



NEWS RELEASE

*Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Louisiana*

DONALD W. WASHINGTON
United States Attorney

United States Courthouse • 300 Fannin Street, Suite 3201 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101-3068 • (318) 676-3600
United States Courthouse • 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200 • Lafayette, Louisiana 70501-7206 • (337) 262-6618

For Immediate Release
June 17, 2008

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS
GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Deadline for grant proposals set for June 24, 2008

***Programs directed at targeting top offenders or
neighborhood reclamation to be favored***

The United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana and the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Task Force announce the **availability of approximately \$115,150 for grants**. Of that amount, approximately **\$103,635** will be designated **for grants** under the **Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Initiative** to **fund new and/or current comprehensive gun crime reduction strategies and/or gang violence reduction strategies**. Project Safe Neighborhoods is designed to combat gun violence by establishing partnerships

among local, state and federal entities to implement a multi-faceted strategy to deter and punish gun violence. It is a nationwide commitment to reduce violent crime by networking local programs that target gun crime, and providing those programs with the tools and resources they need to succeed. The Anti-Gang Initiative is designed to enhance PSN task force efforts to combat gangs by building on effective PSN strategies and partnerships. Grants will be awarded to community programs that address: (1) gang prevention and enforcement; (2) gun violence prevention, community outreach, and education; (3) enforcement, adjudication, and supervision programs; or (4) other innovative, related projects. The goal of this grant program is to create a comprehensive, strategic approach to effectively reduce local gun and gang violence.

Grants will be awarded to programs that function within the Western District of Louisiana, primarily in the cities of Shreveport, Lake Charles, Lafayette, Alexandria, and Monroe. Single or multi-grantee awards will be considered for any amount up to the total funds authorized (**approximately \$115,150**).

The following types of organizations are eligible to submit a proposal applying for grants for 2008 funding:

- (1) Non-profit organizations;
- (2) Units of state and local government. Units of state and local government are considered to be:
 - (a) Parishes;
 - (b) Townships; and
 - (c) Special units designated by law to exercise governmental functions, excluding school boards. This includes tribal governments that exercise law enforcement functions.

Grants cannot be made for gun-lock distributions, gun buy-back programs, air-time to run certain national public service announcements, or for payments to cooperating witnesses and informants.

If a commercial organization applies for the role of a primary grantee, the organization must agree to waive its fee. However, for contracts under grants, a profit is allowable. It must not exceed 10 percent of the total estimated cost of the contract.

Proposals must be 10 pages or less (double-spaced, 12-point type) and must be submitted using the outline set forth by the Bureau of Justice Assistance:

I. Program Narrative (Attachment 1)

- A. Problem and Proposed Strategy**
- B. Goals and Objectives**
- C. Implementation Plan**
- D. Program Evaluation/Performance Measures**

II. Budget and Budget Narrative (Attachment 2)

The proposal outline set forth above should include the following information:

1. Describe the proposed program, including the target audience, geographical reach (cities, neighborhoods), parties involved, and other organizations that will participate or be affected by the program.
2. Describe the expertise and background of the organization and explain its qualifications for participating in the proposed program.
3. Describe the strategy to be employed, the purpose and goals of the proposed program, and how the proposed program is going to meet the goals of the Anti-Gang Initiative and/or PSN Initiative of reducing gang violence and reducing gun violence, including all major activities to be performed and the time frames for each activity to be performed.
4. Describe the resources available to meet the goals of the PSN and Anti-Gang Initiatives and the proposed program.
5. Describe the methods to be used to measure success in achieving the program's stated goals.
6. Outline the budget for the program including summaries and general breakdowns of all personnel costs, supplies, contracts and professional services, equipment, and travel expenses. Include a budget narrative providing justification for all proposed costs. For example, the narrative should explain how travel costs were estimated or why particular items, equipment or supplies must be purchased, and how overhead or indirect costs were calculated. It should justify the specific items listed in the budget and demonstrate that all costs are reasonable.
7. Describe how the program may (or will) be sustained after the end of the grant period. Will efforts be made to develop private funding sources to expand or sustain the program into the future?

You must submit your proposal to: U. S. Attorney's Office, *ATTN: PSN Grant Competition*, 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501. Proposals must be received no later than *close of business on Tuesday, June 24, 2008*. Signed copies of proposals can be e-mailed to Lisa.Alwert@usdoj.gov along with an original to follow in the mail. Interested applicants may contact Lisa Alwert, U. S. Attorney's Office, at (337) 262-6618 or 1-800-676-6992 for additional information.

A committee will review all program proposals and make a selection for funding upon receipt of the federal award. Entities submitting successful proposals will be notified and provided additional information related to the completion of a formal application and any required contracts and forms.

For more information on PSN, please visit www.psn.gov; and for more particulars on the aforementioned grants, please visit <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/psn.html>. This and other press releases issued by the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Louisiana can be found at our website at www.usdoj.gov/usao/law.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Is the budget to be counted in the 10-page limit for the grants?**

Yes. The total proposal must be 10 pages or less.

2. **What is the time frame the budget should cover?**

The grants are a one time allotment, however the budget may range from one to three years.

3. **Can I apply online?**

No. There is no online form. We have asked that all proposals be submitted to the U.S. Attorney's Office and received no later than *Tuesday, June 24, 2008*, at the address listed in our press release. Signed copies of the proposals can be e-mailed to Lisa.Alwert@usdoj.gov along with an original to follow in the mail.

4. **Is there an application form for the grants?**

No. There is no application form. Each applicant must develop and write their own grant proposal.

5. **Can you help me or offer suggestions in writing the grant application?**

We can only refer you to PSN's website at www.psn.gov and advise you to carefully read the first paragraph of our press release at www.usdoj.gov/usao/law to focus on examples of the type of programs the grants may fund. However, applications are not limited by examples given. All creative ideas and programs to help in reducing gun and gang violence will be given consideration.