



CJPA Justice Bulletin

January-April 2014

CJPA Mission

The mission of the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System is to provide a safe environment and to protect the lives of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) Bulletin is published to showcase Criminal Justice programs funded by CJPA and other criminal justice information. The CJPA bulletin is compiled and edited by the CJPA Statistic Analyst, Francine Atalig and includes articles and comments from other National Criminal Justice Associations.

Hon. Alexandro C. Castro, Chairman Supervisory Council

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John D. Cruz, Executive Director CJPA

CJPA Welcomes 5 New Council Members

In January 2014, the Honorable Governor Eloy S. Inos appointed 5 new council members to the CJPA Youth Advisory Council also known as the CNMI State Advisory Group to maintain compliance with the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

In February 2014 CJPA held a Council meeting at the CJPA office to welcome the five new Youth Council members. On behalf of the CJPA staff, we would like to welcome the new Youth Council members again: The members are Mr. Sylvio Ada – Division of Youth Services, Mr. Joseph Kevin Villagomez – Family Court Division, Ms. Tricia Manglona – Rota Representative, Mr. Conrad Manglona – Tinian Representative, and Mr. John Peter Cruz – Youth Member. There is a total of 16 Youth Advisory Council Members as required by conditions.

Mr. Vince Camacho, Federal Programs Coordinator, presented to the new Council members the mission and goals of CJPA.

The Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grants are statutory funding made available to specifically support programs that addresses Youth Development, Juvenile Justice System Improvements, and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands receives funds from the following OJJDP grant program: 1) Title II Formula Grant and 2) Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG). The purpose OJJDP grant programs is to provide support for “at-risk” youth as well as for youths who come in contact with the Juvenile Justice System.

OJJDP FY 14 Funding Updates:

For FY 2014, the CNMI will be receiving the Title II Formula Grant award estimated at about \$75,000. Unfortunately, due to US Federal Budget cuts, the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program was not appropriated any funding for Fiscal Year 2014. The CNMI stands to lose an average of \$20,000 of additional funding under the JABG Program received each year to fund Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement Programs. However, preliminary news received from the Department of Justice indicated that the White House has reinstated funding for the JABG Program under the FY 2015 budget submission. Hopefully funding will be restored for Fiscal Year 2015.

Take Action Youth Advisory Program

The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Grants Program funds block grants to all states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the 4 Territories. The program supports and enhances the efforts of states and local jurisdictions to enforce state laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors and to prevent the purchase or consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors under 21 years of age.

One of our most active OJJDP programs for 2014 so far is the Community Guidance Center's Take Action Youth Advocacy (TAYA) program, funded under the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws grant program. This program is for high school youth from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and they implement youth activities and events to help promote the Prevention of Underage Drinking and Drinking and Driving. The program has conducted several community outreach, awareness, and education events for the Month of April as National Alcohol Awareness Month and they are continuing with other activities in May as part of their National Prevention Week efforts. The TAYA Program Coordinator is Ms. Tiara Evangelista Tel. 670 323-6560

Updates written by the *OJJDP Program Manager: Vincent Camacho*

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), a component of the U.S. Department of Justice, provides national leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce violence against women through the implementation of the Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP), Violence Against Women Act. Established by legislation, funds through VAWA formula grant, are made available to support effort in developing programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in state, local, and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, and others

CNMI Conducts Sexual Assault Response and Investigation Training

CJPA, along with Alliance Local Services Organizations (ALSO), Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (NMCADSV), Department of Public Safety, and the International Association of Chief of Police (IACP) conducted a training directed towards law enforcement called "Sexual Assault Response and Investigations Training". It was a very well received and successful two year project and partnership with CJPA, ALSO, and NMCADSV.

