Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

FY 2020 Budget Request At A Glance

| FY 2019 Continuing Resolution - Discretionary: $2,077.3 million (711 positions) |
| FY 2020 Budget Request - Discretionary: $1,840.0 million (644 positions) |
| Program Change/Tech Adj. - Discretionary: -$237.3 million (-11.4%) (-67 positions) |
| FY 2019 Continuing Resolution - Mandatory: $4,534.0 million |
| FY 2020 Budget Request – Mandatory: $2,421.0 million |
| Program Change/Tech Adj. - Mandatory: -$2,113.0 (-46.6%) |

Mission:

The mission of the Office of Justice Programs is to support crime-fighting, law enforcement, and victims by effectively deploying and sharing OJP’s grant funds and other financial and human resources, research, statistics, and national criminal justice experience and leadership with state, local, and tribal criminal justice stakeholders.

Resources:

The FY 2020 budget request for OJP totals $1,840.0 million in discretionary funding, which is $237.3 million below the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution (CR) rate. OJP also requests $2,421.0 million in mandatory funding, which is $2.113 billion below to the FY 2019 CR rate.

Organization:

OJP is headed by an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) who leads OJP, sets programmatic priorities for the agency, and ensures the goals of the Administration and the Department are supported. OJP has six program offices: 1) the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), 2) the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), 3) the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), 4) the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), 5) the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), and 6) the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART). The AAG is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. All other OJP office heads are presidentially appointed.

Personnel:

OJP’s FY 2020 permanent, full-time position level is 644 positions, which includes all positions transferred from the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) under the FY 2020 President’s Budget request.
**FY 2020 Strategy**

OJP works in partnership with the justice community to promote law enforcement officer safety and wellness, prevent and combat crime, address the most pressing justice system challenges, and develop information and tools needed to understand and respond more effectively to crime and other threats to public safety.

Violent crime continues to be a major challenge for many communities. OJP promotes multi-jurisdictional and interdisciplinary programs that help communities prevent and respond to serious crime problems. It also partners with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement leaders to focus on effective approaches to violence reduction strategies. OJP seeks to leverage existing grants, training and technical assistance, and research and statistical findings to bolster law enforcement efforts addressing public safety issues in the nation’s communities.

OJP continues its commitment to promoting officer safety and wellness. Through programs such as VALOR, OJP provides grants and training and technical assistance to the field in areas that include active shooter response, mental health, and other critical officer safety and wellness topics that arise. OJP continues to support programs providing for the purchase of body armor vests and body-worn cameras. OJP will also continue to support opportunities to further address safety, health, and wellness priorities through research and evaluation.

The surge in opioid overdose deaths is a public health emergency and is a public safety crisis. In addition, some states are seeing a resurgence in methamphetamine abuse and addiction. OJP is helping our state, local, and tribal public safety partners confront this challenge by supporting drug courts, which have proven to be effective in reducing recidivism, curbing drug abuse and saving taxpayer dollars. OJP is also supporting the other programs authorized by the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, which include the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program, the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program, Veterans Treatment Courts, Justice and Mental Health Collaborations, and the Hal Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

OJP is working diligently to prevent and address youth crime and delinquency, and assist youth who become involved in the juvenile and criminal justice system. OJP’s programs assist state, local, and tribal juvenile justice systems in using prevention and intervention strategies that address the specific risk and protective factors associated with juvenile crime and delinquency.

OJP plays a leading role in assisting state, local, and tribal efforts to combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children. The Victims of Trafficking Program supports a comprehensive response to the victims of human trafficking, and promotes the work of anti-trafficking task forces based on the proven Enhanced Collaborative Model. The Missing and Exploited Children program supports one of the nation’s most effective responses to online sexual exploitation of children, the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force program. In 2018, OJP also launched the Keep Young Athletes Safe program to address the threat of child sexual exploitation in youth sports.

Improving the way the nation’s criminal justice system responds to victims’ needs is another priority for OJP. Through the Crime Victims Fund, OJP supports crime victims’ compensation and assistance in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, as well as over 4,500 local victim assistance programs.

Through the work of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), OJP provides criminal justice professionals and decision-makers with statistics, program evaluation findings, and innovative crime-fighting tools. The information and technologies developed through OJP’s research programs seek to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal justice programs at all levels of government.

**Program Consolidations**

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) administers grants and provides expertise and other assistance in advancing public safety through the implementation of community policing strategies in jurisdictions of all sizes across the country. Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

In FY 2020, these community policing activities will be transferred to OJP, allowing the Department to centralize and strengthen the partnerships it has with state and local law enforcement and to promote community policing not only through its hiring programs but also through the advancement of strategies for policing innovations and other innovative crime-fighting techniques.

