions in State spending.

JAG 2011 funding will be utilized to provide resources to support local and state criminal justice initiatives, such as personnel, equipment and training when there is simply no other available funding. JAG funding will be awarded to agencies to meet critical services in keeping our communities safe and to support needed CJIS improvements to enhance data sharing efficiencies among criminal justice agencies.

3. COORDINATION OF EFFORTS INVOLVING JAG & RELATED JUSTICE FUNDS

Under New Jersey’s unified system of law enforcement the Attorney General, as the chief law enforcement officer of the State, has supervisory authority over the 21 county prosecutors and all other law enforcement departments and agencies throughout the state. The Program Development and Grants Section, the State Administrative Agency (SAA) for federally assisted criminal justice programs, is located within the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice. The Criminal Justice Director reports directly to the Attorney General. We are uniquely positioned to assume a leadership and oversight role in developing and implementing JAG 2011 programs that require strong partnerships among the various levels of criminal justice agencies. SAA staff is experienced in providing technical assistance for effective program implementation and maximizing and leveraging resources through a coordination of services. Staff in the Office of the Attorney General, the Consolidated Grants Management Office (CGMO), convene a weekly consolidated grants meeting for the purpose of ensuring coordination of resources and services within the department. Grants personnel from the various divisions within the Department of Law and Public Safety (Divisions of Criminal

Justice, State Police, Highway Safety, Civil Rights, Alcoholic Beverage Control, the Juvenile Justice Commission, and the Office of the Attorney General) meet weekly to share information and coordinate federal programs where appropriate.

New Jersey's SAA has direct responsibility for the administration of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG Recovery) Program, the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant (RSAT), and the federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program (BVP). In addition, the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) oversees the competitive Targeting Violent Crime Initiative under the 2007 Byrne Discretionary Program. On behalf of the New Jersey U.S. Attorney's Office, DCJ is the fiscal agent for the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Program. DCJ also administers the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) - Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding (formula grants) and the Office of Victim Witness (OVW) - STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) formula grants.

DCJ also oversees New Jersey's Safe and Secure Communities Program (state funding for additional police officers to address crime in a community oriented manner), state funded prevention initiatives (at-risk youth programs), and the Body Armor Replacement Program (state funding to purchase body armor for law enforcement and correctional officers).

In addition to grants administration, the New Jersey SAA's primary responsibilities include planning, program development, technical assistance, and coordination of resources. Analysts assigned to the unit work closely with subgrantees to establish partnerships that expand and enhance programs.

4. DATA COLLECTION & SUBMISSION OF PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To comply with Bureau of Justice Assistance's reporting requirements, DCJ collects JAG Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) data, Narrative Questions, Annual Report, and Performance Metrics from JAG subgrantees or subrecipients. JAG subrecipients will be expected to complete DCJ's own quarterly narrative reports, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Narrative Questions and quarterly PMT data. Narrative data will be collated, reviewed and approved by SAA staff and uploaded to the BJA PMT and the Grant Management System (GMS) as required.

DCJ collects BJA's PMT data electronically on Excel spreadsheets which are stored on a network drive. Access will be limited by password to ensure data control, and all changes will be tracked by the DCJ Research and Evaluation analysts before the final submission. New subrecipients receive training on PMT data collection and reporting. Subrecipients are responsible to collect and report PMT data electronically to the DCJ Research and Evaluation analysts. DCJ's Research and Evaluation analysts review and reconcile the subrecipients' Excel spreadsheets. DCJ Research and Evaluation analysts collate and upload the subrecipient data into the required PMT reporting system. Once the draft has been reviewed and approved, the Research and Evaluation analysts post the final data to BJA's PMT. Annually SAA uploads the PMT data to GMS.