



NEWS RELEASE

*Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Louisiana*

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**For Immediate Release
June 16, 2009**

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS
GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Deadline for grant proposals set for June 23, 2009

**Programs directed at targeting top offenders or
neighborhood reclamation to be favored**

The United States Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana and the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Task Force announce the **availability of approximately \$97,191.00 for grants**. Of that amount, approximately **\$87,472.00** will be designated for grants under the **Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Initiative** to fund new and/or current comprehensive gun crime reduction strategies and/or gang violence reduction strategies. Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to combat gun violence by establishing partnerships among local, state and federal entities to implement a multi-faceted strategy to

deter and punish gun violence. PSN is a nationwide commitment to reduce violent crime by networking local programs that target gun crime, and providing those programs with the tools and resources they need to succeed. The Anti-Gang Initiative is designed to enhance PSN task force efforts to combat gangs by building on effective PSN strategies and partnerships.

Single or multi-grantee grants will be considered within the total authorized funds of approximately \$87,472.00, and will be awarded to community programs within the Western District of Louisiana that address:

- (1) Gang prevention and enforcement;
- (2) Gun violence prevention, community outreach, and education;
- (3) Enforcement, adjudication, and supervision programs; or
- (4) Other innovative, related projects.

The goal of this grant program is to create a comprehensive, strategic approach to effectively reduce local gun and gang violence.

The following types of organizations are eligible to submit a proposal applying for grants for 2009 funding:

- (1) Non-profit organizations;
- (2) Units of state and local government. Units of state and local government are considered to be:

- (a) Parishes; and,
- (b) Special units designated by law to exercise governmental functions, excluding school boards. This includes tribal governments that exercise law enforcement functions.

Grants cannot be made for gun-lock distributions, gun buy-back programs, air-time to run certain national public service announcements, or for payments to cooperating witnesses and informants.

Grant proposals must be submitted to the U. S. Attorney's Office, *ATTN: PSN Grant Competition*, 800 Lafayette Street, Suite 2200, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501, no later than 5:00 p.m. (CDT) on Tuesday, June 23, 2009.

Interested applicants may contact Lisa Alwert, PSN Paralegal, U. S. Attorney's Office at (337) 262-6618 or 1-800-676-6992 for additional information. Please also visit the website of the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Louisiana at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/law/programs/projectsafe.html> as well as www.psn.gov and <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/psn.html> for more particulars on these grants.