



NATIONAL FORUM
on CRIMINAL JUSTICE
2017

Elizabeth Pyke
Director of Government Affairs
National Criminal Justice Association



“May you live in interesting times”

ancient Chinese proverb



Trump Administration:
what's the same? what's different?

What's the same (so far)?



- BJA, VOCA, etc. policies, procedures, actions
- Some permanent directors named; other acting directors in place
- FY18 budget/support for grant programs (more about Byrne JAG later)
- Grants being awarded
- Focus on opioids – WH commission report
- WH interest in CJ reform

What's different (so far)?



- Reversal of Obama policies on drugs and mandatory minimum sentencing
- Change in tone about LE
- Emphasis on immigration, gangs, violent crime
- DOJ lack of interest in sentencing reform

What is different (so far), con't



- Sanctuary Cities:
- Two Presidential Executive Orders
- Current federal law narrow; allows wide latitude to practice welcoming policies
- Obama/Trump compliance with 8 U.S.C. Section 1373 on sharing of immigration info
- House-passed bill expands definition and penalizes LE grant programs



Congress:
what's the same? what's different?

What's the same (so far)?



- Chaos swirling, but generally stable on CJ
- Moving surprising number of bills
 - Victims' programs in SAFER bill
 - Anti-trafficking programs
 - JJDPA – still trying
 - Adam Walsh/SORNA – maybe
 - VOCA and VAWA up next

What is different (so far)?



- Pause in move toward wider CJ reform bill
- May see shift back to appropriators driving policy
 - Last Congress worked through priorities
 - CARA, JFAA, CURES, LE bills
 - This year may see fewer bills passing
 - House rules make creating new programs difficult
- Some key leaders new



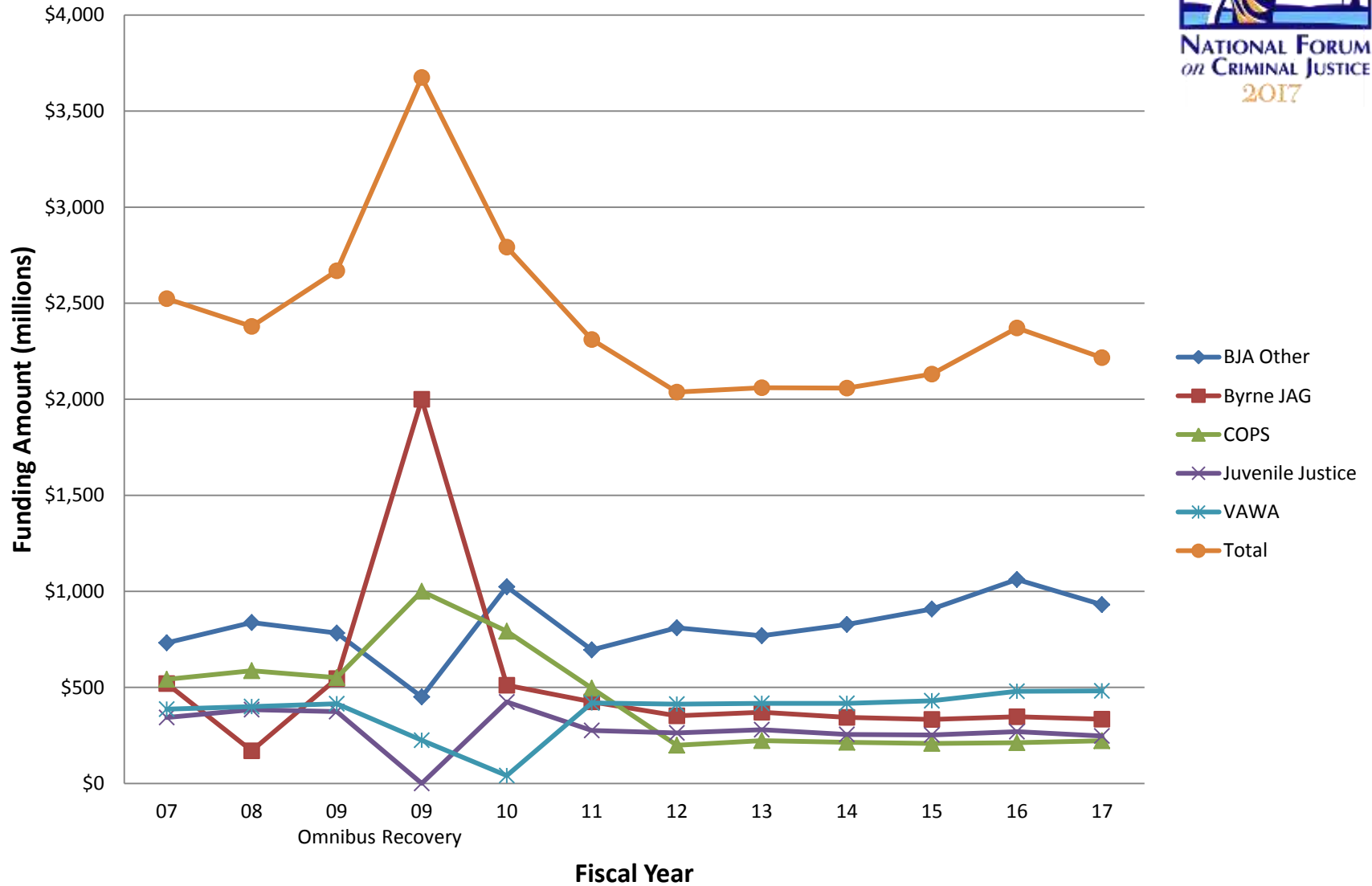
Grant Funding

Where are we today?

