



**U.S. Department of Justice
FY 2024 Budget Request**

**Keeping Our Country Safe:
Combat Violent Crime and Gun Violence
(Amount in \$000s)**

Component / Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
FEDERAL PROGRAMS			
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)			
Bipartisan Safer Communities Act	332	100	\$71,120
Combating Gun Violence	100	72	\$25,578
Subtotal, ATF	432	172	\$96,698
Criminal Division (CRM)			
Combat Key Drivers of Violent Crime	15	14	\$2,250
Subtotal, CRM	15	14	\$2,250
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)			
DNA	7	0	\$53,117
Bipartisan Safer Communities Act	0	0	43,033
Violent Crime	44	15	14,862
Subtotal, FBI	51	15	\$111,012
U.S. Attorneys (USA)			
Violent Crime Prosecutions	130	100	\$16,727
Subtotal, USA	130	100	\$16,727
U.S. Marshals Service (USMS)			
Electronic Surveillance Upgrade and Replacement	0	0	\$6,320
Subtotal, USMS	0	0	\$6,320
Subtotal, Federal Programs	528	301	\$233,007

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Component / Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
GRANTS - DISCRETIONARY			
Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)			
COPS Hiring Program	0	0	\$537,000
Subtotal, COPS	0	0	\$537,000
Office of Justice Programs (OJP)			
Community Violence Intervention	0	0	\$200,000
Project Safe Neighborhoods	0	0	40,000
Criminal Justice Researcher/Practitioner Smart Suite	0	0	28,000
Regional Sexual Assault Investigative Training Academies	0	0	20,000
Forensic Science Research and Development Program	0	0	15,000
Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance	0	0	10,000
Field Innovation: Inviting New Ideas to Improve Outcomes for Public Safety	0	0	10,000
Forensics Training and Technical Assistance	0	0	5,000
National Law Enforcement Knowledge Lab	0	0	5,000
Promoting Research and Evidence Integration in Sexual Violence Prevention	0	0	4,000
National Center on Forensics	0	0	4,000
Combat Contraband Cellphone Use	0	0	2,000
Subtotal, OJP			\$343,000
Subtotal, Grants Discretionary			\$880,000
GRANTS - MANDATORY			
COPS – Hiring Program	0	0	2,175,000
OJP – Gun Crime Prevention Strategic Fund	0	0	884,000
OJP – Public Safety Officers Death Benefits	0	0	192,000
Subtotal, Grants Mandatory	0	0	\$3,251,000
Subtotal, Grants	0	0	\$4,131,000
Total Resources, Violent Crime and Gun Violence	528	301	\$4,364,007

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The United States has experienced a dramatic increase in violent crime incidents, with the number of violent crimes increasing by 29 percent in 2021.¹ As gun crime and violence affects American communities, it is critical for the Department to invest strategically in comprehensive action against those who engage in violent illegal activity to the detriment of public safety.

On February 16, 2023, the Office of Justice Programs organized the first convening of grantees participating in its Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative, in St. Louis, MO. Attorney General Garland summarized the Department's violent crime strategy to this audience, noting: "At the Justice Department, our approach to disrupting violent crime is centered on our partnerships – both with the communities harmed by violent crime and with the law enforcement agencies that protect those communities. Our approach is centered on building public trust. We know that we cannot do our jobs effectively without the trust of the communities we serve."²

As Attorney General Garland stated that day, the Department-wide anti-violent crime strategy leverages the resources of our federal prosecutors, agents, investigators, grant programs, and criminal justice experts:

- Every one of our 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices across the country is working alongside state and local partners to implement district-specific violent crime reduction strategies.
- Each of our law enforcement components is working with its state, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement partners to seize illegal guns and deadly drugs and to hold accountable, those who commit those acts in our communities.
- Our grantmaking components are working closely with communities across the country to provide targeted support and assistance. That includes resources to give law enforcement agencies the tools and training they need to protect their communities and to serve them. It includes providing technical assistance and resources to our law enforcement partners to build the public trust that is essential to public safety.

The FY 2024 President's Budget prioritizes data-driven solutions to stem violent crime escalation by preventing the flow of illegal firearms, supporting State and local law enforcement partners, and holding accountable those who endanger the public through acts of violence.

