DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Under the President’s leadership, we have turned our economy around and created 14 million jobs. Our unemployment rate is below five percent for the first time in almost eight years. Nearly 18 million people have gained health coverage as the Affordable Care Act has taken effect. And we have dramatically cut our deficits by almost three-quarters and set our Nation on a more sustainable fiscal path.

Yet while it is important to take stock of our progress, this Budget is not about looking back at the road we have traveled. It is about looking forward and making sure our economy works for everybody, not just those at the top. It is about choosing investments that not only make us stronger today, but also reflect the kind of country we aspire to be – the kind of country we want to pass on to our children and grandchildren.

The Budget makes critical investments in our domestic and national security priorities while adhering to the bipartisan budget agreement signed into law last fall, and it lifts sequestration in future years so that we continue to invest in our economic future and our national security. It also drives down deficits and maintains our fiscal progress through smart savings from health care, immigration, and tax reforms.

The Budget shows that the President and the Administration remain focused on meeting our greatest challenges – including accelerating the pace of innovation to tackle climate change and find new treatments for devastating diseases; giving everyone a fair shot at opportunity and economic security; and advancing our national security and global leadership – not only for the year ahead, but for decades to come.

The Department of Justice is charged with enforcing laws and defending the interests of the United States; protecting the public against foreign and domestic threats; providing Federal leadership in preventing and controlling crime; punishing those guilty of unlawful behavior; and ensuring the fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans. The Budget provides $29 billion for the department in 2017, $265 million above the 2016 enacted level.

Funding Highlights:

The President’s FY 2017 Budget provides $29 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Justice for core law enforcement needs, safe and secure prisons, and other Federal, State, Tribal, and local programs. This includes:
Reducing gun violence by hiring 200 new special agents and investigators for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); making critical enhancements to the National Instant Criminal Background Check system (NICS); and increasing our capacity to analyze forensic ballistic data for criminal investigations.

Combating violent extremism by supporting community-led efforts to improve prevention and intervention efforts through research, adoption of evidence-based programs, training development, technical assistance, and demonstration projects.

Expanding mental health programming in prisons to improve post-incarceration outcomes.

Promoting community policing efforts that are designed to build and sustain trust between law enforcement and the people they serve.

Providing for a new, modern, consolidated FBI headquarters facility to allow the FBI to perform its critical national security, intelligence, and law enforcement missions.

Combating opioid misuse for treatment, prevention, and high priority interdiction efforts.

Reforms:

Incentivizes criminal justice reform in the States through a 10-year investment strategy designed to reduce violent crime, build community trust, and reverse practices that have led to over-incarceration.

Reduces Gun Violence. The Administration is committed to reducing gun violence. The President’s FY2017 Budget supports this commitment by providing funding to hire 200 new special agents and investigators for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); enhance the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN); and modernize and improve the National Instant Background Check System (NICS). Improvements to the NICS include hiring additional examiners to reduce overall response times and begin processing criminal background checks 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These initiatives are supported by both the FBI and the U.S. Digital Services (USDS). The Federal Government will also conduct and sponsor research into gun safety technology to reduce the frequency of harm from accidental discharge or unauthorized use.

Combats Violent Extremism. The Department of Justice’s Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) initiative is an Administration priority and directly aligns with and bolsters the United Nations’ efforts to address foreign terrorist fighters. The Budget provides additional resources to support community-led efforts, including $4 million to conduct research targeted toward developing a better understanding of violent extremism and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective prevention and intervention; $6 million to support flexible, locally-developed CVE models; $2 million to develop training and provide technical assistance; and $3 million for demonstration projects that enhance the ability of law enforcement agencies nationwide to
partner with local residents, business owners, community groups, and other stakeholders to counter violent extremism.

**Improves Post-Incarceration Outcomes.** The Administration will continue efforts to reduce post-incarceration barriers to successful reentry—for example, by expanding mental health and substance abuse treatment programs, improving work and educational opportunities inside prison, and providing grant support for community-based reentry programs. In addition, the Administration has also established a working group to study and reform the use of restrictive housing in prisons. The Budget includes $24 million to begin implementing the working group’s proposals, which include expanding mental health treatment opportunities in federal prisons, including refitting existing infrastructure.

**Promotes Community Policing.** The President’s Community Policing Initiative aims to build and sustain trust between law enforcement and the people they serve. The Budget includes $97 million to expand training and oversight for local law enforcement, increase the use of body-worn cameras, provide additional opportunities for police department reform, and facilitate community and law enforcement engagement in 10 pilot sites, with additional technical assistance and training for dozens of communities and police departments across the Nation.

**Incentivizes Justice Reform.** The Administration continues to support criminal justice reform that simultaneously enhances public safety, reduces incarcerations, and builds trust between the justice system and the community it serves. The Budget provides a $5 billion investment—$500 million per year over 10 years—for a new 21st Century Justice Initiative. The program will focus on achieving three objectives: reducing violent crime; reversing practices that have led to unnecessarily long sentences and unnecessary incarceration; and building community trust.

**Strengthens Cybersecurity.** Ensuring that Federal Government systems, networks, technology and data are protected against unlawful intrusion, criminal penetration and prohibited exfiltration remains a top priority, as does the investigation of cyber threat actors. The Budget provides approximately $900 million for the Department to defend and protect its networks against computer intrusion, mitigate insider threats, investigate and prosecute criminal and terrorist cyber activity and threats, and guard against identity and intellectual property theft and financial fraud. Within the total, an increase of $175 million is provided to the FBI for cyber investigation investments, including $85 million in upgrades to technical investigative tools, networks, and enterprise connectivity; and $52 million for insider threat, foreign intelligence and intelligence sharing technology. Finally, $38 million is provided for anti-encryption technology and research to assist the FBI and its law enforcement partners to overcome obstacles in pursuing lawful intercepts in a world where communications technology increasingly makes data virtually undecipherable.

**Funds New FBI Headquarters Facility.** The Administration seeks $1.4 billion to support the full consolidation of the FBI headquarters operations in a new, modern facility that will bring together all of the existing disparate headquarters locations and functions. Of this total funding $646 million is sought for the Department’s budget and will be combined with $759 million in the General Services Administration’s (GSA) Federal Building Fund (FBF). This substantial funding commitment illustrates the Administration’s recognition of the importance of the FBI as
a critical member of the United States intelligence community, as well as its role in national security and in enforcing the Nation’s laws and protecting civil liberties.

**Combats Opioid Misuse.** The Budget includes $208 million to combat opioid misuse, which is $33 million or 16 percent above the 2016 enacted level. Funding is proposed for treatment, prevention, and high priority interdiction efforts including additional funding for prescription drug monitoring, residential drug treatment programs, and additional DEA heroin focused enforcement groups.