



# Department of Justice

## Office of Justice Programs

### Office of Communications

Washington, D.C. 20531

#### GRANT NOTIFICATION

Grant Number: 2015-AK-BX-K019

Name & Address of Recipient: West Virginia Division Of Justice And Community Services  
1204 Kanawha Boulevard East

City, State & ZIP: Charleston, West Virginia 25301-2900

Recipient Project Director/Contact:  
W. Rick Staton  
Director

Phone: (304) 558-8814

Title of Program: FY 15 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)

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Amount of Award: \$ 1,170,800

Date of Award: 09/10/2015

Awarding Agency: Bureau of Justice Assistance  
Tamaro T White

Supplement: No

Statutory Authority for Program:  
FY15 BJA – Sexual Assault Kit Initiative - Pub. L. No. 113-235, 128 Stat 2130, 2193

Impact/Focus: Discretionary

CFDA Number: 16.833

#### Project Description:

The National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) provides funding to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies, and prosecutor's offices to support multidisciplinary community response teams engaged in the comprehensive reform of jurisdictions' approaches to sexual assault cases resulting from evidence found in previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits (SAKs) - i.e. those SAKs that have never been submitted to a crime laboratory.

The goal of the SAKI is the creation of a coordinated community response that ensures just resolution to these cases whenever possible through a victim-centered approach, as well as to build jurisdictions' capacity to prevent the development of conditions that lead to high numbers of unsubmitted SAKs in the future. The holistic program provides jurisdictions with resources to address their unsubmitted SAK issue, including support to inventory, test, and track SAKs; create and report performance metrics; access necessary training to increase effectiveness in addressing the complex issues associated with these cases and engage in multidisciplinary policy development, implementation, and coordination; and improve practices related to investigation, prosecution, and victim engagement and support in connection with evidence and cases resulting from the testing process.

The West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services will use this 2015 SAKI award to address the growing number of unsubmitted SAKs in the state of West Virginia. The proposed project will take a multi-jurisdictional approach that is representative of both rural and urban areas within the state. A multidisciplinary team will be formed to address the issue by conducting an inventory of SAKs; testing previously unsubmitted SAKs; uploading results/hits into CODIS; assigning designated personnel to pursue new investigative leads; developing policies/protocols in order to provide trauma informed victim notifications and supportive services; and



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prosecuting cases. BJA SAKI funds will be used to develop a new electronic data exchange in order to facilitate tracking of current unsubmitted SAKs and future SAKs; conduct a statewide and regional trainings to distribute information and train local law enforcement, victim advocates, and prosecutors; fund salaries for a site coordinator, research assistant, accountant, and a SAKI Victim Services Coordinator; fund training and travel expenses; purchase office supplies; fund overtime for SAK investigations; issue stipends for rape crisis services; and for other costs necessary for project implementation.

CA/NCF

For more information about this grant, contact the Office of Justice Program's Office of Communications at 202/307-0703.