



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Justice Programs

*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

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Washington, D.C. 20531

February 24, 2009

Dear Colleague:

I am delighted to share with you information about funding that may be available to your organization and constituents through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), which was recently signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. Our hope is that you will help the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) get the word out to your constituents about available grants, the application process, and how to apply.

Under President's leadership, and in partnership with Congress, the Recovery Act will inject \$787 billion into the economy, providing jobs and much needed resources for states and local communities. Among those resources is more than \$2.76 billion for state and local law enforcement and for other criminal and juvenile justice activities.

Specifically, the Act includes and OJP will administer:

- \$2 billion for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system, from law enforcement and prosecution, to courts and corrections, to drug treatment, to victim assistance. The JAG grant program formula determines allocations for states and territories based on their share of the country's violent crime and population. Sixty percent of the allocation is awarded to the state and 40 percent is set aside for local governments;
- \$225 million in Edward Byrne Competitive Grant Program funding to help communities address targeted needs;
- \$225 million for assistance to tribal law enforcement (construction of jails on tribal lands);
- \$125 million for rural law enforcement to prevent and combat drug-related crime;
- \$30 million for law enforcement along the Southern Border and in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas;
- \$50 million for Internet Crimes Against Children initiatives; and
- \$100 million for victim compensation and assistance (95% formula grants to states).

We encourage all interested and eligible applicants to register now to apply for funding. Potential applicants need to obtain a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number and register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) registrant database, through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). A DUNS number is a unique number that identifies an organization and helps track the distribution of grant money. The CCR is a central repository of organizations working with the federal government.

I want to assure you OJP is doing everything possible to get the Recovery Act funding out to the state and local levels as quickly as possible. We encourage you to share this information with your constituents, directing them to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/> for more information. Please help us ensure that all potential and eligible applicants, including current grantees and those who may not have had the opportunity to apply for funding previously, receive this information.

OJP remains committed to sustaining partnerships with our national, state, and local colleagues to prevent and control crime and improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems. We look forward to continuing to partner with you on this and many other endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laurie O. Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "O" and a stylized "R".

Laurie O. Robinson  
Acting Assistant Attorney General