



**New York State's Application for
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice
Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
Funds**

NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES

4 Tower Place

Albany, NY 12203

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Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Michael C. Green, Executive Deputy Commissioner



**New York State's Application for
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
Program Funds**
Submitted May 14, 2012

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services
Office of Program Development & Funding
Anne Marie Strano, Deputy Commissioner
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Introduction

New York State has experienced significant declines in both the crime rate—or the number of “Index” crimes per capita—and the crime volume—the total number of Index crimes reported over the past decade while the population of the state has increased. Over the past 10 years, the overall rate of Index crimes per 100,000 residents declined 19 percent; the rate of violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) fell 20% and property crimes (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) were down 18%. The largest reductions in crime rates were reported for motor vehicle theft and forcible rape.

While New York State’s crime rate has decreased over the past 10 years, New York has also reported a significant reduction in the actual number of crimes reported. Index crimes fell each year between 2002 and 2011 with the exception of slight rises in 2008 and 2010. The number of major crimes reached the lowest levels ever recorded in 2011, when there were 93,780 fewer crimes reported than in 2002. The State’s population increased by approximately 300,000 residents during the same time period.

Not all areas of the State have benefited equally from the historic reduction in crime. The decline in Index crime in New York City was almost twice as large as that experienced in counties outside of New York City. Given the greater decline in crime in New York City, the proportion of statewide crime that each region accounted for has shifted dramatically. The counties outside New York City now account for 57% of the reported crime statewide, as compared to 50% in 2000 and 40% in 1991.

Over the past 10 years, the number of violent crimes reported in New York City dropped nearly 20%, while the non-New York City counties reported a decrease of almost 16%. Both regions report declines in each violent crime category during the last 10 years, with the largest drop reported in forcible rapes in New York City (-35.3%).

The most recent 2011 crime data show that crime volume in New York State declined slightly between 2010 and 2011. In 2011, New York State reported a drop of 1.1% in the seven major Index crimes as compared to 2010. Violent crime categories rose 1.7% while property crime categories fell by the same percentage. The largest declines were reported in murder (-10.4%) and motor vehicle theft (-8.7%) while aggravated assaults (+3.6%) and burglaries (+0.1%) increased over the last year.

The New York City region reported a 5.6% increase in violent crimes between 2010 and 2011. Murders fell by 3.9% while all other violent crime categories rose. Aggravated assaults increased by 9.2% and this growth was due in part to the newly

classified strangulation offenses. Property crimes in New York City also rose slightly in 2011. Alternatively, the rest of the State reported decreases between 2010 and 2011 in violent crimes (-5.1%) and property crimes (-3.0%). The number of murders fell by 20.9%, the largest annual decrease in murders ever reported in the counties outside of New York City.

Priorities

Based on an analysis of crime data and budget information, New York will utilize the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to support the following priorities:

- Improve the quality, accuracy and timeliness of criminal justice records.
- Improve the capabilities and quality of work of forensic laboratories in DNA identification, ballistic evidence processing, and new technologies.
- Enhance the quality and effectiveness of drug and violent crime prosecution and enforcement, especially as it relates to gangs and to illegal possession, use or sale of guns.
- Improve the quality and effectiveness of prosecution and defense services.
- Provide additional support for the State's Regional Crime Analysis Centers who share information and provide law enforcement with accurate and timely data.
- Enhance local law enforcement efforts to effectively and efficiently reduce the incidence of crime and violence in their locality.

The projects to be funded illustrate the comprehensive nature of New York's Byrne JAG Program: a variety of projects to improve the accuracy and completeness of state criminal history records and facilitate electronic data sharing among authorized users; forensic services including the enhancement of ballistic evidence and DNA processing; prosecution and defense programs that handle cases involving drugs, gangs, and guns; crime analysis designed to assist local law enforcement; and law enforcement efforts to reduce crime and violence.

