

## ATTACHMENT 1

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY RECOVERY ACT: EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FORMULA PROGRAM

#### PROGRAM NARRATIVE

#### 1. OUTLINE OF TYPES OF PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED

Funding awarded under the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program State Formula program (JAG Recovery) will be used to implement New Jersey's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods. For a listing of the programs funded under New Jersey's JAG Recovery, see Attachment 2, Budget and Budget Narrative.

#### 2. BRIEF ANALYSIS OF THE NEED FOR THE PROGRAMS

The global economic recession has hit every level of New Jersey's government. This October, Governor Corzine specified four areas of action: immediate assistance, including foreclosure prevention, energy costs, and food costs; short-term job creation, focusing on expediting public works projects and providing strong incentives for new job creation; long-term business climate changes, specifically on changes in tax policy and the cultivation of alternative energy projects, and; continued fiscal responsibility on the state level by keeping state spending in check. As of February 2009, New Jersey's budget deficit requires \$3.6 billion in budget cuts. State revenue collections were \$526 million below projections from the beginning of the year and are \$1.33 billion under projections for the current fiscal year. The decline in revenue will cause a \$2.8 billion shortfall by the end of the fiscal year. Coupled with an additional \$800 million in needed spending, \$3.6 billion in cuts are needed to close to balance the budget.

JAG Recovery will provide New Jersey with an opportunity to fund important local and state criminal justice initiatives, focusing on statewide efforts under New Jersey's Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods. JAG Recovery funding will be awarded to state and local agencies to meet important public safety and criminal justice needs for our residents. JAG Recovery funds will help ensure critical services in keeping our communities safe.

Violent crime represents one of New Jersey's most significant public safety problems. According to New Jersey's latest 2007 Uniform Crime Report (UCR), violent crimes account for 13% of the total crime index, and violent crimes account for 30% of index arrests. Persons under 21 years of age account for 26% of all arrests. Criminal street gangs are responsible for a major part of this violence. Gang violence results in many youth in our cities left seriously wounded or dead. In 2006, homicide was the second leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 15 and 24. The 2007 UCR indicates:

14% of all murder victims were between the ages of 15-19,  
23% of all murder victims were between the ages of 20-24, and  
17% of all murder victims were between the ages of 25-29.

Thus, 54% of all murder victims were between the ages of 15 to 29. Showing an increasing of 3% since last year, 14% percent of all 2007 murders were drug or gang related.

Gang violence strikes innocent victims who happen to be at the wrong place at the wrong time, perpetuating a generalized fear in our communities. In 2007, 55% of murders occurred on public streets and highways - - an increase of 7% since 2006. In one year, crime in 2007 was marked with:

1% increase in the use of firearms in 68% of all murders and in 13% of felony murders.  
27% increase of juvenile arrests for murder.  
2% increase of robberies as a motive for felony murders (with a 88% rate).  
20% increase of convenience store robberies.

Despite a decrease of 4% in New Jersey's overall crime rate from 2006 to 2007, the above figures confirm disturbing trends of rising drug and gang related murders, and increasing juvenile murder rates and murders in public streets and highways.

To combat the state's serious crime problems, New Jersey's Governor Jon Corzine released the Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods (the Crime Plan) in October 2007. New Jersey's statewide strategic plan focuses on three components critical to addressing violent crime: enforcement, prevention and reentry. The plan is based on increased accountability for all state, county and local law criminal justice agencies through a collaborative, data-driven, action-oriented, outcome-based process. Working groups, established for each category, met with experts in their respective fields, representatives of state and local governments, law enforcement, community-based organizations, education, social service agencies, and representation from the private sector to coordinate resources and to ensure that a collaborative, multi-pronged approach to enhanced public safety was formulated.

The Directors of Enforcement, Prevention and Reentry were established in the Office of the Attorney General to oversee the implementation of each major component of the Crime Plan. JAG Recovery funds will be used to implement this statewide Crime Plan. A brief summary of highlights of the statewide strategy follows:

a. Enforcement

The Attorney General issued a blueprint to state, county and local law enforcement agencies for effective and focused efforts to combat violent crime, and, in particular gang and gun-related violence. The enforcement component or strategy encourages and assists law enforcement agencies to move towards intelligence-led, data-driven policing strategies. The enforcement strategy requires municipal law enforcement agencies to collect and provide crime data on

a monthly basis to a central repository (the State Police Regional Operations Intelligence Center “ROIC”).

