



CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING AGENCY 2015 JUSTICE GRANT AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENT AND ELEGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



Criminal Justice Planning Agency

Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center
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The Criminal Justice Planning Agency office was created to function as the staff of the *Northern Marianas Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System*, also known as the “Supervisory Council” the Supervisory Council was established through an *Executive Order #16* for the sole purpose for “*improvement of the Criminal Justice System*” in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Criminal Justice Planning Agency also serves as the State Administrating Agency (SAA) for the U.S. Department of Justice Grant Programs for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under the jurisdiction of the Governor.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

AVAILABILITY OF OJJDP FUNDS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency announces the availability of the 2015 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Funds. The available funds for the CNMI programs is in the following purpose areas;

\$5,000 for Delinquency Prevention Programs.

Programs, research, or other initiatives to prevent or reduce the incidence of delinquent acts and directed to youth at risk of becoming delinquent to prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system or to intervene with first-time and non-serious offenders to keep them out of the juvenile justice system.

\$12,983 for Juvenile Justice Systems Improvement.

Programs, research, and other initiatives to examine issues or improve practices, policies, or procedures on a system-wide basis. Eligible applicants are CNMI government agencies involved in the CNMI Juvenile Justice System.

PURPOSE

The OJJDP Title II grants are made available to specifically fund programs that address Youth Development, Juvenile Justice System Improvement, and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program has four core-requirements that must be maintained. They are: 1) Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders; 2) Sight and Sound Separation between juvenile and adult inmates; 3) Complete Jail Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups and 4) The Disproportionate Minority Contact core protections.

Beyond these requirements, these funds can be used for services targeted at juvenile delinquency prevention through education, training, recreation, alternatives to detention, and other rehabilitative programs and services.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding from the OJJDP grant, an applicant must be one of the following:

- A CNMI Government Agency that provides youth or juvenile justice programs.
- Community Non-profit organizations who cater to youth improvement programs for the purposes of delinquency prevention with a Federal 501(c) (3) Tax exemption.
- Faith Based Organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Schools and Other Educational Institutions.

DUNS NUMBER

All applicants are required to include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. Obtaining a DUNS number is free and applications should be made immediately.

To obtain a DUNS number or to see if the applicant agency already has a DUNS number, call 1-877-666-0713 or go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. **Applications without a DUNS number will not be reviewed.**

TIMELINE

The OJJDP grant is a competitive grant with a project period duration of 12 months.

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC REPORTING

OJJDP recipients will be expected to submit the following information:

- Quarterly Programmatic reports
- Quarterly Financial reports
- Statistics and Equipment Inventory
- Annual Programmatic report

APPLICATION REVIEW

OJJDP grant applications are compiled by CJPA and submitted to the CNMI State Advisory Group also known as the CJPA Youth Advisory Council comprised of 16 members for review. Applicants shall also be interviewed by the Council. The Youth Advisory Council shall determine and make recommendations on grant award approvals that will be forwarded to the CJPA Supervisory Council.

MATCH REQUIREMENT

OJJDP recipients are not required to match the federal award however they must confirm that they have other sources of funding to implement the program. Other sources of funding can be in-kind, such as use of the office, equipment, staff and etc.

Applicants **must not be delinquent on any federal debt.**

TO APPLY

OJJDP grant applications are available online at the following website: <https://www.cjpa.gov.mp>. Applications must be submitted to the CJPA Office on Capitol Hill, Anatahan Drive, Building 1315 before the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The deadline to submit the application is Friday, 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2015.
Any application submitted after this time and date will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, contact Vincent N. Camacho, OJJDP Program Specialist, at 670-664-4550, or via email at vincent.camacho@cjpa.gov.mp

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

AVAILABILITY OF JAG FUNDS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency announces the availability of the 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds. The available grant for programs is **\$175,839.00**.

PURPOSE AREAS

JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research and evaluation, data collection, training, personnel, equipment, forensic laboratories, supplies, contractual support, and criminal justice information systems that will improve or enhance such areas as:

- Law enforcement programs.
- Prosecution and court programs.
- Prevention and education programs.
- Corrections and community corrections programs.
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs.
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).

JAG funds may also be used to address key statutory requirements that may not be otherwise funded, including requirements from the state and federal level, such as addressing limited English proficiency requirements and other similar mandates.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding from the JAG grant, an applicant must be one of the following:

- A CNMI Government Agency
- Non-profit organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Faith Based Organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption

DUNS NUMBER

All applicants are required to include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. Obtaining a DUNS number is free and applications should be made immediately. To obtain a DUNS number or to see if the applicant agency already has a DUNS number, call 1-877-666-0713 or go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. **Applications without a DUNS number will not be reviewed.**

PROGRAM PURPOSES

The sixteen-member Council has the authority to award funds to various programs in order improve the functioning of the criminal justice system-with the emphasis on violent crime and serious offenders.:

TIMELINE

The JAG grant is a competitive grant with a project period duration of 12 months.