The FY 2024 President's Budget invests a total of \$4.4 billion, \$3.3 billion mandatory and \$1.1 billion discretionary, to undertake the challenge of combating violent crime and reducing gun violence in the United States. Through targeted investments in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the Criminal Division (CRM), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the U.S. Attorneys (USA), and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and by fueling grant initiatives administered through the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office and the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), the Department continues and expands on its

¹ U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, [Crime Data Explorer](#): National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Details Reported in the United States.

² U.S. Department of Justice, Speech (Remarks as Delivered), February 16, 2023, St. Louis, MO: [Attorney General Merrick B. Garland Delivers Remarks at the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative Grantee Convening](#)

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initiatives to implement comprehensive action against gun violence and mitigating its impact in American cities.

The FY 2024 Budget request also provides a total of \$4.1 billion to support State and local law enforcement and community violence prevention and intervention programs to make our neighborhoods safer. This includes a total of \$880.0 million in discretionary resources for State and local grants and \$3.3 billion in mandatory resources to support law enforcement, crime prevention, and community violence intervention.

FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF): \$96.7 million and 432 positions (172 agents)

Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA): \$71.1 million and 332 positions (100 agents)

The ATF requests funding to fulfill its responsibilities under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), the most substantial change to Federal firearms law in a generation. These resources build upon investments begun in FY 2023 by adding 232 new Industry Operations Investigators to continue inspections of Federal Firearms Licensees (FFL). Investments will enable the ATF to respond to various provisions of the BSCA, including the amended FFL definition; closure of the so-called “boyfriend loophole,” resulting in an increase in misdemeanor crime of domestic violence; new statutes prohibiting trafficking in firearms and straw purchasing; and new incentives for States to adopt extreme risk protection orders, also known as “red flag laws.” The ATF’s ability to implement this new legislation comprehensively is dependent on the appropriate resources, and this budget provides the resources for the ATF to fully realize the vision of the BSCA for safer communities across America. *Current services for this initiative are \$22.0 million and 77 positions (16 agents).*

Combating Gun Violence: \$25.6 million and 100 positions (72 agents)

In light of the ATF’s central role in the Department’s efforts to combat gun violence, its request is structured to reduce violent firearm crimes in communities across the nation. Increased resources and personnel directed towards the Firearms Trafficking Strike Force (FTSF) initiative will expand the ATF’s presence within homicide units of law enforcement agencies located in violent firearms crime “market” cities. Strike Forces generate investigations in dozens of cities across America; this request enables the ATF to continue its work as the lead Federal law enforcement agency providing resources and collaborative infrastructure for investigations relating to firearms trafficking and gun violence. *Current services for this initiative are \$515.7 million and 2,272 positions (1,681 agents).*

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Criminal Division (CRM): \$2.3 million and 15 positions (14 attorneys)

Combat Key Drivers of Violent Crime: \$2.3 million and 15 positions (14 attorneys)

The requested resources will improve the Division's litigation and appellate capabilities for violent crime, especially gun-related violent crime. Additional resources are needed for the Organized Crime and Gang Section (OCGS) as requests for OCGS assistance have increased dramatically due to the Department's emphasis on gun-related crime and the recent increase in violent criminal cases the Department oversees due to updated jurisprudence. Funding will specifically support the Department's efforts towards (1) fighting violent crime and gun violence throughout the country; and (2) combatting the most prolific and dangerous human smuggling and trafficking groups operating in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Funding will also assist the Appellate Section in addressing their expanded portfolio and extensive support to the investigations and prosecutions of high-profile violent crime cases. *Current services for this initiative are \$23.0 million and 83 positions (59 attorneys).*

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): \$111.0 million and 51 positions (15 agents)

DNA: \$53.1 million and seven positions (zero agents)

In April 2020, regulation changes required that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) begin collecting DNA samples from over 700,000 individuals per year. Due to the DHS DNA collection expansion, the FBI's monthly volume of DNA samples received for processing has consistently totaled seven times the historical monthly volume and this volume is expected to continue or increase further. The FBI requires additional resources to process this much higher volume of DNA samples in a timely manner and to further develop advanced methods and technology to improve DNA processing. These requested resources will allow the FBI to process the rapidly increasing number of DNA samples submitted by the DHS, re-architecture the current Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) software application to a modern cloud-based application, and implement the Rapid DNA standards required by the Rapid DNA Act of 2017. *Current services for this initiative are \$56.7 million and 168 positions (zero agents).*