A Criminal Analysis Team will be established to analyze the crime data. Primarily focusing on crime analysis at the State-level, the team will also assist local police departments in the development of accurate, timely and effective data analysis.

Local law enforcement agencies are performing local assessments of gang problems and creating interagency task forces to target violent gangs and gun violence.

Given the nexus between narcotics, criminal gangs, guns and gun violence, the 21 county multi-jurisdictional narcotics task forces were reconfigured to focus their efforts on gun trafficking and shootings, street gangs, narcotics and combating witness intimidation through modified or newly created witness protection programs. The task forces continue to target drug enforcement consistent with the task forces’ larger mission of suppressing gang and gun violence. This evolutionary transformation of the task forces produces changes in the identification of targets for those who use or carry firearms or employ violence as part of their drug-trafficking activities.

Under a historic agreement between New Jersey and the ATF, the first-in-the-nation, this state can more effectively trace the sources of illegal firearms through real-time electronic access to the ATF’s E-Trace system. The New Jersey State Police has direct access to national firearms purchasing data. The system streamlines the tracing of illegal firearms back to the source giving New Jersey a better chance to locate and arrest firearm offenders. As part of this initiative, the Attorney General issued a directive to all police departments requiring gun tracing information to be forwarded into E-Trace.

b. Prevention

As part of a comprehensive approach to violence and gang membership, the crime plan includes a prevention component or strategy designed to stem the tide of youth involvement with guns, gangs and delinquency. The primary goal of the prevention plan is to reduce youth involvement in the criminal justice system by partnering with local government and communities to reduce the impact of risk factors while increasing the protective factors for young people.

A Prevention Coordinating Council is responsible for ensuring that information critical to the prevention strategy is shared among state departments, agencies and with local governments and public stakeholders. A Prevention Grant Coordination Sub-committee, comprised of representatives of key state agencies, has recommended the establishment of a Resource Management Council to share

information regularly on current and future prevention and intervention funding. This mechanism will reduce duplication of efforts and leverage prevention resources.

In collaboration with this strategy, state agencies collectively allocated more than \$35 million in support of prevention programs. JAG Recovery funds will be used to develop and expand evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that are designed to improve outcomes for at-risk and court involved youth. The federally-funded County Community Justice Coordinators will continue to assist with the development, implementation, leverage and evaluation of crime prevention strategies in local communities.

c. Reentry

The reentry strategy is aimed at reducing recidivism rates to improve public safety and save resources. Initiatives under the reentry strategy include: the creation of a Reentry Oversight Committee and a Reentry Demonstration Project; increasing support and opportunities for youth returning from Juvenile Justice Institutions; addressing the needs of reentering ex-offenders through system wide changes; and modifying certain barriers to reintegration. Programs supporting the reentry strategy will focus on services in the areas of education, treatment, housing, employment, and/or healthcare needs of individuals returning from prison to communities.

Currently, the Reentry Director partnered with the state Department of Corrections, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and the State Parole Board to reduce recidivism rates through education, counseling, job training and job readiness programs.

The demonstration project, Another Chance, involves more than 1,300 inmates who will be returning to Newark, Trenton, or Camden. The project coordinates initiatives that begin while an offender is in prison and continue after release. Another Chance is designed to assess how well prisoners successfully re-enter society when they are supported by intensive diagnostic assessments, along with expanded educational, vocational and job-coaching programs.

To be successful in the fight against violent crime, the New Jersey's Reentry strategy recognizes crime should be attacked from all angles and form partnerships at all levels of government and including grassroots organizations. The strategy calls for a full range of services for adult and juvenile ex-offenders to become productive members of their communities - - one stop career centers and break the cycle of crime and reentry.

d. Criminal Justice System Improvements

New Jersey is on the forefront of integrated criminal justice information systems resulting from the efforts of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Policy Committee which followed a systematic, long-range plan. Established in 1991, the CJIS Committee meets monthly to plan and discuss projects funded under JAG and other sources of federal financial support. The CJIS Committee includes representatives from the Department of Law and Public Safety, the Office of the Attorney General, the Division of State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the Juvenile Justice Commission, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the Department of Corrections (DOC), the Office of Information Technology, the Office of Management and Budget, the State Chiefs of Police, and County Jail Wardens. To improve system efficiencies, JAG Recovery funds support interfaces to facilitate information sharing among local and state criminal justice agencies and systems.