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC REPORTING

JAG recipients will be expected to submit the following information:

- Quarterly Programmatic reports
- Quarterly financial reports
- Statistics and Equipment Inventory
- Annual programmatic report

MATCH REQUIREMENT

While match is not required with the JAG Program, match is as an effective strategy for states and units of local government to expand justice funds and build buy-in for local criminal justice initiatives.

Applicants **must not be delinquent on any federal debt**

TO APPLY

JAG grant applications are available online at the following website: <https://www.cjpa.gov.mp>. Applications must be submitted to the CJPA Office on Capitol Hill, Anatahan Drive, Building 1315 before the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The deadline to submit the application is Friday, 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2015.
Any application submitted after this time and date will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, contact Paul Tenorio, JAG Program Specialist, at 670/664-4550, or via email at paul.tenorio@cjpa.gov.mp

Victims of Crime Act Grant Program (VOCA)

AVAILABILITY OF VOCA FUNDS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency announces the availability of the 2015 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant funds.

Amounts Available:

Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse: **\$381,707**
Underserved Crime Victims: **\$51,000**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the VOCA grant is to provide **direct services** to victims of crime. Services are defined as those efforts that (1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; (2) assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after a victimization; (3) assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and (4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding from the VOCA grant, an applicant must be one of the following:

- A CNMI Government Agency that provides direct services to victims of crime
- Non-profit organizations established for the sole purpose of providing direct services to crime victims and with a Federal 501(c) (3) Tax exemption
- Faith Based Organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Hospitals and/or Emergency Medical Facilities
- All agencies must have a history of providing direct services to all victims of crime.
- All applicants must show in their application how they will provide direct services to all crime victims or one or more of the following. Such as victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assaults, and other underserved crime victims (*Underserved crime victims may include but not limited to Culturally specific victims, Victims of Federal Crimes, Rural areas, Survivors of homicide, Victims of Assault, Hate Crimes, Robbery, Fraud, Elder Abuse, Economic Exploitation, Disable, and the LGBTQI community*).
- All must be able to provide services to both Federal and Local Victims of crime.

DUNS NUMBER

All applicants are required to include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. Obtaining a DUNS number is free and applications should be made immediately. To obtain a DUNS number or to see if the applicant agency already has a DUNS number, call 1-877-666-0713 or go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. **Applications without a DUNS number will not be reviewed.**

SERVICES

Services must be provided to all crime victims (Both local and federal victims of crime), free of charge.

PROGRAM PURPOSES

The sixteen-member Council has the authority to award funds to various programs in order to meet the needs of all crime victims; however at least 40% of VOCA funding must go to the following purpose areas:

Minimum % of awarded funds	Description
10%	Programs that support Child Abuse victims.
10%	Programs that support Domestic Violence victims.
10%	Programs that support Sexual Assault victims.
10%	Programs that support Under Served victims.

Under served victimization includes, but is not limited to: federal crime victims, homicide survivors, assault victims, robbery victims, gang violence, hate/bias crimes, DUI, bank robbery, economic exploitation/fraud, elder abuse, residents of rural areas or inner cities, non-English speaking individuals, hearing impaired individuals, persons with disabilities, Micronesians, and migrant workers.

TIMELINE

The VOCA grant is a competitive grant with a project period duration of 12 months.

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC REPORTING

VOCA recipients will be expected to submit the following information:

- Quarterly Programmatic reports
- Quarterly financial reports
- Statistics and Equipment Inventory
- Annual programmatic report

MATCH REQUIREMENT

VOCA recipients are not required to match the federal award however they must confirm that they have other sources of funding to implement the program. Other sources of funding can be in-kind, such as use of the office, equipment, staff and etc.

Applicants **must not be delinquent on any federal debt**

TO APPLY

VOCA grant applications are available online at the following website: <https://www.cjpa.gov.mp>. Applications must be submitted to the CJPA Office on Capitol

Hill, Anatahan Drive, Building 1315 before the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The deadline to submit the application is Friday, 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2015.