The first training was conducted on December 4-6, 2012 and Phase II a year later on December 10-13, 2013. This intensive 2 year phase project was well thought out and successful with IACP's participation and flexibility. The trainer was Mr. Tom Tremblay, a retired Chief of Police who is a consultant with the IACP. This was a successful model project because it was well received and informative. It created a willingness of joint efforts of agencies from different areas of the world working together for one goal. It also helped all agencies who work for STOP VAWA form deeper and meaningful partnerships with all organizations involved and created an understanding of each other's goals as well as individual limitations. We hope to have more of these model projects in the future since it greatly impacted all agencies involved with a profound amount of collaborative information.

Updates written by the VAWA Program Manager: Monica Crisostomo

Proposed as a mechanism to streamline justice funding and grant administration, *the Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG)* allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions.

Funds under JAG program may be used to support the hiring, training, and employing of additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel on a continuing basis. Furthermore, funds can be used to procure equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law enforcement functions, as well as establishing crime prevention programs involving cooperation between community residents and law enforcement personnel to control, detect, or investigate crime or to prosecute criminals.

CJPA Signs Agreement with Five Point Solution for CJIS Project

CJPA has signed an agreement with Five Point Solutions LLC, for the Criminal Justice System Integration Project. With this agreement the Criminal Justice Information System is finally on its way to meet the two goals for the project: First is communication- an infrastructure to connect everything together and second is information-agencies specific information and database data. The Criminal Justice System Integration Project is part of the CJIS project that will create a person search dashboard the will allow authorized users the ability to search for a person based on selected criteria and retrieve data from multiple data sources. The implementation of the first phase¹ will include the offices of the Courts, Probation, Board of Parole and the Office of the Attorney General. The next phase will work to include the Department of Corrections and the Department of Public Safety. The system implement for Phase 1 will form the foundation to allow additional data sources to be added at a later time as more funding become available.

Family Court Alternative Dispute Resolution (Mediation) Program

A major accomplishment under the JAG program was from the Family Court Division for the Alternative Dispute Resolution (Mediation) Training. Mediation is a process of complaint(s) resolution in which an impartial third party (the mediator) facilitates a dialogue between the parties affected by the complaint in order that they can identify and implement a mutually acceptable and appropriate resolution. Mediation is a powerful process and used in a number of complex disputes across all walks of life.

The training was held on November 22nd and 23rd at the NMI Superior Court courtroom. A total of 25 participants started and completed the training sessions. After completion of the training, each of the participants will now be spending time with the Family Court Manager to get actual mediation session's hours. The goal is that once these hours are completed, the participants will be certified under the CNMI Supreme Court as Certified Mediators. Using the mediating process as part of the Family Court Division program in the mediating cases that come before the court; the Family Court feels the benefit from mediation rather than proceeding with the litigation process.

Revival of Customs K-9 Unit

The revival of the Division of Customs K-9 handlers to secure CNMI borders from Seaport and Airport. There were three handlers that passed the Pacific K-9 Training Passive Detector Dog Handlers Course. The handlers completed twelve weeks of intense training to become certified dog handlers. With the revival of the K-9 Unit, Customs is mounting a campaign against the entry of illegal drugs into the CNMI. Customs K-9 goal is to effectively and efficiently cover all areas of port of entries and to intercept illegal contrabands that is detrimental to our communities. The Drug Detector dogs will be used in a cooperative effort and assist the Drug Enforcement Task Force in strengthening their efforts in confiscating illegal narcotics.

Updates written by the BJA Program Manager: Paul Tenorio

The CJPA Supervisory Council Awarded the FY2013 DOJ funds for the Justice Assistance Grant, Juvenile Justice Grants, Violence Against Women Act Grant, Victims of Crime Act Grant and the Sexual Assault Services Grant Program to the Following Government and Nonprofit Agencies

**Bureau of Justice Assistance Office (BJA):
Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)**

Office of Adult Probation	\$46,070.40
Board of Parole	\$4,250.00
Customs K-9/Task Force	\$63,000.00
Department of Public Safety	\$101,547.60
Total Award.....	<u>\$214,868.00</u>

**Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency
Prevention (OJJDP)
Formula Grant**

Natibu Sports Association	\$5,000.00
Kagman High School	\$5,000.00
Garapan Elementary School	\$2,011.00
Gineftao I ManMo'na	\$2,489.00
DYS Juvenile Probation	\$4,500.00
DPS Saipan	\$4,500.00
DPS Rota	\$1,000.00
Total Award.....	<u>\$24,500.00</u>

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG)

Juvenile Probation	\$4,000.00
Juvenile Detention	\$4,000.00
DPS	\$4,000.00
Family Court	\$4,000.00
Total Award.....	<u>\$16,000.00</u>

**Office on Violence Against Women (VAWA)
STOP Grant**

Karidat	\$149,490.00
Karidat-Discretionary	\$9,817.95
NUTESE	\$16,610.00
DPS Saipan	\$21,927.00
DPS Rota	\$13,350.00
DPS Tinian	\$13,350.00
Probation Office	\$66,049.00
Board of Parole	\$23,740.00
OAG Domestic Violence	\$138,416.00
OAG VAWA Legal Assistant	\$21,993.86.00
Family Court	\$27,683.00
NUTESE	\$51,238.19
Total Award	<u>\$553,665.00</u>

Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)

NUTESE	<u>\$18,765.00</u>
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**Office for Victims of Crime (OVC):
VOCA Grant**

Karidat –Guma Esperansa	\$87,286.00
Karidat –Victim Hotline	\$21,500.00
Karidat –Victim Advocacy	\$34,000.00
Tinian Health Center	\$19,843.00
Family Court-Rota	\$21,000.00
CHC-Victim Help	\$9,500.00
CHC– Community Guidance	\$58,000.00
Total Award.....	<u>\$251,129.00</u>

“Promising Practices” – Reverted Funds awarded to Mini Grant Program

Many State Administering Agencies (SAAs) apply reverted funds to their next fiscal year grant solicitation. Some SAA's came up with other policies and procedures to re-release these funds as mini grants to enhance local capacity, develop their organizational reach and assist localities address unforeseen challenges.

A great example of reverted funds being re-released to Mini Grant Program is the: Delaware Criminal Justice Council's (CJC) Mini- Grant solicitation as they are dependent on the availability of reverted funds and were awarded in two of the last three fiscal years. In FY13, \$90,000 in reverted funds was from the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program and the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Title II Formula Block Grant Program. The Mini Grant program conforms to the same priorities set forth within the regular Byrne JAG and Title II RFP's. The Program limits to one time expenditures of \$2,000-\$15,000. These one-time funds can be used for equipment, program supplies, technology/software, professional development and training. Unallowable expenses include personnel time, travel and operating expenditures.

Hate Crime Unchanged – News Release from Bureau of Justice Statistics

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) announced on February 20, 2014 that nonfatal violent and property hate crime victimizations in the United States from 2004-2012 are not statistically different. In 2004 statistics displays 281,700 of hate crime occurred and in 2012 statistics display 293,800 based on BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS).

- An estimated 293,800 violent and property hate crime victimizations occurred in 2012 against persons age 12 or older residing in U.S. households.
- Over half (51%) of hate crimes were motivated by ethnicity bias in 2012, which was higher than the percentage in 2011 (30%) and 2004 (22%).
- Hate crimes motivated by religious bias nearly tripled from 10% in 2004 to 28% in 2012, while the percentage of hate crimes motivated by gender bias more than doubled from 12% to 26% during the same period.
- Hate crimes involving violence increased from 78% in 2004 to 90% in 2011 and 2012.
- Violent hate crime against Hispanics more than tripled from 0.6 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older in 2011 to 2.0 per 1,000 in 2012.
- In 2012, the offender had a weapon in at least 24% of violent hate crime victimizations, and the victim sustained an injury in 20% of violent hate crime victimizations.