The FY 2020 Budget also proposes to consolidate National Institute of Corrections (NIC) activities within OJP. NIC is currently within the Bureau of the Prisons. A total of $8.0 million and 34 positions is requested, including, $3.0 million for NIJ for corrections-related research and evaluation, which will help to consolidate the Department’s efforts in that area. The remaining $5 million is for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to conduct corrections-related training and technical assistance, which will better align efforts to assist state local and tribal corrections professionals with OJP grant programs.

**Research, Evaluation, and Statistics**

The Research, Evaluation, and Statistics appropriation provides grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for research, development, and evaluation. It also supports development and dissemination of quality statistical and scientific information. This appropriation account funds the work of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The FY 2020 President’s Budget requests $94.5 million for this appropriation.

**Research, Evaluation, and Statistics Set-Aside**

The Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (RES) set-aside will provide up to $51.6 million to support OJP’s research and statistical programs. This discretionary funding set-aside is an important source of additional funding that allows BJS to develop and enhance basic statistical systems to monitor the criminal justice system and NIJ to support research designed to identify best practices within that system. The FY 2020 President’s Budget request level for this set-aside is 3%.
**State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance**

The State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance appropriations account supports OJP programs that provide grant funding and training and technical assistance to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions to address public safety issues. These programs build grantees’ crime-fighting capacity, with particular focus on promoting officer safety, reducing violent crime, and combating substance abuse. This appropriation also supports programs that develop new or innovative responses to significant or emerging public safety and justice system challenges, including addressing the opioid crisis and combating human trafficking. The FY 2020 President's Budget requests $1.482 billion for this account.

**Juvenile Justice**

OJP’s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is committed to helping state, local, and tribal governments address juvenile crime and delinquency and assist children who have been victimized by crime and child abuse. OJJDP programs also promote efforts to improve the functioning of the juvenile justice system; hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions; and provide appropriate reentry services for youth returning to their communities after detention in secure correctional facilities. OJJDP also promotes state, local, and tribal efforts to respond to online child exploitation by supporting the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces through its Missing and Exploited Children (MEC) program. The FY 2020 President’s Budget proposes $238.5 million for this appropriation.

**OJP – Management and Administration**

In FY 2020, OJP continues efforts to streamline and implement efficiencies in its grant administration, management, and oversight functions. The FY 2020 President's Budget includes $245.0 million for management and administration, which includes M&A costs related to the consolidation of the COPS Office and National Institute of Corrections activities within OJP.

**Indian Country Discretionary Programs**

The FY 2020 President's Budget request continues the tribal assistance discretionary funding set-aside of up to 7% (for a total of $127.1 million) to provide grant funds for Indian Country.

**Mandatory Programs**

OJP also has three key mandatory programs to reduce crime, protect the rights of the American people, and enforce federal law.

**Crime Victims Fund (CVF):** The FY 2020 President’s Budget continues to seek CVF reform through modification of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984. The proposal provides a mandatory annual appropriation of $2.3 billion for the Crime Victims Fund (CVF). The CVF provides formula grants to states and territories to support compensation and services for victims of crime. CVF funding also supports training, technical assistance, and demonstration grants designed to improve the capabilities and capacity of victims services providers throughout the nation. Included within this total are $492.5 million for the Office on Violence Against Women; $10 million to support oversight of OVC programs by DOJ’s Office of the Inspector General; and a set aside of up to $115.0 million to support tribal victims’ assistance grants.

**Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program (PSOB):** The FY 2020 President’s Budget requests $115.0 million in mandatory funding for the PSOB Death Benefits Program. The FY 2020 President’s Budget also includes $24.8 million in discretionary funding for the PSOB Disability Benefits and Educational Assistance Programs. These programs provide benefits to survivors of public safety officers killed or fatally injured in the line of duty and to public safety officers permanently disabled by injuries suffered in the line of duty.

**Domestic Victims of Trafficking Fund:** The FY 2020 President's Budget requests $6.0 million in mandatory funding for this program. This program is funded by assessments on non-indigent persons convicted of certain offenses involving sexual abuse or human trafficking. Funding is then used to support programs to assist trafficking victims. In FY 2020, the Department assumes $1 million in collections and a $5 million transfer from the Department of Health and Human Services.