Any application submitted after this time and date will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, contact John D. Cruz, VOCA Program Specialist, at 670/664-4550, or via email at john.cruz@cjpa.gov.mp

OVW STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (VAWA)

AVAILABILITY OF VAWA FUNDS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency announces the availability of the 2015 STOP Violence Against Women Formula (VAWA) Grant funds. The available funds for the CNMI programs is **\$ 509,232.00**

PURPOSE

The Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women (VAWA) Formula Grant Program supports communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violent crimes against women and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding from the STOP VAWA grant, an applicant must be one of the following:

- A CNMI Government Agency
- Community Non-profit organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Faith Based Organizations with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Hospitals and/or Emergency Medical Facilities
- Schools and Other Educational Institutions

In FY 2015, funds under the STOP Formula Grant Program **must** meet one or more of the following statutory program purposes. Changes and new purposes areas from VAWA 2013 are highlighted in bold below.

1. training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, **including the appropriate use of nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (U) and (T) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a))**;
2. developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
3. developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, **as well as the appropriate treatment of victims**;
4. developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying, **classifying**, and tracking arrests, protection

orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

5. developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services **and legal assistance** programs, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
6. developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
7. supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by State funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
8. training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault;
9. developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence, **dating violence**, or sexual assault, or stalking, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals;
10. providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters;
11. maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families;
12. supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as "Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants") in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and personnel in local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and may undertake the following activities
 - A. developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including **the use of evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide and prioritize dangerous or potentially lethal cases**;

- B. notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
 - C. referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
 - D. taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order.
13. providing funding to law enforcement agencies, victim services providers, and state, tribal, territorial, and local governments (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote—
- A. the development and implementation of training for local victim domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as “Crystal Judson Victim Advocates,” to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel;
 - B. the implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (“Domestic Violence by Police Officers: A Policy of the IACP, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project” July 2003); and
 - C. the development of such protocols in collaboration with state, tribal, territorial and Local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.

Note: Any law enforcement, state, tribal, territorial, or local government agency receiving funding under the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program shall, on an annual basis, receive additional training on the topic of incidents of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel from domestic violence and sexual assault nonprofit organizations and, after a period of two years, provide a report of the adopted protocol to the Department, including a summary of progress in implementing such protocol. As such, states and territories are responsible for ensuring that each subgrantee receiving funds under this purpose area will receive the required annual training. States are also responsible for ensuring that subgrantees submit their two-year report to the Department. States and territories must notify and provide OVW with a list of subgrantee recipients awarded STOP funds under the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program.

- 14. Developing and promoting state, local, or tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- 15. Developing, implementing, or enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, or other similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.
- 16. Developing and strengthening policies, protocols, best practices, and training for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.
- 17. Developing, enlarging or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional or detention settings.

18. Identifying and conducting inventories of backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and developing protocols and policies for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims.
19. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses to male and female victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity, as defined in section 249(c) of title 18, United States Code.
20. Developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, with not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

DUNS NUMBER

All applicants are required to include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. Obtaining a DUNS number is free and applications should be made immediately. To obtain a DUNS number or to see if the applicant agency already has a DUNS number, call 1-877-666-0713 or go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. **Applications without a DUNS number will not be reviewed.**

PROGRAM PURPOSES

The sixteen-member Council has the authority to award funds to various programs in order to meet STOP statute which requires states to allocate certain percentages of funding for each category. For FY 15 grants 20% of the total amount granted must meet the new Sexual Assault Set-Aside under VAWA for sexual assault purposes only and will come out of each of the following categories; Victim Services, Law Enforcement, and Prosecution. 10% of the victim services allocation must be distributed to a “culturally specific community-based” organization. The courts allocation must be awarded “to” state and local courts. Decisions for law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services should be made based on the beneficiary of the funded activities.

Minimum % of awarded funds	Description
30%	Victim Services = \$103,547.00 Culturally Specific Programs = \$15,876.00 Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$39,149.00
25%	Law Enforcement = \$92,978.00 Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$39,149.00
25%	Prosecution = \$92,978.00 Sexual Assault Purpose only = \$39,149.00
5%	Courts = \$26,426.00
15%	Discretionary = \$60,000.00

TIMELINE

The STOP VAWA Formula grant is a competitive grant with a project period duration of 12 months.

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC REPORTING

STOP VAWA recipients will be expected to submit the following information:

- Quarterly Programmatic reports
- Quarterly Financial reports
- Statistics and Equipment Inventory
- Annual Programmatic report

MATCH REQUIREMENT

STOP VAWA recipients are not required to match the federal award however they must confirm that they have other sources of funding to implement the program. Other sources of funding can be in-kind, such as use of the office, equipment, staff and etc.