3. COORDINATION OF EFFORTS INVOLVING JAG & RELATED JUSTICE FUNDS

The Directors of Enforcement, Prevention and Reentry have each established councils for the implementation, coordination and leveraging of resources. Councils have wide-ranging involvement from experts in their respective fields. Representation include participation from state and local governments, non-profits, community agencies and agencies in the private sector.

The Program Development Section within the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) has direct responsibility for the administration of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant (RSAT), and the federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program (BVP). In addition, DCJ oversees two competitive programs: BJA's the Targeting Violent Crime Initiative under the 2007 Byrne Discretionary Program, and OJJDP's Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program. On behalf of the New Jersey U.S. Attorney's Office, DCJ is the fiscal agent for the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Program and the federal Anti-Gang Initiatives. DCJ also oversees New Jersey's Safe and Secure Communities Program (provides funding for additional police officers to address crime in a community oriented manner), Operation CeaseFire (multi-pronged initiative to address shootings, involves law enforcement and community outreach components) and the state-funded Body Armor Replacement Program (provides state funding to purchase body armor).

DCJ also works in tandem with the other federal programs operating in New Jersey:

- ▶ Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) - New Jersey has a unique partnership with GREAT implementers for the provision of in-state training of officers. To date, over 365 officers have been trained to teach the curriculum in schools and communities throughout the state.
- ▶ Weed and Seed Programs - Originated in Trenton, this highly successful program has been adopted by many cities across the state to meet the needs of local communities.

Working through the County Prosecutors' Offices in the counties of Camden, Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Passaic and Sussex, Community Justice Coordinators

serve as the bridge between law enforcement and the community to identify problems, coordinate resources and plan solutions. The County Coordinators are evaluating and implementing crime and gang prevention strategies to help reduce the number and severity of gang-related incidents within their communities.

The County Prosecutors' Association meet monthly to share information, discuss emerging problems and policy issues. Through complimentary grant-related programs, the prosecutors play an integral role in the implementation of the State's Enforcement and Prevention strategies.

The Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General, Grant's Office convenes a weekly consolidated grants meeting for the purpose of ensuring coordination of resources and services within the department.

#### 4. PROJECT OBJECTIVES & MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

- a. Jobs Retained and Created with JAG Recovery Funding
  - i. Increase number of jobs retained during the grant period.
  - ii. Increase number of jobs created during the grant period.
  
- b. Law Enforcement
  - i. Encourage law enforcement agencies to move towards intelligence-led, data driven policing strategies.
    - (1) Increase the number of law enforcement agencies collecting, analyzing and sharing intelligence data.
    - (2) Increase the number of law enforcement agencies following intelligence-led, data driven policing models.
    - (3) Invest in investigative, surveillance, and interrogation technologies facilitating intelligence-led policing models.
    - (4) Increase the number of violent crime arrests (gang, gun and narcotics) in designated high-crime areas.
    - (5) Reduce violent crime (gang, gun and narcotics) in designated high-crime areas.
  
  - ii. Enhance prosecutions of firearm offenses in high-crime rate counties.
    - (1) Conduct threat assessments
    - (2) Increase gang, narcotics and firearm prosecutions.
  
  - iii. Expand Safe Fugitive Surrender Programs in conjunction with the Office of the U.S. Marshall.
  
- c. Prevention
  - i. Reduce number of youth involvement in gangs, guns and delinquency.
    - (1) Support evidence-based programs to provide workforce readiness skills, job placement, education and youth development.

- (2) Expand intervention services/programs offered to gang-involved youth.
- (3) Link law enforcement, corrections, probation and parole agencies for juvenile and adult referrals to programs.
- (4) Facilitate law enforcement, community and school partnerships for truancy prevention programs.

d. Reentry

i. Reduce recidivism.

- (1) Support evidence-based programs to provide workforce readiness skills, job placement, and education.
- (2) Expand intervention services/programs offered to offenders and their families.
- (3) Link law enforcement, corrections, probation and parole agencies for juvenile and adult offender referrals to programs.
- (4) Support the deployment of wrap-around social services and workforce readiness skills to probationers and parolees offered at discharge and day reporting centers.
- (5) Provide family re-unification services to juvenile offenders.
- (6) Support discharge planning programs for offenders with mental health needs.

5. ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITIES AND COMPETENCIES

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 Directors of Enforcement, Prevention and Reentry report directly to the Attorney General. Additionally, 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, Program Development/Grants Section. New Jersey's SAA, working collaboratively with the Crime Plan Directors, is uniquely positioned to assume a leadership and oversight role in developing and implementing JAG Recovery 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 coordination of services.

