

FY 2009 Encouraging Innovation: Field Initiated Program Funding Results

Scope of Program:

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is pleased to announce the release of funding results for the FY2009 Encouraging Innovation: Field Initiated Program (Field Initiated) solicitation. The solicitation was one of several solicitations issued as part of BJA's Byrne National Program. The purpose of the Field Initiated program is to support programs of national significance that propose innovative strategies or solutions to any significant justice issue or problem. This solicitation was open to any public or private entity, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local and state government that support innovative field-initiated programs. The solicitation for funding was released on June 2, 2009 and closed on June 24, 2009.

Review Process:

BJA is committed to ensuring a fair and consistent process for awarding grants. BJA reviews applications to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with program and legislative requirements as stated in the solicitation. Applications are initially screened to determine whether the applicants meet all eligibility requirements. Only applications submitted by eligible applicants that meet all other requirements (such as timeliness, proper format, and responsiveness to the scope of the solicitation) will be evaluated, scored, and rated by a peer review panel. A peer reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, geographic and topical diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants, and available funding. Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final grant award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs.

Funding Sought and Awarded:

BJA received 153 applications under the Field Initiated solicitation, seeking a total of \$109,246,468 in funding. BJA made 11 awards for a total of \$6,126,926 in funding. Based upon the level of funding available, BJA made awards to approximately seven percent (7 percent) of the applications.

Feedback and Technical Assistance for Unfunded Applicants:

Applicants who did not get funding under the solicitation will receive written notification. The email will include written comments from the peer reviewers about the applicant's submission, if the applicant was eligible and submitted a responsive application. These comments will be sent to the Authorized Representative on the application. If your organization does not receive the comments, contact BJA at AskBJA@usdoj.gov.

Solicitation	Grantee	State	Award Amount
Encouraging Innovation: Field-Initiated Program	American Bar Association	DC	\$453,456.00
	George Mason University	VA	\$399,911.00
	Legal Momentum	NY	\$943,878.00
	The National Judicial College	NV	\$371,119.00
	Vera Institute of Justice	NY	\$861,519.00
	Center For Effective Public Policy	MD	\$722,905.00
	International Association of Chiefs of Police	VA	\$244,766.00
	International Association of Chiefs of Police	VA	\$944,948.00
	National Center For State Courts	VA	\$264,747.00
	The Bronx Defenders	NY	\$250,000.00
	The Council of State Governments	KY	\$669,677.00
Awards: 11	Total Funding:		\$6,126,926.00