PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009

Edward Byrne Memorial
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

The State of Florida, Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), anticipates an award from the United States Department of Justice for $20,421,492 in Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds. FDLE will distribute these funds in accordance with the JAG Countywide distribution provisions of Chapter 11D-9, Florida Administrative Code. This announcement is to notify eligible applicants of program requirements.

Eligible Applicants

Units of local government are eligible to receive subgrants from FDLE. "Units of local government" means any city, county, town, township, borough, parish, village, or other general-purpose political subdivision of a State and includes Native American Tribes that perform law enforcement functions as determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

Program Strategy and Purposes

JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice. Local units of government receiving JAG funding have the flexibility to implement projects in any of the seven federally approved purpose areas, listed below.

1) Law enforcement programs
2) Prosecution and court programs
3) Prevention and education programs
4) Corrections and community corrections programs
5) Drug treatment programs
6) Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
7) Crime victim and witness Programs

Any law enforcement or justice initiative previously eligible for funding under Byrne or LLEBG is eligible for JAG funding.

Coordination Efforts

Each county is allocated a sum of money for use by all local governments within the county. This amount is determined through a funding algorithm established in the administrative rule.

Chapter 11D-9.005, Florida Administrative Code, requires that units of government in each county reach consensus concerning the expenditure of these funds, including the projects to be implemented and the agency responsible for such implementation.

Maximum coordination is required to meet this program requirement, and the Department requests the county board of commissioners to serve as the coordinating unit for all local governments within the county. The Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, in each county so notified is requested to return to the Department a statement of certification indicating the county's willingness to serve. This certification must be returned within 30 days from the date of receipt of notification. In the event the county declines to serve in this capacity, the Department will request the governing body of each municipality in the county, in descending order of population, to serve as the coordinating unit of government.

Each county or coordinating unit of government is encouraged to form a criminal justice coordinating/planning group to identify and implement criminal justice priorities for the county, to plan strategies to address those priorities, to identify areas of greatest need, and to review all possible sources of revenue to make sure that funds go to the programs or issues that need them most.

Furthermore, FDLE requires that units of government in each county reach consensus concerning the expenditure of the JAG funds, including the projects to be implemented and the agency responsible for such implementation. Each county must document this consensus by submitting letters from at least 51 percent of the units of government which also represents at least 51 percent of the population located in said county.

Match Requirements

There is no match requirement under the guidelines of the JAG program.

Application Requirements and Deadlines

Once the Certificate of Participation form designating the coordinator for your county is received, the Office of Criminal Justice Grants will send this individual further information regarding the application process.

Applicants must apply on-line using FDLE's grant management system. The deadline for the on-line submission is **5:00 P.M., Friday, August 21, 2009**. In addition, applicants must print out the completed application and submit **two (2) hard copies** (both with *original signatures*) no later than **5:00 P.M., Friday, August 28, 2009. A separate application must be submitted for each proposed project.** Applications should be mailed or hand delivered to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Office of Criminal Justice Grants, 2331 Phillips Road, Tallahassee, Florida 32308, Attention: Clayton H. Wilder, Administrator.

Applications must be accompanied by letters of approval representing agreement among at least 51 percent of all units of local government representing at least 51 percent of the county population as to the allocation of dollars to each project in the county.

Questions regarding this Program Announcement should be directed to Clayton H. Wilder, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, at (850) 617-1250.