**FY 2020 Priority Programs:**

**Supporting Law Enforcement Efforts to Reduce Violent Crime**

**Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program/Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN):** $100 million in total funding is requested. This program will augment the work of the Department’s ongoing PSN Initiative to create safer neighborhoods through sustained reductions in gang violence and gun crime. When first implemented in 2001, PSN focused on offenders who committed firearms-related violent offenses under federal law. The Department expanded the program in 2006 to address violent street gangs. The current PSN strategy focuses on both the eradication of illegal firearms and the interdiction of violent gang activity, with an emphasis on addressing violent crime in areas with significant problems. Each of the 94 United States Attorney’s Offices (USAOs) is responsible for appointing a PSN Coordinator (usually a seasoned prosecutor with experience in violent crime cases) and developing a PSN anti-violence strategy. This strategy must address these five elements of PSN: (1) strong leadership by the U.S. Attorneys to develop and implement crime-reduction programs; (2) the establishment of strong partnerships by the U.S. Attorneys with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecutors, as well as the community; (3) the development of data-driven strategies to target enforcement efforts in the locations with significant violent crime problems and against the offenders who are driving the violence; (4) a comprehensive approach focusing on both prevention and deterrence efforts; and (5) program accountability by measuring results based on outcome (reduction of violent crime), not merely output (numbers of investigations and prosecutions).

**Public Safety Partnership (PSP):** $5 million in total funding is requested under the Byrne JAG Program. High-crime jurisdictions may benefit from the intensive technical assistance model of the Public Safety Partnership program. The program leverages DOJ resources to reduce violence in cities with the highest violent crime rates in the nation. The partnership includes OJP (including the COPS Office), the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS).

**Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Program:** $405.2 million in total funding is requested. The Byrne JAG
program is the primary source of flexible funding for state, local, and tribal jurisdictions across all components of the criminal justice system, from drug and gang task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, border security, and justice information sharing initiatives. State, local, and tribal governments rely on Byrne JAG funding to address critical gaps in their criminal justice systems in order to increase public safety and prevent crime. This could include overtime pay for officers, vehicles and equipment, information sharing system and technology upgrades, and interagency task force operations. In FY 2020, JAG will also fund other important officer safety programs serving state and local law enforcement, including the Bulletproof Vest Program ($22.5 million), the Body Worn Camera Partnership Program ($22.5 million), the VALOR Initiative ($15.0 million), and a new Southwest Border Rural Law Enforcement and Violent Crime Reduction Initiative ($6.0 million).

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program: $99.0 million in total funding is requested. The primary activity of COPS Hiring is to increase public safety and advance community policing practices by awarding competitive, discretionary grants directly to law enforcement agencies across the United States and its territories. Included within this total is $10 million for the Regional Information Sharing System, $10 million for the POLICE Act, $8 million for Community Policing Development activities, and $2 million for the new Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act program.

Second Chance/First Step Act

The FY 2020 President’s Budget includes $86.5 million to prepare inmates for successful reintegration back into communities through its Second Chance Program.

Second Chance Act: $85 million in total funding is requested. The program provides grants to help corrections and public safety agencies implement reentry programming to help those returning to communities after a prison or jail sentence. Successful reintegration will reduce rates of criminal recidivism, thus increasing public safety. The program provides grants to help state, local, and tribal corrections and public safety agencies implement and improve a variety of reentry services including housing, educational and employment assistance, mentoring relationships, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, and family-support services. Of this amount, $6.0 million will be used to improve probation and parole supervision efforts; and $5.0 million will be dedicated to supporting Children of Incarcerated Parents demonstration grants to test programs that enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for the benefit of children of incarcerated parents.

Second Chance Evaluation: $1.5 million in total funding is requested. In December 2018, the First Step Act was passed, which seeks to reduce recidivism, refine sentencing laws, and eliminate disproportionate penalties for certain crimes. In addition to reauthorizing key Second Chance Act programs, the Act directs the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to evaluate Second Chance Act Programs not later than five years after its enactment. The FY 2020 Budget requests an additional $1.5 million in funding for NIJ to support the first phase of this evaluation, which will focus on identifying appropriate outcome measures for Second Chance Act Programs.

Combating the Opioid Epidemic. OJP’s FY 2020 President’s Budget includes $330 million for programs authorized by the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act (CARA). CARA funds are used to support the following:

Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP): $145.0 million in total funding is requested. COAP, a program developed in FY 2017, aims to reduce opioid misuse and the number of overdose fatalities. It also supports the implementation, enhancement, and proactive use of prescription drug monitoring programs to support clinical decision-making and prevent the misuse and diversion of controlled substances. In FY 2020, the President’s Budget proposes to expand the authorized use of COAP funds to address both opioid and stimulant abuse reduction activities.