Applicants **must not be delinquent on any federal debt.**

TO APPLY

STOP VAWA Formula grant applications are available online at the following website: <https://www.cjpa.gov.mp>. Applications must be submitted to the CJPA Office on Capitol Hill, Anatahan Drive, Building 1315 before the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The deadline to submit the application is Friday, 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2015.
Any application submitted after this time and date will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, contact Monica Crisostomo, STOP VAWA Program Coordinator, at 670-664-4553, or via email at monica.crisostomo@cjpa.gov.mp

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM (SASP)

AVAILABILITY OF SASP FUNDS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency announces the availability of the 2015 Sexual Assault Services Grant Program. The available funds for the CNMI is \$ 46,956.00.

PURPOSE

Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. The SASP Formula Grant Program directs grant dollars to states and territories to assist them in supporting rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault. Funds provided through SASP are designed to supplement other funding sources directed at addressing sexual assault on the state and territorial level.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for funding from the SASP grant, an applicant must be one of the following:

- Community Non-profit organizations that provide services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption
- Faith Based Organizations that provide services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault with a Federal 501 (C) (3) Tax exemption

DUNS NUMBER

All applicants are required to include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. Obtaining a DUNS number is free and applications should be made immediately. To obtain a DUNS number or to see if the applicant agency already has a DUNS number, call 1-877-666-0713 or go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>. **Applications without a DUNS number will not be reviewed.**

TIMELINE

The STOP VAWA Formula grant is a competitive grant with a project period duration of 12 months.

FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMATIC REPORTING

SASP recipients will be expected to submit the following information:

- Quarterly Programmatic reports
- Quarterly Financial reports
- Statistics and Equipment Inventory
- Annual Programmatic report

MATCH REQUIREMENT

SASP recipients are not required to match the federal award however they must confirm that they have other sources of funding to implement the program. Other sources of funding can be in-kind, such as use of the office, equipment, staff and etc.

Applicants **must not be delinquent on any federal debt.**

TO APPLY

SASP Formula grant applications are available online at the following website: <https://www.cjpa.gov.mp>. Applications must be submitted to the CJPA Office on Capitol Hill, Anatahan Drive, Building 1315 before the deadline.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

The deadline to submit the application is Friday, 4:30 p.m., November 20, 2015.
Any application submitted after this time and date will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information, contact Monica Crisostomo, STOP VAWA Program Coordinator, at 670-664-4553, or via email at monica.crisostomo@cjpa.gov.mp

Office of Justice Program (OJP)

AVAILABILITY OF JRI FUNDS

John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program: FY 2015: \$9,000.00

PURPOSE

The **JRJ Loan Repayment Program** provides educational loan repayment benefits to prosecutors and public defenders in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, using funding from the John R. Justice (JRJ) Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage qualified attorneys to choose careers as prosecutors and public defenders and to continue in that service. **The FY 2015 JRJ Loan Repayment Program Award is** for benefits during the period of October 1, 2015–September 30, 2016

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligible Employment: The definitions of prosecutors and public defenders that are in employment eligible for benefits from CNMI-JRJ Loan Repayment Program are below:

Prosecutor – A full-time employee of a state or unit of local government who is continually licensed to practice law and prosecutes criminal or juvenile delinquency cases at the state or unit of local government level (including supervision, education, or training of other persons prosecuting such cases). 42 U.S.C. §3797cc-21(b)(1).

Public Defender – An attorney who is continually licensed to practice law and is a full-time employee of a state or unit of local government who provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases including supervision, education, or training of other persons providing such representation; is a full-time employee of a nonprofit organization operating under a contract with a state or unit of local government who devotes substantially all of the employee's full-time employment to providing legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases including supervision, education, or training of other persons providing such representation; or employed as a full-time federal defender attorney in a defender organization pursuant to Subsection (g) of section 3006A of Title 18, United States Code, that provides legal representation to indigent persons in criminal or juvenile delinquency cases. 42 U.S.C. §3797cc-21(b)(2).

NOTE: *An outreach strategic call (meeting) will be announced by CJPA to share more detailed information on JRJ Program and its implementation in CNMI.*

Ineligible Employment: Prosecutors who are employees of the federal government are ineligible. **NOTE:** Attorneys who are in private practice and not a full-time employee of a non-profit organization, even if individually or part of a firm that is under contract with a state or court-appointed to provide public defense services, do not qualify as "public defenders," and therefore are *not considered to be eligible* as beneficiaries under this solicitation

The available funds will be awarded by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System (CJPA Supervisory Council) through a sub-grant review process and plan consistent with the project description outlined in the program applications and accompanying strategies for the aforementioned DOJ programs. Dates for the grant award review meeting will be announced at a later date.