Bipartisan Safer Communities Act: \$43.0 million and zero positions

The BSCA provided the FBI with \$100.0 million in one-time funding to begin implementing the BSCA's important mandates for combatting gun violence. The FBI is utilizing those resources to increase staffing for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Section; implement numerous developments to the NICS system, including developments directly related to the BSCA and other developments that are needed to improve the system; and enhance training for staff conducting firearm background checks. However, the FBI expects to fully expend those funds before the end of FY 2024. The FBI requires \$43.0 million in additional resources to sustain the implementation of the BSCA's important mandates in FY 2024 and beyond. The resources will fund annualization of the 170 NICS positions as well as continued system developments to continually improve and keep up with evolving needs. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Violent Crime: \$14.9 million and 44 positions (15 agents)

The requested resources will allow the FBI to combat the significant rise in violent criminal activity across the country. Specifically, the resources will support increased field Special Agents, squad support personnel, and technical capabilities and tools to aid investigations. The

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request includes \$8.4 million and 27 positions (one agent) for the FBI's NICS Section to support statutorily required firearm background checks, including but not limited to continually evolving requirements as a result of the BSCA. For example, additional resources are needed to conduct Under 21 background checks, which have proven more labor intensive than originally estimated, and to meet the BSCA's requirement that licensees be able to use NICS to conduct voluntary background checks relating to a current or prospective employee, which is conservatively expected to result in 750,000 additional annual checks once implemented. In addition, the request includes \$5.1 million and 14 positions (11 agents) to develop a Crimes Against Children Unit for the East and West regions of the U.S., enhance Resiliency and Safeguarding Resources, and increase Special Agent staffing for the Child Exploitation Operational Unit, all of which are in response to the recent investigation findings regarding Larry Nassar. Finally, the request includes \$1.3 million and three positions (three agents) to enhance the FBI's Human Trafficking Program, to support the Department's National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking, and to craft guidance for FBI field offices that outlines best practices for victim-centered, trauma-informed, culturally responsive operations. *Current services are \$200.7 million and 1,169 positions (29 agents).*

U.S. Attorneys (USA): \$16.7 million and 130 positions (100 attorneys)

Violent Crime Prosecutions: \$16.7 million and 130 positions (100 attorneys)

Funding is needed to implement the Department's violent crime reduction strategies, which are essential to upholding the Department's fundamental goal of keeping the American people safe. The resources will be used for additional prosecutors and support staff to increase the USAOs' abilities to target priority violent street gangs and drug traffickers in jurisdictions that are suffering from elevated levels of violence; accept more high priority firearms cases for Federal prosecution; shut down pipelines feeding illegally trafficked firearms into regions affected by gun violence around the country; and implement effective approaches that reduce violent crime. *Current services for this initiative are \$198.4 million and 1,046 positions (667 attorneys).*

USMS: \$6.3 million and zero positions (zero agents)

Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) Upgrade and Replacement: \$6.3 million and zero positions

The USMS needs effective and compatible ELSUR capabilities to safely and quickly capture dangerous fugitives. Without adequate funding, ELSUR equipment becomes obsolete due to the technical advancements in the information technology and telecommunications industries. Obsolescence creates a "going dark" scenario, where law enforcement cannot identify or geo-locate targeted mobile devices. As wireless carriers expand 5G implementation, repurpose 2G and 3G legacy technology wireless spectrum, add newly acquired spectrum through government auction and unlicensed frequencies, and utilize more wireless protocol (Wi-Fi) access points to offload their growing subscriber bases, USMS wireless surveillance capabilities continue to degrade. Timely upgrade and replacement of ELSUR equipment is necessary to ensure the USMS has uninterrupted capabilities in the wireless arena. This request builds on and fully funds this initiative, which received partial funding in the FY 2022 and 2023 appropriations, to update ELSUR equipment and assist in keeping pace with emerging technologies. *Current services for this initiative are \$15.7 million and zero positions (zero agents).*

GRANTS

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Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS): Total \$2.7 billion (+\$2.4 billion)

COPS Hiring Program (CHP) – Discretionary: Total \$537.0 million (+\$213.0 million)