Award Process and Timeline

Allocation of Byrne JAG monies in New York, including the determination of specific grantees, is a shared responsibility of the Executive and Legislative branches. Traditionally, the Legislature has been authorized to distribute approximately two thirds of the local pass-through funds. While the Commissioner of DCJS will engage in a collaborative dialogue with legislative leaders to foster a more coordinated funding approach consistent with overall criminal justice goals, it is expected that both houses will continue to be responsive to constituent demands and needs and will fund a broad array of programs consistent with their longstanding patterns and Byrne JAG guidelines.

The timeline for awarding Byrne JAG funds will vary. The State Legislature will distribute Byrne JAG funding at their discretion. Byrne JAG funding authorized by the Commissioner of DCJS will be awarded in varying ways using both directed and competitive methodologies. DCJS will award grants designed to advance the public policy objectives identified under "Priorities", as well as based on emerging crime patterns around the State.

Program Descriptions

Improve the quality, accuracy and timeliness of criminal justice records

Each year, a substantial portion of the State's Byrne JAG award is allocated for enhancement of State and local criminal justice records through DCJS administered data access and data quality initiatives and local efforts to automate records and records management systems. A broad range of agencies, including police, prosecutors, public defense agencies, probation departments, parole and others benefited from these funds. These funds enabled New York law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies to keep pace with the latest information technology, promote electronic data sharing, and improve data quality. Among the projects funded were:

- deployment of the DCJS Spectrum Justice System (SJS) records management system in local law enforcement agencies;
- local livescan and cardscan systems for participation in the State's Store and Forward system;
- automation of records management for the State's town and village courts;
- deployment of the DCJS Jails Management System (JMS) in local correctional facilities;
- automation of local probation department records management through deployment of Caseload Explorer;
- automation of local public defender case management systems;
- automation for local prosecutors through the provision of equipment;
- the DCJS Data Standardization Project, and publication of the Statewide Criminal Justice Data Dictionary;

- the DCJS Standard Practices Project, and publication of the New York State Standard Practices Manual for Processing Fingerprintable Criminal Cases;
- web-based training and electronic performance support for State and local criminal justice agencies;
- support for development and expansion of the DCJS Crime Mapping System;
- training for State and local agency staff who interact with the DCJS criminal history system and who use, and contribute to, the DCJS database of criminal case history information;
- support for the DCJS Chief Information Officer in her capacity as the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs designated State Point of Contact for federally funded information technology initiatives; and
- coordination of DCJS e-Commerce / e-Government initiatives.

Support for these efforts will be continued.

Improve the capabilities and quality of work of forensic laboratories in DNA identification, ballistic evidence processing, and new technologies

Forensic services supported through the Byrne JAG program have enabled New York to take advantage of the capabilities afforded by the collection and analysis of DNA samples from known offenders and crime scene evidence. The advances in this area have already yielded impressive dividends, leading to the closure of numerous unsolved cases. These benefits will continue to accrue as state and national DNA databases expand, law enforcement agency skills improve through additional training, and additional resources are devoted to emerging technologies.

The DCJS Office of Forensic and Victim Services (OFS) was created following passage of Executive Law Section 995, et seq., providing for:

- DCJS design and oversight of the DNA Identification Index (synonymously known as the “DNA Databank” throughout the law);
- management and coordination of the New York State Commission on Forensic Science and its DNA Subcommittee; and
- DCJS activities related to the accreditation of all New York State public forensic laboratories.

Byrne JAG funding will continue to be used to supplement State resources devoted to the activities of the DCJS Office of Forensic and Victim Services.

Enhance the quality and effectiveness of drug and violent crime prosecution and enforcement, especially as it relates to gangs and to illegal possession, use or sale of guns

The issue of criminal acquisition and subsequent use of firearms in the United States continues to plague law enforcement officials and the communities they serve. The increase and spread of violent crime, in particular crimes committed by juveniles, and youth gangs, must be specifically addressed to decrease the number of gun-related deaths and injuries that negatively impact the quality of life in our communities. Research has shown people between the ages of 15 and 24 are most likely targeted by gun violence as opposed to other forms of violence. This age group was most at risk for gun violence during this time period. Teens and young adults have an increased likelihood of being murdered with a gun than persons of other ages.

