



CJPA Justice Bulletin

May-August 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

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.

For FY 2014, the CNMI will be receiving the Title II Formula Grant award allocated at \$74,083. This amount is inclusive of the Prison Rape Elimination Act reduction of \$917.00. CJPA Will be announcing the following amounts in availability of funds for eligible programs to apply:

Delinquency Prevention Programs. \$12,983.00

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.

Juvenile Justice System Improvement. \$10,000.00

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.

All interested programs must refer to the grant solicitation for grant description and eligibility requirements.

- In June 2014, OJJDP released a memo on revised guidance for all State and Territories to comply with the new requirements in monitoring and data collection for the following OJJDP core requirements:

Section 223(a)(12) of the JJDP – the “separation” core requirement--provides, in part, that juveniles “will not be *detained or confined* in any institution in which they have contact with adult inmates.” Section 223(a)(13) – the “jail removal” core requirement -- provides, in part, that “no juvenile will be *detained or confined* in any jail or lockup for adults” (subject to certain exceptions).

The terms “detained” and “confined” have been understood to be synonymous with being in “secure custody.” However, the plain meaning of “detain,” consistent with the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, means that the person allegedly detained was not free to leave.[1] Consistent with the Fourth Amendment, OJJDP’s position is that “detained” means a person is not free to leave and/or that, under the circumstances, a reasonable person would believe that he or she is not free to leave the police station or any other holding facility.

OJJDP’s goal is to promote the well-being of young people and limit their contact with the justice system. Specifically, it means states will need to monitor, collect data, and report violations of all juveniles who are detained or confined in nonsecure custody. OJJDP is currently working with all States to provide guidance and gain feedback on the effects of these new requirements and is scheduling conference calls for each state and territory to discuss any issues that anyone may have. The conference call for the Pacific Territories is scheduled for September 22.

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.

Application is still pending for the BJA FY 14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and BJA FY 14 John R. Justice Program. However, we found out that the amount allocated for the CNMI FY14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) totals, \$228,929.00. Amount allocated for FY14 John R. Justice Program to the CNMI totals, \$10,000.00.

CJPA did a compliance monitor site visit to the Division of Customs K-9 unit. CJPA visited with the K-9 program coordinator, Jesse Atalig and two K-9 handlers. We were introduced to the two new K-9 dogs, both Labrador retrievers, named, Charlie and Ben. Dogs were purchased from Southern Coast K-9 Incorporated in Florida. According to Mr. Atalig there is still one more K-9 dog on the way to Customs. As per, Mr. Atalig the two K-9 dogs are effective in the detection of narcotics. The K-9 dogs are trained on drug detection for Marijuana, Crack Cocaine, Heroin and Methamphetamines. The detector dogs assist in the inspection of inbound vessels, aircrafts, cargoes, baggage, passengers, parcels and law enforcement agencies needing the assistance of the K-9 detector dogs.

Update written by the JAG Program Manager: Paul Tenorio

CNMI Customs K-9 Unit



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.

On May 22, 2014, a Territorial Conference Call was hosted by SCESA to allow the territories to discuss current state and progress and to resolve any issues or questions in regards to PREA and the FY14 award for the U.S. Territories. Under PREA, a Penalty of 4.75% will be cut off from STOP VAWA FY14 grant award.

In June 23-27, 2014, a U.S. Territory Summit on Violence Against Women was held in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Summit brought together a multidisciplinary group of representatives from prosecution, law enforcement, community based victim advocacy, territory-wide domestic violence & sexual assault coalition, and grant administrators from all of the U.S. Territories. The Summit provided an opportunity for meaningful, intensive dialogue; training; skill building and information sharing to address key issues impacting violence against women in the U. S. Territories. In that, there were similarities across the Territories, the Summit provided an opportunity to address emerging issues and shared learning across all disciplines.

A follow-up meeting with the VAWA Summit Group members was held in July 18, 2014 at CJPA's conference room to address some of the goals that were set during the Summit in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The group consisted of NMCADSV Executive Director Maisie Tenorio, Karidat's Social Worker Calvani Deleon Guerrero, DPS Detective Therese Kintoki, Assistant Attorney Generals Heather Barcinas and Bobby Cepeda, along with CJPA's Executive Director John Cruz and VAWA program coordinator Monica Crisostomo. The team concluded to help finalize the SART Protocol and hold monthly meetings thereafter until such protocol is finalized.