House Judiciary Passes Three Anti-Trafficking Bills

The House Judiciary Committee has passed three bills intended to prevent, and support victims of, child sex trafficking. The first bill, the [Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, or H.R. 3530](#), is a comprehensive anti-human trafficking bill that establishes new criminal penalties for acts of sexual trafficking and human smuggling. It establishes a new Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund, paid for by federal penalties that would support grants for programs to prevent trafficking and support victims of trafficking, including victims of child pornography. It also would offer additional resources for the investigation and prosecution of trafficking crimes. "There are three different groups in the crime of human trafficking," Rep. Poe said in a press release about the bill. "The buyer, the trafficker, and the victim. This legislation addresses all three." The bill also sets new grants accountability and conference expenditure standards.

The second bill is the [Stop Exploitation Through Trafficking Act, H.R. 3610](#), sponsored by Rep. Erik Paulsen (R-MM). A companion to [S. 1733](#), sponsored by Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), the bill encourages states to adopt safe harbor laws that treat trafficked minors as victims, rather than as criminals or delinquents. It encourages states to adopt the laws by creating an advantage for COPS Hiring grant applicants from states which have passed safe harbor laws. The COPS provision replaces a Byrne JAG penalty included in the introduced version of the bill, a provision that was opposed by NCJA and other stakeholder organizations.

The third bill, the [Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation Act, or SAVE Act](#), would criminalize advertisements for the sexual exploitation of children and other trafficking victims. The bill, [H.R. 4225](#), sponsored by Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO) would established a fine and/or up to five years in prison for those who knowingly advertise or profit from advertisements that offer the commercial exploitation of minors and trafficking victims.

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA) has indicated the bills could be taken up by the full House next month.

President Obama Releases FY15 Budget

Last week, President Obama released the Administration's FY15 budget request to Congress. The overall budget reflects the spending levels agreed upon by the White House and congressional leaders in November 2013 that set the parameters for federal spending for both FY14 and FY15. Hence, the political drama that usually accompanies an Administration's budget is dampened somewhat this year. However, the President's budget is important to the field because it expresses the Administration's priorities and hopes for criminal and juvenile justice policy and for spending levels for the individual justice assistance programs. In addition to the programmatic funding levels summarized below, the proposal also includes a "Now is the Time" initiative; a "comprehensive plan to reduce gun violence and save lives" that includes funding for improvements to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and other needs. It also requests \$75 million in funding for the second year of a comprehensive school safety initiative; a blend of research and grants for pilot programs.

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant's (Byrne JAG) "topline" number is the same as last year. However, the Obama budget proposes to move the Bullet-Proof Vest program under Byrne JAG, increasing by \$23 million the initiatives recommended to be carved-out of the program. If adopted by the appropriators and enacted into law, that means funding for the Byrne JAG formula program would drop by 7 percent, from \$344 million in FY14 to \$319 million in FY15. The budget also proposes a new Byrne Incentive grant program at \$15 million to incentivize the use of evidence-based programs. A similar proposal was not adopted by the Appropriations Committees last year.

PERF and BJA Release Two Reports Defining Legitimacy and Procedural Justice in Policing

The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and BJA have released two reports on an important development in policing: the growing recognition of the concepts of legitimacy and procedural justice.

In the first report, [Legitimacy and Procedural Justice: A New Element of Police Leadership](#), Yale Law Professor Tom Tyler provides specific definitions of these terms and summarizes research studies that demonstrate why legitimacy and procedural justice are important to the future success of police agencies.

“Legitimacy” refers to the judgments that community members make about whether they have trust and confidence in their police, whether they are willing to defer to the law and to police authority, and whether they believe that police actions in their community are morally justified and appropriate. “Procedural justice” can be seen as a way to achieve legitimacy. Police officers provide procedural justice when they do their jobs fairly and neutrally, treat community members with respect, and give people a chance to explain their situation or tell their side of the story.

