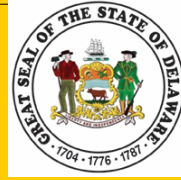


Issues



Update

A Newsletter of the Delaware Criminal Justice Council

John C. Carney, Jr., Chair

Special Recovery Act 2009

James Kane, Executive Director

Special points of interest:

- Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program
- Violence Against Women Recovery Act
- Victims of Crime Act



Recovery Act helps Criminal Justice System

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. Not only is it an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy but it also provides valuable financial assistance to criminal justice programs. The main purpose of the act is to preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery.

As part of the funding that law enforcement agencies will benefit from is **\$1 Billion** for the COPS program that allows police agencies to hire new officers. Even though the agencies will apply directly to the Department of Justice for funding, the Criminal Justice Council is available to assist in the application process.

What is the Byrne/JAG Program?

In the early morning hours of February 26, 1988, Officer Edward R. Byrne was on detail protecting a witness who had agreed to testify in court against local drug dealers. Officer Byrne was in his patrol car outside the witness' home around 3:30 a.m. when two armed gunmen crept up to his car from both sides. One of the men knocked on the passenger-side window to distract Officer Byrne just as a second perpetrator ran up to the driver's side

window and, without uttering a sound, opened fire. Officer Byrne was shot five times in the head. Both gunmen, along with two other perpetrators who served as look-outs, fled the scene. Officer Byrne was rushed to Mary Immaculate Hospital where he died of his wounds. He was only 22 years old.

In honor of Police Officer Byrne, a major U.S. Department of Justice initiative was titled the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program. The

Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers this program, which allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the justice system. It has been nearly 20 years since state and local law enforcement first began applying for the program named after this young fallen hero.



Delaware benefits through the Byrne/JAG Program



The Delaware Byrne/JAG program will be the recipient of **\$10,906,468** in additional funding from the Recovery Act. Several jurisdictions throughout the state will apply directly to DOJ for funds in the amount of **\$4,289,448**. As was the case with COPS funding, CJC will be available to assist those agencies in the application process. Those agencies that will receive “direct” funding are:

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Town of Camden | City of Harrington | Town of Bridgeville | Town of Georgetown |
| City of Milford | Town of Milton | City of Seaford | City of New Castle |
| City of Newark | City of Wilmington | City of Dover | Town of Smyrna |
| Town of Dewey Beach | Town of Laurel | Town of Millsboro | City of Rehoboth Beach |
| Town of Elsmere | New Castle County | Town of Newport | |

The remaining \$6,617,020 will be distributed by the Criminal Justice Council. In that amount, there is a requirement that a variable pass-through equal to 27.15% be met.

What is a Variable Pass-Through?

Byrne/JAG requires that states pass through a predetermined percentage (variable pass-through) of funds to units of local government, such as a city, county, township, town; tribe; or faith- or community-based group. Calculated by BJS, this percentage is established by assessing the total criminal justice expenditures by the state and units of local government. CJC will distribute Byrne/JAG funding to locals and non profits.

Byrne/JAG Discretionary projects being developed

There are six (6) areas that Delaware’s Byrne/JAG funds may be used for. Below is a list of those categories and the CJC staff member(s) assigned to coordinate efforts:

What Can Delaware’s Byrne/JAG funds be used for?

JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice, as well as criminal justice-related research and evaluation activities that will improve or enhance:

- Law enforcement programs.
- Prosecution and court programs.
- Prevention and education programs.
- Corrections and community corrections programs.
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs.
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1- Comprehensive community based data driven approaches to prevent and reduce violent crime | Amy Reinbold |
| 2- Providing for funding of neighborhood probation and parole officers | Ron Keen /Valarie Tickle |
| 3- Hiring civilian staff in law enforcement and public safety related agencies | Chris Kervick/ Chuck Pugh |
| 4- Enhancing forensic and crime scene investigations | Valarie Tickle |
| 5- Improving resources and services for victims of crime | Maureen Monagle |
| 6- Supporting problem solving courts | Ron Keen |

Violence Against Women helped by the Recovery Act

Recovery Act STOP (Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula grant program (the STOP Program). By statute, the STOP program supports communities in their efforts to hire and retain criminal justice and victim services personnel that respond to violent crimes against women as a way to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement, prosecution strategies and victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women. To further the purposes of the Recovery Act, OVW encourages states to target Recovery Act funding to hiring and retaining these personnel as well as supporting other strategies that create and preserve jobs and promote economic growth while improving responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The State of Delaware received **\$903,933** in funding through the Recovery Act with the purpose areas following the standard 14 statutory purpose areas under the STOP statute.

More information on the STOP Program can be found on the OVW website http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/stop_grant_desc.htm

For more information contact Maureen Monagle @ 577-8442 or maureen.monagle@state.de.us



Victims of Crime Act included in the Recovery Act



The VOCA-Assistance formula grant supports community based organizations that serve crime victims. Grants are made to domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child abuse programs and victims services units in law enforcement agencies, prosecutors offices, hospitals and social service agencies. Delaware received **\$558,000** as part of the Recovery Act with purpose areas being to provide direct services to crime victims. Special emphasis on services to victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault.

For more information contact Corrine Pearson @ 577-8696 or corrine.pearson@state.de.us

OVW Discretionary Transitional Housing Grant

The Criminal Justice Council has applied for the OVW Transitional Housing Assistance Program Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Program focuses on a holistic, victim-centered approach to provide transitional housing services that move individuals into permanent housing. The amount of this grant is **\$500,000**. For more information please contact Maureen Monagle at 302-577-5030

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Dedicated to Innovation and Improvements to Delaware's Criminal Justice System.

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