



Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS)

FY 2022 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2021 Enacted:	\$386.0 million (84 positions; 7 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$0
Program Changes:	+\$265.0 million
FY 2022 Budget Request:	\$651.0 million (100 positions; 7 attorneys)
Change From FY 2021 Enacted:	+\$265.0 million (+68.7%) (+16 positions)

Mission:

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) mission is to advance public safety through the practice of community policing. By proactively addressing the root causes of criminal and disorderly behavior, rather than simply responding to crimes once they have been committed, community policing concentrates on preventing both crime and the atmosphere of fear it creates. Community policing also promotes the use of operational strategies and the development of mutually-beneficial relationships between law enforcement and the communities served. By earning community trust and making those individual community members stakeholders in their own safety, law enforcement can better understand and address the community's needs, and the factors that contribute to crime.

Resources:

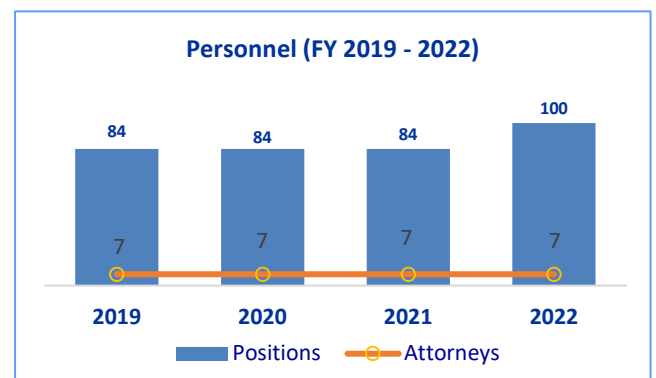
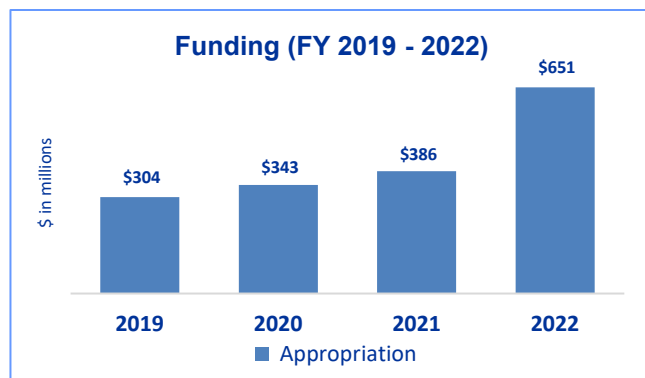
The FY 2022 budget request for COPS totals \$651.0 million, which is a 68.7 percent increase over the FY 2021 Enacted.

Organization:

The COPS Office is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the Attorney General. The COPS Office was established in 1994 to assist law enforcement agencies in enhancing public safety through the implementation of community policing strategies.

Personnel:

COPS's direct authorized positions for FY 2022 total 100 positions, including an increase of 16 positions over the FY 2021 Enacted of 84 direct authorized positions.



FY 2022 Strategy:

COPS remains steadfast to the communities they serve, and the priorities of the Administration in advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. Law enforcement plays a vital role in each of these areas, through developing and maintaining meaningful relationships with all segments of their communities and working in partnership with those communities to provide effective crime prevention, intervention, and response services and resources. Not only does the COPS Office hire and train community policing professionals, it also administers programs and resources that help to reform agencies and rebuild the bridges of trust between the community and those sworn to protect and serve.

To advance this mission, COPS develops training and technical assistance to enhance law enforcement officers' problem-solving and community interaction skills, promotes collaboration between law enforcement and community members to develop innovative initiatives to prevent crime, and provides cost-effective service delivery to grantees to support community policing.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime, and satisfaction with police services.

COPS awards grants to hire community policing professionals, develop and test innovative policing strategies, and provide training and technical assistance to community members, local government leaders, and all levels of law enforcement. Since 1994, the COPS Office has invested more than \$14.0 billion to help advance community policing, supporting over 13,000 of the nation's 18,000 law enforcement agencies.

COPS also partners with law enforcement experts and the academic community to develop and produce informational products that highlight ongoing and new law enforcement issues or successful community policing strategies used by law enforcement departments throughout the country in response to commonly shared crime and disorder problems.

The Budget proposes to implement administrative reforms that seek to more closely align the COPS Hiring program with evidence-based strategies to reduce violent crime in partnership with communities. This includes new priorities for jurisdictions that support Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs, for jurisdictions that seek to hire officers to engage directly with CVI teams and other community stakeholders to ensure those groups are involved in strategic operations and planning, and for jurisdictions seeking to implement hiring practices to help agencies mirror the racial diversity of the communities that they serve.

These reforms will allow CHP to expand its focus to a broader array of innovative enforcement strategies, and support efforts to develop programs that enable communities to actively participate in violent crime prevention. Together with other investments requested in the President's Budget, the proposed funding level for the COPS Hiring Program offers a pathway to comprehensively support law enforcement and communities in their combined efforts to promote public safety.