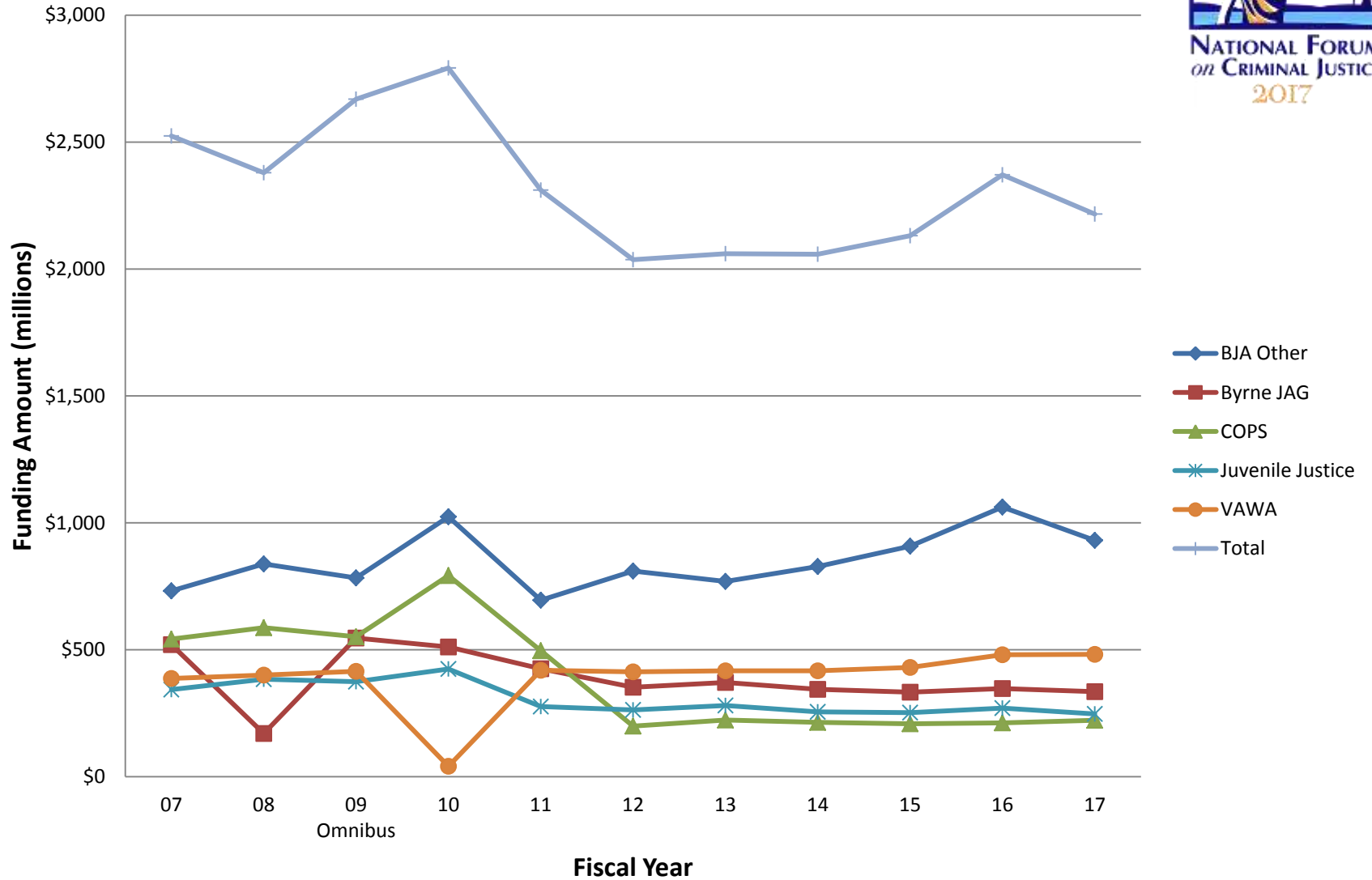


- After volatile years, more stable
- In middle of FY18 funding cycle
 - POTUS budget mostly stable; Byrne JAG cut 20%
 - CJS bills passed House and Senate approps cmtes
 - VOCA up; rest stable

Justice Assistance Appropriations, FY07 - FY17 (with Recovery Act)



Justice Assistance Appropriations, FY07 - FY17 (without Recovery Act)



