



STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE

\$1.2 billion in Total Resources

Overview

The Department's portion of the President's FY 2008 budget contains over \$1.2 billion in discretionary grant assistance to State, local, and Tribal governments including funding for the creation of four new, competitive grant programs. These programs will provide States, localities, and Tribes with considerable flexibility to address their most critical needs and allow the Department to respond in a targeted way to local up-ticks in the crime rate.

The Department's budget request also eliminates all earmarks from State and local grant programs; there were over 1,300 earmarks totaling over \$500 million in the FY 2006 appropriations act. The number of grant programs is reduced from over 70 to four.

In addition to the \$1.2 billion in the Justice Department's budget, the Administration has continued its commitment to State and local governments by providing the Department of Homeland Security \$2.2 billion to fund grants, exercises, and other assistance in FY 2008.

Resources

New Grant Programs

Violent Crime Reduction Partnership: \$200 million in total funding requested for this new initiative. This funding will be used to help communities suffering from high rates of violent crime to address this problem by forming and developing effective multi-jurisdictional law enforcement partnerships between local, State, tribal and Federal law enforcement agencies. Through a competitive grant process, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides funding and technical assistance to communities seeking to establish partnerships to investigate and reduce violent crime—including efforts to address drug trafficking and criminal gang activity, which contribute to many violent offenses. The FY 2007 estimate for this program is \$0, as it is newly proposed in FY 2008. This initiative is also referenced in the Department's Violent Crime Fact Sheet.

Byrne Public Safety and Protection (Byrne) Program: \$350 million in total funding requested for this new program. This initiative will consolidate OJP's most successful State and local law enforcement assistance programs into a single, flexible, competitive discretionary grant program that will help State, local, and tribal governments develop programs appropriate to the particular needs of their jurisdictions. Through a competitive grant process, OJP will assist State and local governments in addressing a number of high-priority concerns, such as: (1) reducing violent crime at the local levels through the

Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative; (2) addressing the criminal justice issues surrounding substance abuse through drug courts, residential treatment for prison inmates, prescription drug monitoring programs, methamphetamine enforcement and lab cleanup, and cannabis eradication efforts; (3) promoting and enhancing law enforcement information sharing efforts through improved and more accurate criminal history records; (4) improving the capacity of State and local law enforcement and justice system personnel to make use of forensic evidence and reducing DNA evidence analysis backlogs; (5) addressing domestic trafficking in persons; (6) improving and expanding prisoner re-entry initiatives; (7) improving services to victims of crime to facilitate their participation in the legal process; and others. Non-governmental entities will also be eligible for funding under this program. The FY 2007 estimate for this program is \$0, as it is newly proposed in FY 2008. This initiative is also referenced in the Department's Drug and Border Security Fact Sheet.

Child Safety and Juvenile Justice Program: \$280 million in total funding requested for this new program. This initiative consolidates existing juvenile justice and exploited children programs, such as the Internet Crimes Against Children, into a single, flexible grant program. Through a competitive discretionary grant process, OJP will assist State, tribal and local governments in addressing multiple child safety and juvenile justice needs: reduce incidents of child exploitation and abuse, including those facilitated by the use of computers and the Internet, improve juvenile justice outcomes, and address school safety needs. Non-governmental entities will also be eligible for funding under this program. The FY 2007 estimate for this program is \$0, as it is newly proposed in FY 2008. This initiative is also referenced in the Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Fact Sheet.

Violence Against Women Grants: \$370 million in total funding requested for this new program. This initiative will consolidate all the Violence Against Women programs into one new flexible, competitive grant program, creating a new structure that can address multiple domestic violence needs. The FY 2007 estimate for this program is \$0, as it is newly proposed in FY 2008.

Other Key Programs:

Regional Information Sharing System (RISS): \$38.5 million in total funding is requested for RISS. This funding will be used to provide increased intelligence and forensic services for State and local law enforcement. RISS is comprised of six regional intelligence centers operating in mutually exclusive geographic regions that include all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories. These regional centers facilitate and encourage information sharing and communications to support member agencies' investigative and prosecution efforts by providing state-of-the-art investigative support and training, analytical services, specialized equipment, secure information sharing technology, and secure encrypted e-mail and communication capabilities to over 6,000 municipal, county, State, and federal law enforcement agencies nationwide. RISS' ATIX (Anti-terrorism Information Exchange) is designed to provide limited access to RISS.net to non-traditional groups of users in order to secure interagency

communication, information sharing, and dissemination of threat information. The FY 2007 estimate for this program is \$41.9 million. This initiative is also referenced in the Department's Counterterrorism fact sheet.

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): \$61.5 million requested in total funding for this OJP bureau which collects and analyzes statistical data on crime, criminal offenders, and the operations of justice systems at all levels of government. BJS also provides financial and technical support to state governments to develop capabilities in criminal justice statistics, improve criminal history records, and implement crime identification technology systems.

National Institute of Justice: \$55.7 million requested in total funding for this OJP bureau, which supports research and development programs; conducts demonstrations of innovative approaches to improve criminal justice; develops and tests new criminal justice technologies; evaluates the effectiveness of justice programs; develops knowledge through research on crime and justice issues; and disseminates research findings to practitioners and policymakers.

Crime Victims Fund: \$625 million for the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to continue to provide federal leadership in assisting victims of crime and their families. OVC provides federal funds in the form of formula grants to the states to support victim compensation and assistance programs across the Nation. OVC also provides training for diverse professionals who work with victims, develops and disseminates publications, supports projects to enhance victims' rights and services, and educates the public about victim issues. OVC also enables victims of federal crimes to participate fully in the criminal justice process. It distributes funds to nonprofit organizations, federal and military criminal justice agencies, and American Indians and Alaska Natives to support both training for service providers and direct services for victims, including crisis counseling, temporary shelter, and travel expenses incurred in going to court.

Resource Summary

Item	Dollars in Millions
Violent Crime Reduction Partnership	\$200.0
Byrne Public Safety and Protection Program	350.0
Child Safety and Juvenile Justice Program	280.0
Violence Against Women Grants	370.0
Regional Information Sharing System	38.5
Bureau of Justice Statistics	61.5
National Institute of Justice	55.7
Crime Victims Fund	[625.0]
All Other Discretionary State and Local Assistance*	53.0
Technical Adjustment to Prior Year Balances	-175.0
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,233.7

* Includes funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services Program and the Public Safety Officers' Disability and Educational Assistance Programs.