Firearm-related crimes in New York State have generally decreased over the last 5 years after increasing during the first part of the decade. The highest count was reported in 2006 (6,163 or 19% of violent crimes). The number of firearm related violent crimes in 2011 was the second lowest reported over the last 10 years (4,851). The proportion of violent crimes involving firearms has been relatively stable during this time period (between 17% and 19%).

During 2011, 132 of 261 murders reported outside of New York City involved a firearm (50.6%). This rate was down significantly from the 60.6% of murders reported by firearm in 2010 (the highest rate ever reported). The number of firearm-related robberies in 2011 decreased by 12.6% over 2002, but the proportion by firearm has remained relatively stable at approximately 30%. The number of aggravated assaults fell by 16.7% between 2002 and 2011, while the percentage by firearm rose from 10.8% in 2002 to 14.1% in 2011.

These trends show law enforcement must employ effective enforcement tactics and policies that include community-based intervention and prevention with an emphasis on collaboration with all vested partners. Research indicates there have been a number of models, initiatives, and programs tried; suppression, deterrence, interventions, demand side versus supply side gun violence strategies; even carrot and stick approaches showcased as NIJ published strategies of the Retailing and Lever Pulling genre.

DCJS has studied many of the programs tried over the last ten years, including: the Chicago Ceasefire model, Kansas City's Directed Patrol, Indianapolis Violence Reduction Strategy and High Point, NC's Gun Reduction Strategy to name a few. All contain valuable, proven, practices that have had varying degrees of success. DCJS will use 2012 Byrne JAG funding to support some of the strategies utilized by several of the programs mentioned to reduce the number of firearm-related crimes within New York State.

Improve the quality and effectiveness of prosecution and defense services

Byrne JAG funding will continue support for both prosecution and defense services designed to enhance the quality and effectiveness of drug and violent crime prosecution; and to improve case outcomes by expediting the flow of drug and violent offenders through the criminal justice system. For over twenty years, Byrne JAG funding has provided additional resources to prosecutors in the State to combat identity theft, violent crime, gangs and the trafficking of illegal guns and drugs, as well as community prosecution programs. Defense programs have also received Byrne JAG funding to improve the defense of indigent special population groups (drug or alcohol addicted, persons with mental health issues, sex offenders, etc.) or those indigent defendants processed through specialty courts (Drug, Domestic Violence, Sex Offender, etc.) or to enhance early defense intervention strategies and representation during initial court proceedings.

Provide additional support for the State's Regional Crime Analysis Centers who share information and provide law enforcement with accurate and timely data

Byrne JAG funds will continue support for the State's five Regional Crime Analysis Centers (CACs) for on-site training, guidance and assistance in developing effective intelligence-led crime reduction strategies and for improving local crime analysis capabilities. The Centers are comprised of law enforcement personnel and crime analysts from Federal, State, county and local agencies. The goal of the centers is to share information and provide law enforcement with accurate and timely data, which they can then use to identify patterns, deploy resources and reduce crime throughout the State.

Enhance local law enforcement efforts to effectively and efficiently reduce the incidence of crime and violence in their locality

DCJS will competitively award Byrne JAG funds to the jurisdictions in New York that did not qualify for direct awards from the Department of Justice (the less than \$10k jurisdictions) to enhance local law enforcement efforts to effectively and efficiently reduce the incidence of crime and violence in their jurisdiction. During 2011, DCJS provided funding for 12 separate equipment grants to police agencies around the State to purchase communications equipment, computer hardware, software, and related technology to enable law enforcement officers to receive, process and record information in a timely manner, and interface with databases such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the New York State Police Information Network (NYSPIN). Byrne JAG also funded License Plate Readers (LPRs) across New York State. The LPRs were utilized by police agencies for investigative purposes in high traffic areas, areas where crime is elevated, and areas where there is a significant potential threat to homeland security (for example, NYC bridges).