Update written by the VAWA Program Manager: Monica Crisostomo



July 18, 2014 VAWA Summit Group Meeting at CJPA office.

Domestic Violence Leave Becomes Law in Massachusetts –

The Governor of Massachusetts signed into law An Act Relative to Domestic Violence on August 8, 2014. This law mandates all public and private employers with more than 50 employees permit employees impacted by domestic violence to take up to 15 days of leave in any 12 month period.

Victims Advocate Renews Push for DNA Law in Minnesota - Jayann Sepich, whose daughter Katie was murdered in 2003, is working in Minnesota to get a DNA collection statute back on the books. In 2005, Minnesota passed a law requiring law enforcement to collect DNA from suspects but the following year, the court struck it down. The renewed effort follows the U.S. Supreme Court's upholding of the federal version of the arrestee DNA law in 2013

Newest Paper From the Executive Session on Policing and Public Safety Examines Policing and Wrongful Convictions

The [Executive Session on Policing and Public Safety](#) has released a new report, [Policing and Wrongful Convictions](#). Written by Executive Session members Anthony W. Batts, Maddy deLone and Darrel W. Stephens, the paper examine the systematic causes of wrongful criminal convictions and potential solutions to benefit both law enforcement and communities.

Organized by the Harvard Kennedy School Program in Criminal Justice (PCJ), the Executive Session has met a dozen times from 2008 to 2014 and is producing a series of papers called *New Perspectives on Policing*. These papers are authored by Session members who are the subject experts. The 20 papers to-date cover a range of topics that should be of interest to police managers as executives or labor leaders, city and town administrators, as well as scholars.

National Forum on Criminal Justice:

Data-driven making is crucial to preventing and reducing crime in our communities. Only through collaboration can decision makers have access to research and technology needed to drive good policy. The National Forum on Criminal Justice showcases programs, research and technologies that help justice practitioners and decision makers in states, local communities and tribal nations address pressing public safety issues.

The Executive Director, Juan Cruz, BJA Program Manager, Paul Tenorio and Statistic Analyst, Francine Atalig, attended the conference that was held from August 11, 2014 – August 12, 2014 at Breckenridge, Colorado.

On August, 10, 2014 during the opening ceremony, Ms. Piper Chapman creator of the known series “Orange Is the New Black”, presented her story of her imprisonment and how she is working with agencies from all over the world to help assist within the women’s prison system. Ms. Chapman mentioned some of the changes she is advocating for within the prison system such as: more family time, mail delivery and distribution, fair sentencing, etc.

Update written by the SJS Program Manager: Francine Atalig

Upcoming Webinars:

Webinar: Analyzing the Latest Interventions in the Response to Military Sexual Assault

Wednesday, September 10th, 2014

12 PM - 1:15 PM Pacific Time

[Click here](#) to register

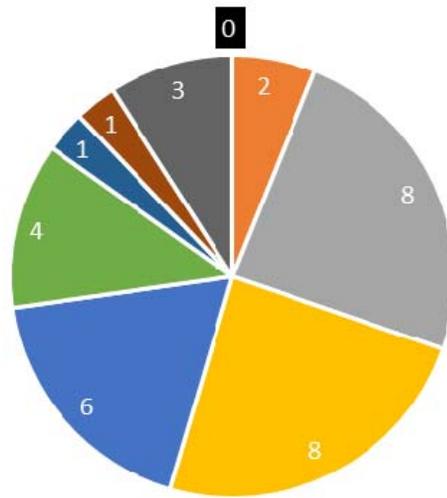
Webinar: The Neurobiology of Trauma: Using Science to Explain Counter-Intuitive Victim Behaviors to Courts

Thursday, September 18th, 2014

12 PM - 1:15 PM Pacific Time

[Click here](#) to register

2013 Violent Crime



- Murder
- Robbery
- Sexual Assault - Third Degree
- Rape
- Sexual Assault - First Degree
- Stalking - First Degree
- Aggravated Assault and Battery
- Sexual Assault - Second Degree
- Stalking - Second Degree

There was 33 Total Violent Crimes in the CNMI in 2013