

## **Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Stimulus Action Plan**

### **Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program; CFDA #16.803 (\$36.2 million)**

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding assistance to state and local jurisdictions. The long-standing program was chosen by Congress as the vehicle to channel \$2 billion in funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to counter decreasing government revenues and anticipated crime increases in response to the national economic recession.

The JAG program supports crime control initiatives throughout all components of the criminal justice system, from the front-end (crime prevention) to the back end (crime victim services, prisoner re-entry). Seven broad purpose areas allow projects in: (1) prevention and education, (2) law enforcement, (3) drug treatment and enforcement, (4) prosecution and courts, (5) corrections and community corrections, (6) crime victim and witness (other than compensation), and (7) planning, evaluation and technology improvement. These projects may provide services directly to individuals and/or communities and or improve the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes and procedures.

The JAG program is administered on behalf of the state by the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Under JAG guidelines for Georgia, at least 60 percent of the funds must go toward locally based projects and up to 40 percent may be used for state sponsored ventures. The CJCC has announced its approach to the Recovery Act JAG Program on its web site: <http://cjcc.ga.gov>.

Approximately \$17.5 million will be made available to units of local government. Judicial circuits have been selected as the geographical basis for the purpose of defining a formula-based allocation, which is comprised of an equitable base amount plus enhancements attributed to property crime data as reported in the 2007 Uniform Crime Report to the National Crime Information Center. CJCC encourages qualifying officials in a judicial circuit to form a unified planning group to determine how the funds can best be used within the circuit community. A single circuit application submitted by a unified planning group will be considered and funded prior to grant applications where multiple units of local government submit individual requests for circuit funds. Multiple applications from a circuit will be evaluated competitively against each other. A local government can administer a portion of its award on behalf of one or more non-profit organizations that participate in a project.

A *Letter of Intent* to apply for Recovery Act JAG funding is required by June 1, 2009. A unified planning group should submit one *Letter of Intent* on behalf of its officials. Individual *Letters of Intent* from multiple units of local government or coalitions of units should be submitted where a unified planning group is not formed. Access to the grant application system will be provided after the *Letters of Intent* have been reviewed by the CJCC.

Funds remaining after allocation of the \$17.5 million will be targeted at local governmental victim services programs and priorities identified through the Safe Georgia Policy Collaborative, comprised of state-level criminal justice and public safety agencies, and will be announced as separate solicitations.

**Recovery Act Victim Services Grant Program**  
**Crime Victim Assistance Grant Program; CFDA #16.801 (\$1.4 million)**  
**Violence Against Women Formula Grant; CFDA #16.588 (\$4.0 million)**

The State of Georgia has been awarded Recovery Act funds through two existing formula grant programs that address the needs of victims of crime. The Crime Victim Assistance Grant Program, under the Office for Victims of Crime of the U.S. Department of Justice, directly supports community-based organizations serving crime victims and the STOP (Services/Training/Officers/Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhance services and advocacy to victims, improve the criminal justice system's response, and promote effective law enforcement, prosecution, and judicial strategies to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The two victim services grant programs are administered on behalf of the state by the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The CJCC is combining these awards with additional funds (\$1.5 million) directed from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program into the **Recovery Act Victim Services Grant Program** to support community-based nongovernmental programs and criminal justice (law enforcement, prosecution and court) programs. Potential recipients include domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child abuse/advocacy programs and victim service units in law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, hospitals and social service agencies. The Council has announced a solicitation for funding proposals on its web site: <http://cjcc.ga.gov>. All victim service agencies that have been certified by the CJCC as eligible to receive local victim assistance add-on fines (5% Funds) are eligible to submit an application.