Byrne JAG support for the Video Recording of Statements Program will also continue with the 2012 funds. This program is designed to enhance the effectiveness

of law enforcement and improve prosecution outcomes in New York State by expanding the use of videotaping equipment for police interviews and interrogations.

Statewide Planning and Coordination

The initiatives outlined in this narrative reflect the priorities identified in State's 2012-2013 budget. They include improving the effectiveness of statewide enforcement and prosecution efforts against violent crime (including gun and drug trafficking, and gang violence), developing local capacity to adopt intelligence-led policing strategies based on real-time crime analysis, and maintaining high quality criminal justice records and forensic laboratory services. Most sources of funding (both State and federal) administered by DCJS will be given to local criminal justice agencies based on a competitive process and contingent upon their creation and implementation of programs designed to impact these priorities.

Some of the requirements imposed by DCJS as a condition of receiving both State and federal funding promote coordination and planning. Two of the State's major initiatives, Operation IMPACT and the Reentry initiative, require recipient counties to form a local partnership or consortium to develop a local strategy as part of their application to DCJS. Operation IMPACT requires the membership include the U.S. attorney as well as federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. Similarly, the Reentry Task Forces have a local consortium requirement which assures the perspectives of multiple State and local agencies are reflected in each county's plan.

Local task forces and all gun, gang, and drug enforcement and prosecution initiatives funded with Byrne JAG monies, either partly or in whole, will have this same requirement. In addition, the mechanisms that will be employed to fund these programs, combining federal and State dollars from several agencies and funding streams, ensure shared responsibility and ownership. State agencies also will collaborate on research efforts designed to ascertain the efficacy and cost effectiveness of various crime strategies.

Collecting and Submitting Performance Measurement Data

Since BJA's PMT system became operational, DCJS has been taking steps to integrate the required performance measures into Byrne JAG subrecipient grant contracts. DCJS is requiring each subrecipient to submit data for the PMT directly into the PMT system with close DCJS monitoring. DCJS is also conducts on-going training for subrecipients to assist them in complying with this important requirement.



STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
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ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL C. GREEN
EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

May 9, 2012

The Honorable Dean G. Skelos
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Legislative Office Building
Room 909
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Skelos:

On May 14, 2012 New York will submit its application for \$9.7 million in funding available under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. As stated in the Federal authorizing legislation, the Division of Criminal Justice Services is required to submit a copy of the State's application for these monies for review by the State Legislature.

A copy is enclosed for your convenience, should you or your members have any comments or wish to make any changes to the State's application, please contact Anne Marie Strano at (518) 457-8462 by June 14, 2012.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Green".

Michael C. Green
Executive Deputy Commissioner

MCG:ddc
Enclosure



STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
4 Tower Place
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ANDREW M. CUOMO
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MICHAEL C. GREEN
EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

May 9, 2012

The Honorable Sheldon Silver
Speaker of the Assembly
Legislative Office Building
Room 932
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Speaker Silver:

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Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Green".

Michael C. Green
Executive Deputy Commissioner

MCG:ddc
Enclosure

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL FUNDS
NYS DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
4 Tower Place, Albany, NY 12203

Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program regarding New York State's application for such funding, the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (Division) hereby gives notice of the following:

On May 14th, 2012 the Division will submit a funding application requesting New York State's federal fiscal year (FFY) 2012 award of \$9,771,691 appropriated under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The application generally describes the proposed program activities for the 4-year grant period and the types of programs for which funding will be used.

This application is required to be made available for a 30-day period for public review and comment. Requests for copies may be made via e-mail to: funding@dcjs.ny.gov. Requests may also be made in writing or by calling the Division offices during regular business hours. If a paper copy of the application is requested, a payment of \$0.25 per page will be due to the Division in accordance with Public Officer Law ' 87.

For further information, contact:
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This notice was prepared and submitted by:

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April 24, 2012
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