The CHP aims to increase the capacity of law enforcement agencies to implement community policing strategies that strengthen partnerships for safer communities and enhance law enforcement's capacity to prevent, solve, and control crime through funding for additional officers. Additional funding for the CHP will promote community policing, increased law enforcement capacity has been shown to help police gather information about crime and disorder problems, understand the nature of the problems, and solve specific crimes. Moreover, law enforcement agencies will be more effective when they adopt policies and practices that promote fairness, legitimacy, and positive community partnerships. *Current services for this initiative are \$324.0 million.*

CHP (Mandatory): Total \$2.2 billion (+\$2.2 billion)

The Budget requests \$2.2 billion in 2024 for the COPS Hiring Program Safer America Plan proposal, and \$10.9 billion over five years in total. Combined with continued discretionary investments in COPS Hiring, this will provide communities the resources needed to keep streets safe, including by helping them hire and train 100,000 additional police officers for accountable community policing and dedicating funds for small law enforcement agencies. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Office of Justice Programs (OJP): \$1.4 billion (+\$1.3 billion)

Community Violence Intervention (CVI): Total \$200.0 million (+\$150.0 million)

This request provides funding and support to communities to develop, implement, expand, and evaluate community violence intervention programs that apply evidence-informed and localized approaches to reducing violence. The CVI initiative supports both adult- and youth-focused community violence intervention programs, as well as public health partnership connected with local emergency rooms. This program was funded as a set-aside within the Community Trust Initiative for \$50.0 million. The FY 2024 budget proposes the program as its own line item. *Current services for this initiative are \$50.0 million.*

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN): Total \$40.0 million (+\$20.0 million)

Launched in 2001, the PSN program is a Department-led nationwide initiative that brings together Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement officials, prosecutors, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in a community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. In support of the Department's violent crime reduction strategy, the requested increase will significantly expand the resources available to PSN teams as they engage with local partners to develop strategic plans and work together to implement those plans. Further, the additional resources will support expanded efforts to build community trust and include a more diverse array of stakeholders in the PSN strategy. *Current services for this initiative are \$20.0 million.*

Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Smart Suite: Total \$28.0 million (+\$28.0 million)

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Resources will build on the work of the OJP's previous Smart Suite programs, including the Strategic Policing Initiative (Smart Policing), Innovative Prosecution Solutions Initiative (Smart Prosecution), and the Innovations in Supervision (Smart Probation) program. The Smart Suite program will lay the foundation for expanding these types of data-driven policymaking efforts among State, local, and tribal criminal justice systems, while deepening the evidence base to inform nationwide efforts to solve complex criminal justice and public safety challenges. This program will also build capacity at the state, local, and tribal level, helping grantees develop the skills and leadership abilities they need to better serve their communities. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Regional Sexual Assault Investigative Training Academies: Total \$20.0 million (+\$20.0 million)

This new program will provide cutting-edge, evidence-based, and trauma-informed training on investigating and prosecuting sexual assault for law enforcement, prosecutors, and victims' advocates across the United States. The request will allow the OJP to support more criminal justice professionals across the country and improve investigations and prosecutions of sexual assault crimes. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Forensic Science Research and Development Program: Total \$15.0 million (+\$15.0 million)

Funding will support a new program for forensic science research designed to promote criminal justice system efficiencies and cost-effectiveness and ensure the fair and impartial administration of justice. The program will fund both intramural and extramural research and support collaborative partnerships with academic, governmental, and private entities across the criminal justice and research communities. The OJP will also leverage this program to support graduate research fellowships in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields to increase the number of research-oriented practitioners, who are critical to serving the needs of the field. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistance: Total \$10.0 million (+\$10.0 million)

Funding will provide Federal assistance, including equipment, training, and intelligence information, to State, local, and tribal governments responding to public safety emergencies that threaten to overwhelm their existing resources. These awards have assisted State and local authorities in responding to a variety of public safety threats, ranging from mass shootings to widespread civil unrest, to restoring order after natural disasters such as hurricanes. This funding is the only dedicated source of federal emergency assistance to State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Field Innovation: Inviting New Ideas to Improve Outcomes for Public Safety: Total \$10.0 million (+\$10.0 million)

This program will invite local, State, and regional stakeholders to propose and test innovations and strategies for meeting emergent needs on the ground. Funding will allow jurisdictions and practitioners to address critical public safety needs and gaps in knowledge, resulting in tools, training, and resources to disseminate lessons learned to the field. Funds will support field tests of local or regional projects to expand new ideas, revise evidence-based approaches for new audiences or issues, and translate learning to the field. These field tests will require that the grantee have a research partner to support implementation fidelity, data collection, evaluation of outcomes, and translation of the model via training materials or tools. This will allow grantees to