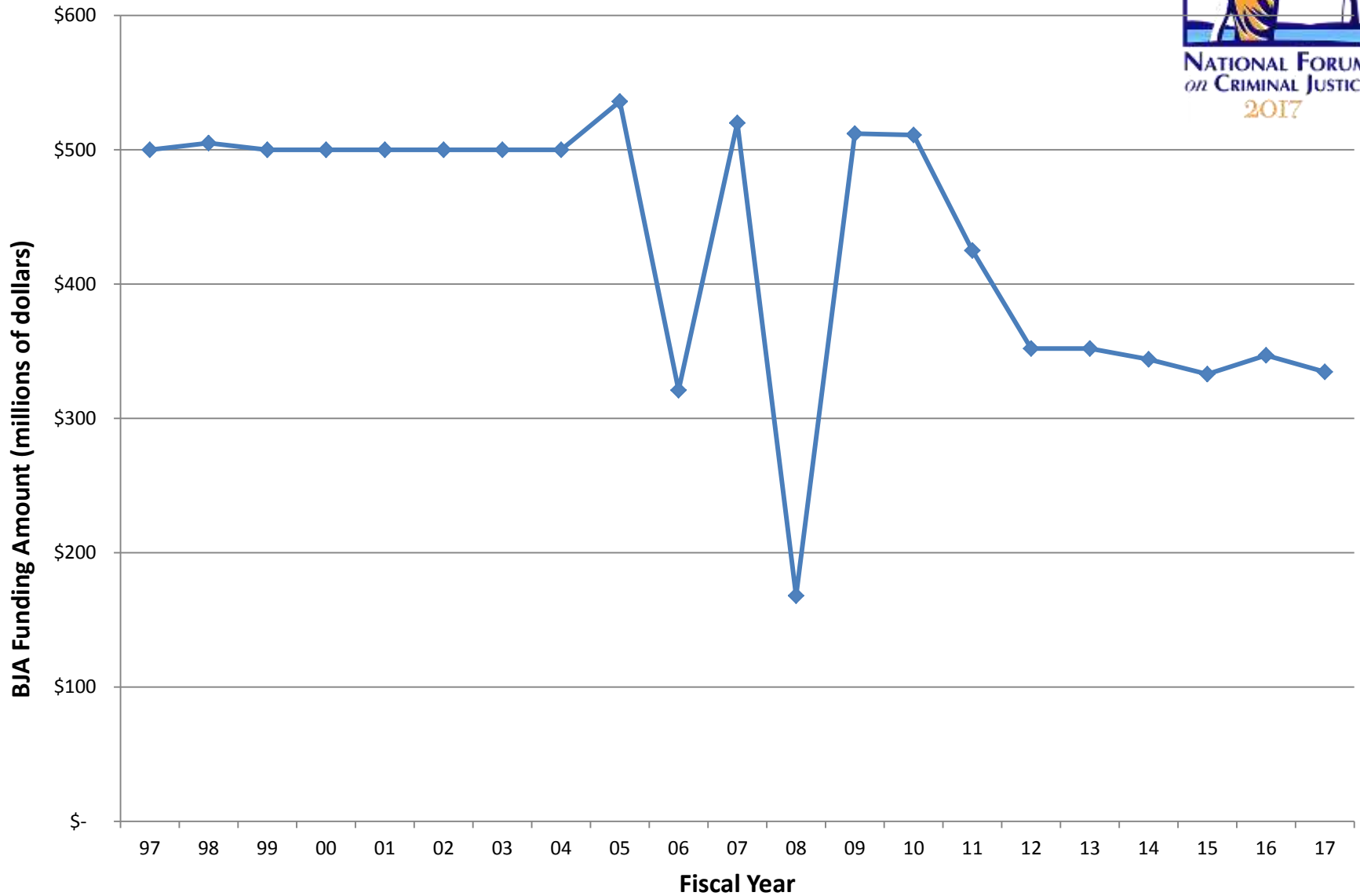
Byrne JAG Funding 1997 - 2017 (with Recovery Act)



NATIONAL FORUM
on CRIMINAL JUSTICE
2017



Byrne JAG Funding 1997- 2017 (without Recovery Act)



Where are we going?



- Expecting continuing resolution...again
- Based on House and Senate bills, expecting stable funding but...

Ongoing threat to grants?



- Bipartisan support for grants but larger forces may mean much less money available:
 - Sequester returning
 - Commitment to increase military, but cut domestic discretionary spending
 - Cuts to entitlement programs?
 - Coupled with tax reform and debt ceiling rise



Help to Tell the Story!

Educate about the Grants



- FY08 Byrne JAG cut spurred 18-month educational campaign
- Successful in restoring and adding funding and in explaining investments of federal grants
- Renewing campaign to update progress and repel penalties

Byrne JAG education plan



- Coalition meeting with every Judiciary and Appropriations office
- NCJA data collection/SAA survey/interviews
- Briefings, press conferences, op-eds
- Need concerted effort in states to highlight successes, explain goals and EBPs



Elizabeth Pyke
Director of Government Affairs
National Criminal Justice Association
epyke@ncja.org
202-321-6157