

FY 2009 National Initiatives: Adjudication Program Funding Results

Scope of Program:

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is pleased to announce the release of funding results for the FY 2009 National Initiatives: Adjudication Program solicitation. This solicitation was one of several solicitations issued as part of BJA's Byrne National Program. The purpose of this program is to focus on national initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, in particular indigent defense, community prosecution, and addressing the "CSI effect" hypothesis.

Applicants were invited to submit a proposal under any one of the following categories: 1) Indigent Defense National Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA); 2) Site-based grants for Indigent Defense; 3) Community Prosecution T&TA; and 4) T&TA to Address the "CSI Effect." Eligibility was limited to national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support national initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system. Applications under Categories 1, 3, and 4 also had to be national in scope. The solicitation for funding was released on May 27, 2009 and closed on June 22, 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 eight applications for the three T&TA categories, seeking a total of \$4,913,746 in funding. BJA made three Training and Technical Assistance awards, one under each T&TA category, for a total of \$1,668,073 in funding. The following awards were made under each solicitation category:

- Indigent Defense Training and Technical Assistance category: An award of \$769,634 to the American Bar Association Fund For Justice And Education to provide training and technical assistance to public defender services in the United States.
- Community Prosecution Technical Assistance category: An award of \$698,897 to the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Inc. to provide technical assistance to community prosecution programs in the United States.
- Addressing the "CSI Effect" category: An award of \$199,542 to the Justice Management Institute to provide assistance in addressing the "CSI Effect" in the United States.

BJA received 30 applications for the site-based solicitation, seeking a total of \$4,275,759 in funding. BJA made 10 site-based awards for a total of \$1,479,443 in funding.

Based upon the level of funding available, BJA made awards to approximately 34 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
National Initiatives: Adjudication Program (Category I: Indigent Defense)	American Bar Association	DC	\$769,634.00
National Initiatives: Adjudication Program (Category II: Indigent Defender Hiring)	County of Eaton	MI	\$150,000.00
	County of Kern	CA	\$147,092.00
	County of Knox	TN	\$150,000.00
	Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County	TN	\$150,000.00
	Rhode Island Office of the Public Defender	RI	\$149,636.00
	Arizona Capital Representation Project	AZ	\$138,425.00
	County of Fresno	CA	\$147,758.00
	MI State Appellate Defender Office	MI	\$147,172.00
	Oklahoma Indigent Defense	OK	\$150,000.00
	Public Defender's Office Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida	FL	\$149,360.00
National Initiatives: Adjudication Program (Category III: Community Prosecution)	Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Inc	VA	\$698,897.00
National Initiatives: Adjudication Program (Category IC: "CSI" Effect)	Justice Management Institute	CO	\$199,542.00
Awards: 14	Total Funding:		\$3,147,516.00