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test ideas and demonstrate, through research and evaluation, the value and potential impact of those ideas. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Forensics Training and Technical Assistance: Total \$5.0 million (+\$5.0 million)

This request will establish a national Forensics Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) program to support and enhance the capacity and program outcomes of active and existing OJP site-based forensic grantees through a range of TTA services. The program will also highlight real-time success and transparency for OJP program dollars across its forensic science portfolio. Funding under this program would provide States, localities, and tribes with resources and tools to improve the quality of their forensic science services to meet the challenges of crime and justice and improve overall public safety. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

National Law Enforcement Knowledge Lab: Total \$5.0 million (+\$5.0 million)

The United States has more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies – each of which establishes its own rules and procedures – and almost 700,000 law enforcement officers who translate these rules into practice every day. No National law enforcement institution exists to set nationwide standards or core competencies for best practices in law enforcement operations, nor is there an easily accessible national resource hub where a law enforcement leader can go to develop or learn about fair and effective crime reduction policies. This program will create and maintain a publicly accessible online resource to share the reforms and outcomes achieved by local agencies that have undergone significant structural changes under the supervision of federal or state consent decrees, settlement agreements, and other reform efforts. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Promoting Research and Evidence Integration in Sexual Violence Prevention: Total \$4.0 million (+\$4.0 million)

The request will fund sexual violence prevention strategies that go beyond the registration and public notification of individuals who commit these offenses. It will support integration of research and evidence-based approaches to sexual violence prevention and registrant management practices that span the criminal justice spectrum, supporting the needs of the various disciplines involved and linking prevention, victims' services, and reintegration efforts. This program will also provide grants to state and local officials involved in sex offender management (including law enforcement, courts, corrections, community supervision staff, mental health providers, and partner nonprofit organizations) as they work to prevent and reduce the threat of sexual violence in their communities and support victims of such crimes, as well as keep registrants from reoffending or failing to comply with their registration requirements. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

National Center on Forensics: Total \$4.0 million (+\$4.0 million)

Funding is requested to reestablish the National Center on Forensics program. This program will develop and provide learning opportunities in the forensic sciences for medical students, prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement. The program goals include developing opportunities and partnerships to benefit current and future practitioners in the field, improve the forensic science workforce expertise through knowledge transfer and professional development, and enhance medicolegal death investigation practices, particularly in underserved rural areas. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

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Combat Contraband Cellphone Use: Total \$2.0 million (+\$2.0 million)

This program will support continuing efforts to enhance, test, implement, and evaluate policies, practices, and technology to address and reduce the use of contraband cellphones in State, local, and tribal correctional facilities. Implementing successful contraband interdiction systems can be both resource intensive and require specific subject matter expertise. Federal grants accompanied with technical assistance are invaluable to many agencies struggling with contraband cellphones. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Gun Crime Prevention Strategic Fund (Mandatory): Total \$884.0 million (+\$884.0 million)

This new mandatory grant program will be funded at \$884.0 million over five years, totaling \$4.4 billion. This new program provides States and localities with comprehensive resources to invest in modern, data-informed strategies to prevent gun crime and reduce victimization. The Fund will improve and expand mechanisms for Federal, State, and local collaboration to take repeat shooters off our streets and meet the needs of those collaborative processes with personnel and technology; expand and strengthen crime gun intelligence centers; enhance local crime data sharing and analysis capacity; and upgrade access to and responsible use of technology. Resources will also support efforts to improve outcomes and resources, including increasing clearance rates for gun crimes; strengthen training for State and local law enforcement and prosecutors; and recruit and retain law enforcement for accountable community policing, including through retention bonuses, student loan repayment and tuition reimbursement, and wellness resources. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

Public Safety Officers Death Benefits (Mandatory): Total \$192.0 million (+\$59.0 million)

The Public Safety Officers Death Benefits (PSOB) mandatory funding provides a one-time financial benefit to survivors of public safety officers whose deaths resulted from injuries sustained in the line of duty, which is funded by a mandatory appropriation. Due to increased COVID-19 and September 11th exposure-related diseases, as well as the new Public Safety Officer Support Act legislation, the PSOB Program expects to receive hundreds of additional death benefits claims. *Current services for this initiative are \$133.0 million.*