



U.S. Department of Justice FY 2014 Budget Request

GUN SAFETY

+ \$382.1 million in Program Increases

FY 2014 Overview

Gun violence has touched every state, county, city, and town in America. While the United States has seen the devastating examples of it over the years, since December's horrific events in Newtown, Connecticut, the need to address this problem has taken center stage. The Department has been working with the Administration to formulate concrete, common-sense recommendations for reducing gun violence and preventing future tragedies.

The Administration has proposed a range of legislative remedies – along with 23 executive actions – to address mass shootings and reduce gun violence. The Department of Justice is working to implement a number of those executive actions.

These implementation actions include working to strengthen the national background check system by addressing gaps in the federal and state records currently available in NICS. Those gaps significantly hinder the ability of NICS to quickly confirm whether a prospective purchaser is prohibited from acquiring a firearm. To help fix this problem, the Department is providing \$20 million in grants during FY 2013 to states to assist them in finding ways to make more records available, especially mental health records. In FY 2014, the Department is requesting \$50 million in grant funding to further assist states in making more records available in the NICS system.

We are also taking a hard look at our federal laws and our enforcement priorities to ensure that we are doing everything possible at the federal level to keep firearms away from traffickers and other criminals. As the President directed, ATF has recently published guidance to federal agencies on how to trace recovered firearms. To further support the enforcement of federal laws and additional federal, state, and local trace requests, the Department is requesting \$51.1 million for ATF to support additional investigative and regulatory resources as well as improvements in ATF's tracing system. The Department is also requesting \$22 million, for a total of \$50 million, to enhance the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) and better support law enforcement's ability to connect incidents of criminal firearms use.

And while most of the Department's efforts will be focused on keeping guns out of the wrong hands, we also want to help those on the ground prevent and mitigate violent situations when they do occur. To this end, OJP, with the support of the FBI, will be providing a new specialized training course for active shooter situations for law enforcement officers, first responders, and school officials. The Department is requesting an increase of \$13 million, for a total of \$15 million, to support this training and other officer safety initiatives. To further prevent future tragedies like the one in Newtown, the Department is also requesting \$150 million in grant funding to enable states to hire additional school resource officers and to purchase school security equipment.

The Department recognizes that gun violence is not just a federal problem, and our law enforcement partners at the state, local, and tribal levels are doing some of the hardest and most important work to keep our people safe and our cities, neighborhoods, and schools secure. Working together on these and other efforts, we will help reduce gun violence and prevent future tragedies.

Program Increases

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

- **Enforcement, Inspections, and Tracing: \$51.1 million and 255 positions (160 agents)**
This program increase will enhance ATF's ability to enforce existing firearms laws and perform regulatory oversight. The increase provides 160 additional ATF agents for criminal enforcement efforts and 60 additional Industry Operations Inspectors to further support ATF's regulatory oversight responsibilities. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are \$876.5 million.
- **National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN): \$22 million and 0 positions**
This program increase will enhance ATF's ability to collect, report, and share ballistic intelligence with Federal, state, local and Tribal law enforcement partners to identify, target, disrupt, and dismantle violent criminals, including serial shooters. The funding will support the replacement of outdated equipment and software upgrades that will enable firearms examiners to more easily discern distinct markings on the cartridge casings and link evidence for separate cases. Funding will also be used to support work with the State and local law enforcement agencies and laboratories to collect ballistic hit information to provide leads to Firearms Intelligence Groups for investigations and document successful prosecutions as a result of NIBIN. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are \$28.0 million.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

- **NICS Expansion: \$100.0 million and 524 positions**
This program enhancement will double the capacity of the existing NICS system. These expansions are vital in ensuring that the NICS system can support a Universal Background Check requirement, which is expected to double gross NICS transactions. This expansion will allow the NICS IT system to handle twice to gross transaction load it currently does. The expansion also doubles the population of NICS examiners and call center capacity to ensure the FBI has sufficient personnel to manage the additional transaction requirement. FY 2014 current services for this initiative are \$68.4 million.

Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

- **Gun Safety Technology: \$2.0 million and 0 positions**
This initiative will encourage the development of innovative gun safety technology. The enhancement supports the Administrations challenge to the private sector to develop innovative and cost-effective gun safety technology. The one time funding for this initiative will provide prizes for those technologies that are proven to be reliable and effective. This will be funded from OJP's 2% research set-aside. There are no current services for this program.
- **The Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability Initiative (VALOR): \$13.0 million and 0 positions**
The VALOR initiative is designed to create alert, knowledgeable officers and encourage supervisors and executives to focus on officer safety issues. Components of the program include data collection on specific safety issues, interviews with offenders and officers, assessment of threats, and case studies. This initiative also includes "after-action" reviews as a technical assistance service to law enforcement in the United States, as well as lessons learned and consultations. The goal of this initiative is reduced officer injuries and death, and OJP expects these efforts will reach thousands of front-line personnel, supervisors, and law enforcement executives. Funding for this program will be increased by \$13 million and will include \$7 million to help law enforcement and first responders address incidents of active shooters. Current services for this program are \$2 million.
- **National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP): \$44.0 million and 0 positions**
This program increase will provide a total of \$50 million in grants to improve the submission of state criminal and mental health records to NICS (to be funded through NCHIP) – with a special emphasis on grants to states that will coordinate with their criminal and civil court systems to improve the submission of mental health records. At the same time, it is anticipated Byrne Justice Assistance Grant penalties for states failing to achieve completeness in records submissions will begin to be applied. Current services for this program are \$6.0 million.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

- **Comprehensive School Safety: \$150 million for the COPS Comprehensive School Safety Program**, comprised of grants and technical assistance to help develop school safety plans, improve equipment and systems needed to provide for enhanced school safety, and hire school safety personnel. Funding is available for the hiring of school safety personnel, including school resource officers, civilian public safety officers, school psychologists, social workers, and counselors. This program will be run with assistance from the Department of Education (and with flexible transfer authority), with the purpose of supporting demand-driven grants, with allocations of funding for specific types of personnel driven by local needs and the quality of plans. Funding may also be used to support training for personnel hired to ensure that their presence in the schools does not lead to unnecessarily harsh discipline and arrests for youth misbehaving, and that they will support other school personnel in implementing evidence-based positive behavior strategies. There are no FY 2014 current services for this initiative.

FY 2014 Program Increase Summary
(Amount in \$000s)

Component/Initiative	Positions	Attys/Agts	Amount
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm and Explosives	255	160	\$73,078
Firearms Enforcement, Inspections, and Tracing	255	160	51,078
National Integrated Ballistics Information Network	0	0	22,000
Federal Bureau of Investigation	524	0	\$100,000
NICS Expansion	524	0	100,000
Office of Justice Programs	0	0	\$59,000
National Criminal History Improvement Program	0	0	44,000
Gun Safety Technology	0	0	2,000
VALOR	0	0	13,000
Community Oriented Policing Services	0	0	\$150,000
School Safety Initiative	0	0	150,000
Grand Total, Program Increases	779	160	\$382,078