

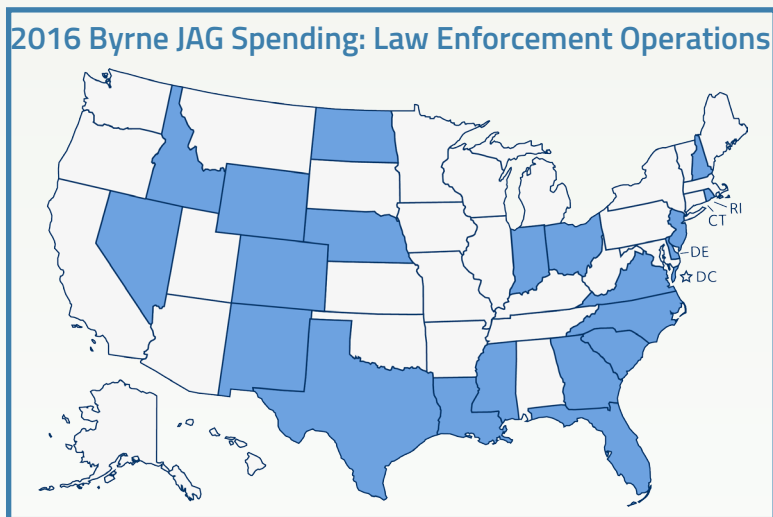
How States Invest Byrne JAG in Law Enforcement Operations

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

The cornerstone of federal support for state and local justice systems, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is a federal-state-local partnership enabling communities to target resources to their most pressing local needs. Byrne JAG is used broadly for law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning evaluation and technology, mental health services, and crime victim and witness programs. This breadth and flexibility means states and local communities can use Byrne JAG to balance resources and address problems across the entire criminal justice system, and to react quickly to urgent challenges and changing circumstances. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and initiatives each year. To learn more about Byrne JAG visit: <http://www.ncja.org/ncja/policy/about-byrne-jag>.

About the 2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the National Criminal Justice Association. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This information was self-reported and additional states may also use Byrne JAG funds for a specific project type.



Byrne JAG Support for Law Enforcement Operations

Byrne JAG funding supported law enforcement operations in at least 21 states, highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of almost \$5 million in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included: efforts to combat gangs, drugs and violent crime; targeted enforcement operations; border security initiatives; assistance to state and local law enforcement in responding to mass casualty incidents; ballistics support; identity theft investigation; community policing and crime analysis.

Examples of Law Enforcement Operations

- In Texas, Byrne JAG funds support border security initiatives: The proximity of the Texas/ Mexico international border has left many rural counties in Texas dealing with a large influx of human, drug, and sex trafficking crimes committed by large transnational criminal organizations. Texas seeks to support regional, multi-disciplinary approaches that coordinates law enforcement agencies to combat transnational organized crime activities.
- Byrne JAG funds in Rhode Island support the State Police Neighborhood Response Team. State police work in collaboration with the cities of Providence and Central Falls to patrol high crime areas and reduce the rate of gang activity, gun violence and drug trafficking.

Byrne JAG grants are a catalyst for collaboration within communities and across states. This cross-jurisdictional model is being replicated across the country to tackle cross-boundary crimes, like drug and human trafficking and cyber crime, while saving money and increasing efficiency.

- In Delaware, Byrne JAG funds support efforts from neighboring law enforcement agencies to assist Wilmington Police Department in their efforts to combat rising violent crime problems.
- In South Carolina, Byrne JAG funds support targeted enforcement operations focusing on criminal domestic violence, financial crime investigation and prosecution, child and elder abuse, drug and violent crime, gangs and drug parcel interdiction.
- In Florida, Byrne JAG funds were used to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in recouping some of the extraordinary costs associated with large-scale response efforts following the mass shooting at the PULSE nightclub in Orlando and shooting incident at the Ft. Lauderdale International Airport.
- In New Jersey, Byrne JAG funds support the Division of State Police Ballistics Unit, which routinely serves agencies throughout the state by giving expert advice on firearms related evidence, preparing reports, offering courtroom testimony, providing lectures, and entering and correlating images in the NIBIN database.
- Byrne JAG funds in Georgia support driver's license and identity theft investigation and prevention through the Georgia Department of Driver Services through support of investigative positions.
- In Idaho, Byrne JAG funds support an analyst position and the addition of law enforcement data sets to the Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center ([IC]²), a statewide multi-agency fusion center. The [IC]² hosts analysts from a

wide range of criminal justice agencies and assists with law enforcement efforts including gang investigation, the identification of crime hot spots, crime trends, the coordination of missing persons and kidnapping investigations, and justice information sharing.

- Byrne JAG funds in New Hampshire help to support community policing programs such as the Mounted Patrol Unit. The units serve two of New Hampshire's largest cities. Funding supports two officer positions and two horses in each city.

How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG grant is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency or SAA), which, in turn, awards the funding, to local governments and non-profit service providers; the remaining 40 percent goes directly from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to local communities based on population and crime data.

Funding is authorized at \$1.1 billion annually. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. In subsequent years, funding held steady at about \$500 million. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in FY09 provided a one-time boost of \$2 billion. Since FY10, funding has dropped by about one-third. In FY17 the program was funded at \$335 million.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system – in prevention, enforcement, courts, prosecution, indigent defense, corrections, crisis intervention and behavioral health services, victim assistance, and other community-based supports and services.

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