In addition to grants administration, 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.

The Department of Law and Public Safety further coordinates grant resources through the Department's Consolidated Grants Management Office. Grant 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.

a. Tracking of Drawdowns and Grant Expenditures

The Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) follows appropriate New Jersey Office of Management and Budget (State OMB) requirements to administer JAG Recovery funds. DCJ uses the New Jersey Comprehensive Financial System (NCFS) for all JAG accounts. Adjustments, transactions and disbursements are processed through NCFS.

In accordance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and federal OMB guidance, the State OMB developed a NJCFS account codes structure to be used for all accounts established for appropriated Recovery Act funds. State OMB directs state agencies to make frequent adjustments in NJCFS to ensure the accuracy of the Recovery Act reporting.

Accordingly, a separate NCFS account will be created for the JAG Recovery grant award which references the unique federal CFDA number assigned to the JAG Recovery funds.

JAG Recovery funds will be reported via quarterly fiscal reports, form SF 269, to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Upon New Jersey's receipt of an executed award from BJA, the full amount of the award will be drawn down in advance and deposited into a separate interest bearing account. Interest will be posted annually to this account according to State OMB determination.

Subgrantees are also required to comply with all federal requirements and maintain separate accounting for JAG Recovery funds. Subgrantees develop Approved Budgets to conduct JAG Recovery programs. To request reimbursement, Subgrantees complete monthly/quarterly Detailed Cost Statements (DCS) and State payment vouchers. This documentation is reviewed and approved by SAA staff and then sent to a fiscal analyst for processing/payment. Each subgrantee payment is coded with the CFDA number assigned for JAG Recovery funds. The subgrantee must prepare a Grant Adjustment Request form and receive written approval for changes in the Approved Budget in excess of \$100.

6. **ACTIVITIES THAT CAN BE STARTED & COMPLETED EXPEDITIOUSLY, IN A MANNER THAT MAXIMIZES JOB CREATION/RETENTION AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS.**

- Multi-Jurisdictional Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force
- County Prosecutor Gangs, Guns and Narcotics Task Force Support
- License Plate Readers for Investigations Initiative
- Local Violent Crime Suppression Initiative
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- National-Model Youth Development Job Training Programs
- Evidence Based Truancy Prevention Programs



- Next Step Discharge Center
- Jail-Based Strategy Day Reporting Centers and Discharge Planning
- Fugitive Safe Surrender - North, Central and South
- LiveScan

7. TIMELINE OR PROJECT PLAN

<b>Objectives/Activities</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
Jobs Retained	On going from start of project
Law Enforcement	On going from start of project
Prevention	On going from start of project
Reentry	On going from start of project

8. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The customized JAG Programmatic Measures will be utilized for each funded program under the JAG Recovery Act. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- a. How many jobs were retained during the reporting period/cumulative.
- b. How many jobs were created during the reporting period/cumulative.
- c. Number of individuals receiving services during the reporting period.
- d. Number of individuals who completed programming during the reporting period.
- e. Number of individuals who provided programming during the reporting period.
- f. Total number of communities and/or organizations receiving services during the reporting period.
- g. Number of communities who completed programming during the reporting period.
- h. Number of communities who provided programming during the reporting period.
- i. Number of hours of programming provided to individuals or communities during the reporting period.
- j. Number of task force partners that are sharing resources/information and strategies.
- k. Amount of funds used to provide training during the reporting period.
- l. Number of criminal justice staff who participated in the training.
- m. Number of (individuals) organizations, communities/agencies participating in the training.
- n. The number of individuals (by related crime) arrested prior to the start of the period.
- o. Total number of individuals arrested (by related crime) at the end of the reporting period.
- p. Number of reported crimes (targeted by JAG Recovery funds) at the start of the period.

- q. Number of reported crimes (targeted by JAG Recovery funds) at the end of the period.
- r. Number of units that report improved efficiency (for systems improvements).
- s. Number of units that report improved efficiency (for contract support).
- t. Number of units that receive contractual support as a result of JAG Recovery Funds.
- u. Amount of funds awarded to purchase equipment or supplies.
- v. Indicate the types and amounts of equipment/supplies purchased with JAG Recovery funds during the reporting period.
- w. Number of staff who reported improved efficiency in job performance during the reporting period (because of purchase of equipment and supplies).
- x. Number of organizations/units or departments whose information systems improvements started in the reporting period.