Drug Courts Program: $75.0 million in total funding is requested. The Drug Court Program addresses the needs of the drug-addicted, including those affected by the opioid crisis, by providing an alternative to incarceration to addicted offenders who enter the criminal justice system, addressing their addiction through treatment and recovery support services and subsequently reducing recidivism.

Also included as part of the Administration’s commitment to eliminate the scourge of drug abuse and addiction is funding for the following CARA-authorized programs: Residential Substance Abuse Treatment ($30 million), Justice and Mental Health Collaborations ($30 million), the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program ($30 million) and Veterans Treatment Courts ($20 million).

Helping Victims of Crime

The FY 2020 President’s Budget includes $2.3 billion in total CVF mandatory funding and $77 million in total discretionary funding to provide assistance to help victims and combat crime victimization. Included within this funding are the following programs:

CVF Victim Assistance Formula Grants: $1.798 billion in total funding to States and Tribes. Programs supported by CVF focus on providing compensation to victims of crime and survivors, supporting appropriate victims’ service programs and victimization intervention strategies, and building capacity to improve response to crime victims’ needs and increase offender accountability. Of this amount, up to $115.0 million in total resources will be devoted to Tribal Victims of Violence Grants to improve services for tribal victims of crime.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Programs: $492.5 million in total funding is provided by the CVF. By forging state, local, and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, and others, VAWA grant programs help provide victims with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while simultaneously enabling communities to hold offenders accountable.

Human Trafficking: $77.0 million in total discretionary funding is requested. Grantees under this program provide direct services for victims and work to improve the community response to victims of human trafficking through outreach, training, and technical assistance to organizations in the community. Funds support multi-disciplinary task forces that encourage close partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement; victims’ services providers; and community and faith-based organizations.
School Violence

STOP School Violence Act Program: $100 million in total funding. This program aims to prevent or mitigate incidents of school violence by promoting coordinated, evidence-based approaches to school safety that encourage collaboration between schools and local law enforcement. The program supports training for teachers and education for students with the intent to prevent school violence, as well as specialized training for school officials in responding to related mental health crises that may precipitate violent attacks on schools. The program also promotes state, local, and tribal efforts to improve school security through evidence-based school safety programs making use of physical security measures, technology, and coordination with local law enforcement.

Program Funding Adjustments:

The FY 2020 President’s Budget includes the following Program Changes:

A total of $254.0 million in discretionary program increases for the following programs:

- Research, Development, and Evaluation Programs for First Step Act Implementation ($1.5 million)
- COPS Hiring Program ($99.0 million)
- National Criminal History Program ($15.0 million)
- National Institute of Corrections - Innovations in Corrections ($5.0 million)
- Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) ($80.0 million)
- STOP School Violence Act Program ($25.0 million)
- Juvenile Justice Prosecution and Defense Process Improvement Programs ($0.5 million)
- and Missing and Exploited Children ($5.0 million)
- Southwest Border Rural Law Enforcement and Violent Crime Reduction Initiative ($6.0 million)

A total of $491.3 million in discretionary program decreases and eliminations for the following programs:

- Body Worn Camera Partnership Program (-$22.5 million – funded as carve-out of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants program in FY 2020)
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership (-$22.5 million – funded as carve-out of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants program in FY 2020)
- Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (-$10.2 million)
- Capital Case Litigation Improvement Program (-$3.0 million – funded as carve-out of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants program in FY 2020)
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (-$3.0 million)
- DNA-Related and Forensic Programs and Activities (-$25.0 million)
- Economic, High-Tech, White Collar, and Cybercrime Prevention Program (-$3.0 million)
- Innovations in Community Based Crime Reduction Program (formerly Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program) (-$17.5 million)
- Justice Reinvestment Initiative (-$25.0 million)
- NICS Act Records Improvement Program (-$15.0 million)
- Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants (-$20.0 million)
- State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) (-$240.0 million)
- Tribal Assistance (formerly Indian Assistance) (-$35.0 million – replaced by the up to 7% discretionary tribal justice assistance set aside)
- Delinquency Prevention Program (-$10.5 million)
- Part B Formula Grants (-$2.0 million)
- Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) - Improving the Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse (-$1.0 million)
- Youth Mentoring (-$36.0 million)

Rescission – OJP: -$85.0 million
The Budget proposes to cancel $85.0 million in unobligated balances (includes OJP balances and those previously funded by the COPS Office appropriation).