The second report, [Legitimacy and Procedural Justice: The New Orleans Case Study](#), describes how New Orleans Police Superintendent Ronal Serpas is incorporating the concepts of legitimacy and procedural justice in his efforts to reform the New Orleans Police Department.

House Appropriations Committee Approves Funding Bill

The full House Appropriations Committees has approved the FY15 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriations bill. During mark-up, committee members considered numerous amendments. Only a handful were accepted, including one that adds a small amount of funding to the Missing and Exploited Children program for the purpose of hiring wounded warriors to assist with cases. Another would prohibit funding for a proposal by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to report on the sale of multiple rifles to the same person in various border-states.

As we reported last week, the House bill would level-fund the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) program and the Office of Violence Against Women STOP grants, as well as many of the other Bureau of Justice Assistance grant programs. It would cut funding severely, however, for the COPS Hiring program and several of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grant programs. Highlights of the bill are in last week’s InfoLetter story and full details can be found in the updated [Justice Assistance Table](#) available in the [members only section](#) of our website. The [introduced version of the bill](#) and the draft [committee report](#) are available online.

The Senate is expected to consider its version of the bill in early June. (The text of the Senate bill will not be made available until then.)

NNEDV 2013 Census

According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence's (NNEDV) annual report, "Domestic Violence Counts 2013", a 24 hour census of Domestic Violence Shelters and Services:

IN JUST ONE DAY:

- 66,581 domestic violence victims were served through shelter, transitional housing, and advocacy.
 - 36,348 victims (19,431 children and 16,917 adults) were provided with safe shelter.
 - 30,233 adults and children received non-residential assistance, such as counseling, legal advocacy and support groups.
- 20,267 hotline calls were answered, averaging over 14 calls every minute.
- 23,389 individuals attended 1,413 community education sessions.

Unfortunately, **9,641** requests for services went unmet because of a lack of resources or staffing. On the survey day, 27 percent reported they were unable to provide requested services because of reduced government funding and 12 percent because of cuts from private funders and 10 percent because of reduced individual donations. During the past year, **1,696** staff positions were eliminated, most of which were direct service providers, such as shelter staff and legal advocates.

From 2006 to 2013, the annual number of adults and children served through domestic violence programs have increased by 39 percent; however, the number of unmet requests for services have increased by 87 percent! This shows that the capacity to provide these critical services has not kept pace with the needs.

For more information, including the full report with compelling quotes from advocates, state-by-state data summaries, and additional resources, go to www.nnedv.org/census.

PREA Deadline Passes; NGA and DOJ Exchange Letters

May 15, 2014 was the deadline for Governors either to certify compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) or submit an assurance that their states will dedicate the 5 percent penalty with the standards of PREA.

Two days prior, the National Governors Association (NGA) wrote a letter to Attorney General Eric Holder expressing "concern with the Department of Justice's (DOJ) plans to rigidly enforce [PREA's] compliance deadlines..." given the "delays in providing states the necessary guidance to evaluate and meet statutory and regularly requirements [that] have made compliance with proposed deadlines nearly impossible."

On the same day, Karol Mason, assistant attorney general for the Office of Justice Programs and Bea Hanson, principal deputy director of the Office on Violence Against Women, wrote a letter addressed broadly to "Dear Colleague" expressing their belief that "state and local jurisdictions across the nation are demonstrating their commitment to address the issue of sexual abuse in confinement facilities" and that "audit preparation work is underway in many places...". They also asked the reader "to continue to work with us" and "to seek our assistance."

Information is not yet public about the content of the Governors' individual compliance letters for their states or the number of states offering assurance that the penalty monies will be diverted for PREA compliance purposes. Under the Act, states not certifying compliance with PREA will be penalized 5 percent of federal grants that may be used for "prison purposes." For the FY14 grants, DOJ determined those grants are Byrne JAG, the Title II formula grant under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, and the Office on Violence Against Women STOP grants.