

**ATTACHMENT #2**  
**EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG)**  
**PROGRAM NARRATIVE**  
**APPLICATION FY2014**

**State's Strategy/Funding Priorities**

Energy production has brought many changes and challenges to North Dakota. While the energy boom has brought the state growth, job opportunities, and economic benefits, it has also resulted in increasing crime and drug abuse issues. North Dakota is largely known as a rural state with few jurisdictions larger than 55,000 people. Many of the local law enforcement agencies are small, one to two-person departments, and struggle to keep up with the influx of new people. The competition for tax dollars among all governmental agencies, coupled with the current trend of shrinking tax bases and transient nature of energy boom workers, makes fewer dollars available to law enforcement agencies. Regardless, criminals continue to remain a danger to the community until law enforcement conquers the overwhelming task of keeping up with population explosion, and the costs associated with advances in science and technology.

Priorities for the JAG funds include maintaining a close working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies, state's attorneys' offices, domestic violence and victim assistance programs, the courts, and numerous other agencies and programs. Past coordination involved encouraging these agencies to participate in the development of the North Dakota Drug Control and Violent Crime Strategy. The primary objective of the Drug Control and Violent Crime Strategy is to create a comprehensive, systematic approach to eradicating drug abuse and trafficking, and significantly decrease violent crime in the state of North Dakota. The process allows officials to discuss proposed activities, share intelligence and resources, and prevent possible future conflicts with other agencies.

The Drug and Violent Crime Policy Board oversees the use of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds in North Dakota. The Board is made up of representatives from law enforcement, victim and witness assistance, and prosecution. As a result of the reduction in federal funding, the Board has decided to concentrate its efforts in the following areas:

**Law Enforcement**

The North Dakota Drug Control and Violent Crime Strategy identified narcotics enforcement, through the utilization of multi-jurisdictional narcotics task forces, as the primary focus for the use of JAG funds in the state of North Dakota. The existence of eleven narcotics task forces are especially crucial in a state like North Dakota, which has seen a large increase in methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, marijuana, and prescription drug use, trafficking, distribution, and clandestine manufacturing. The task forces have had great success in the seizure of illegal drugs throughout the state. The goal of the task forces is to provide dedicated investigations in the area of controlled substance trafficking. There are often very small budgets, smaller amounts of personnel, and little equipment in rural areas. The task forces provide these smaller agencies a structure within which to share resources. The implementation of multi-jurisdictional narcotics

task forces has improved coordination of drug control efforts through the sharing of information and planning of investigative activities among the agencies involved.

### **Prevention and Education**

Funding for services provided to victims of violent crime remains an integral part of the statewide strategy. Now more than ever, these programs are depended upon to provide a wide range of services to North Dakota's ever increasing population, including court assistance, support, shelter, protection order preparation, relocation, children's medical and forensic examinations, and advocacy. The emphasis of these programs is to promote awareness, prevention, and involvement in the community through educational materials and presentations.

### **Strategic Planning**

In cooperation with the Drug and Violent Crime Policy Board, which is represented by law enforcement agencies, state's attorneys' offices, domestic violence and victim assistance programs, the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) will update a multi-year Drug and Violent Crime Control Strategy. This multi-year strategy sets the stage for long-term planning and organization of resources, which are needed for effective drug control programs.

A meeting will be held in June of 2014 to discuss needed updates to the strategy. Thereafter, the Drug and Violent Crime Policy Board, criminal justice working groups, and the Director of the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation will meet and develop the updates, working towards a completion date of April 30, 2015.

In 2009, North Dakota started the operation of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (SLIC). The SLIC is offered to Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Law Enforcement within the State of North Dakota. Services offered include the storage, collation, analysis and dissemination of intelligence data. SLIC is staffed by a collaboration of agencies including the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, North Dakota Highway Patrol, North Dakota Division of Homeland Security, North Dakota National Guard and the United States Department of Homeland Security. SLIC also staffs a Local Law Enforcement Liaison to keep in close contact with local agencies and to inform them of services provided. BCI utilizes SLIC to analyze state crime statistics to identify the localized, mostly rural crime areas, most in need of the state's resources.

The primary objective of the Drug and Violent Crime Strategy is to update the comprehensive, systematic approach to eradicating drug abuse and trafficking, and significantly decrease violent crime in the state of North Dakota. BCI will continue to maintain a close working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies, state's attorneys' offices, domestic violence and victim assistance programs, the courts, and numerous other agencies and programs. Coordination in updating the strategy will be achieved through BCI's work with the Drug and Violent Crime Policy Board and reaching out to these agencies to participate in the updating of the North Dakota Drug and Violent Crime Strategy. This combined effort will allow officials to discuss

proposed activities, share intelligence and resources, and prevent possible future conflicts with other agencies.

**Performance Measurement Data**

Performance measurement data will be collected from sub grantees through the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) system. The information will then be compiled and reported to the Office of Justice Programs.