In FY 2022, the COPS Office will fulfill its mission of advancing public safety through community policing by:

- Providing grants under the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) to support the hiring of sworn law enforcement personnel nationwide, while implementing administrative reforms that seek to more closely align the program with a broader array of evidence-based strategies to combat violent crime in partnership with communities including prioritization for jurisdictions seeking to implement hiring practices that would help agencies mirror the racial diversity of the communities they serve, for jurisdictions that support Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs, and for jurisdictions seeking to hire officers specifically to coordinate with CVI teams and other community stakeholders;
- Providing grants under the COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Program and the Anti-Heroin Task Forces Program. The programs would support investigations of illicit activities related to the distribution of heroin, unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, methamphetamine precursor diversion, laboratories, or heroin and methamphetamine traffickers, and support prevention efforts related to the prescription drug, heroin, and methamphetamine epidemics;
- Continuing oversight and coordination of the National Blue Alert Network, which promotes rapid dissemination of information to law enforcement, the media and the public about violent offenders who have killed, seriously injured or pose an imminent threat to law enforcement, or when an officer is missing in connection with official duties;
- Advancing the work of the national Officer Safety and Wellness (OSW) Group, which brings together representatives from law enforcement, Federal agencies, and the research community to focus attention on this critical aspect of public safety. Semi-annual meetings of the OSW Group help amplify critical officer safety issues and result in reports which highlight the latest research and best practices around different safety and wellness topics;
- Promoting improved public safety outcomes by infusing community policing core principles in all grant programs, and acting on evidence that they advance public safety;
- Supporting innovative programs that respond directly to the emerging needs of State, local, and tribal law enforcement for research-based guidance on the most effective ways to prevent and address crime and disorder within their communities;
- Promoting collaboration among law enforcement, community members, academic institutions, and other key stakeholders to implement initiatives that have proven effective in helping to prevent crime; and
- Providing responsive, cost effective customer service delivery to grantees to ensure success in implementing community-policing strategies within their communities.

FY 2022 Program Changes:

COPS Hiring: \$300.0 million

The FY 2022 President's Budget requests a total of \$537.0 million for the COPS Hiring Program (CHP), an increase of \$300.0 million above the FY 2021 Enacted level of \$237.0 million. This program 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. The proposal for the COPS Hiring Program in FY 2022 includes \$149.0 million in funding for carveouts, including \$33.5 million in increases for the following programs:

- **Tribal Access Program (TAP)** – The FY 2022 President's Budget requests \$6.0 million, an increase of \$3.0 million above the FY 2021 Enacted level. This program provides Tribes access to national crime information systems for both criminal and civil purposes. TAP allows Tribes to more effectively serve and protect their citizens by ensuring the exchange of critical data across the Criminal Justice Information Services systems and other national crime information systems.
- **Collaborative Reform Initiative** - The FY 2022 President's Budget requests \$20.0 million, which did not receive a direct appropriation in 2021. This program advances the ability of law enforcement to address their crime and public safety priorities and make their communities safer through the delivery of direct technical assistance to agencies across the country.
- **Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP)** – The FY 2022 President's Budget requests \$40.0 million, an increase of \$10.5 million above the FY 2021 Enacted level. This program aims to expand the implementation of community policing and to meet the most serious needs of law enforcement in tribal nations. TRGP funding can be used for newly hired or rehired career law enforcement officers and village public safety officers as well as to procure basic equipment and training to assist in initiating or enhancing tribal community policing efforts.

The Budget requests to fund the following carveout programs equal to 2021 Enacted:

- **Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness** (\$8.0 million) - This program will help law enforcement agencies establish or enhance mental health care services for their officers and deputies by making grants available to initiate pilot programs that support peer mentoring, annual mental health checks, crisis hotlines, and the delivery of other critical mental health and wellness services. It will also support the development of resources for the mental health providers who deliver tailored, specific

services to law enforcement based on the unique challenges they face.

- **Community Policing Development** (\$35.0 million) This program develops the capacity of law enforcement to implement community policing strategies by providing guidance on promising practices through the development and testing of innovative strategies, to build knowledge about effective practices and outcomes, and to support new, creative approaches to preventing crime and promoting safe communities. This program received a direct appropriation in 2021, but the Budget proposes to fund the program as a carveout of CHP, in line with how the program has historically been funded.
- **Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS)** (\$40.0 million) - This program is administered by the Office of Justice Programs, and supports Federal, State, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies and other criminal justice agencies through six regional RISS centers by providing the following services:
 - A secure online information and intelligence-sharing network;
 - Officer safety information and deconfliction services;
 - Investigative and analytical support services;
 - Loans of specialized investigative equipment and confidential investigative funds; and
 - Training, conferences, and publications designed to assist RISS users in investigating and prosecuting regional, national, and transnational criminal activity.
- **Community Policing Development:** (-\$35.0 million) The request proposes to relocate the funding for this program back under the COPS Hiring Program umbrella, consistent with how the program has historically been appropriated. The amount requested under COPS Hiring for Community Policing Development is \$35.0 million, the same level appropriated in FY 2021.
- **Management and Administration:** (\$1.2 million, 16 positions and 8 FTE) The request includes additional staff to support the needs of law enforcement agencies so that it can provide immediate and flexible technical assistance to agencies upon their request.