



U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2023 Budget Request

Exposure Draft

**Keep Our Country Safe:  
Combat Drug Trafficking and Prevent Overdose Deaths**  
(Amounts in \$000s)

Component / Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
<b>Civil Division (CIV)</b>			
Prescription Opioid Litigation	7	5	\$1,125
<b>Subtotal, CIV</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$1,125</b>
<b>Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)</b>			
DEA Information Sharing Center	62	12	\$31,077
Cell Site Simulators	0	0	3,793
Cyber Coordinators	0	0	582
Cyber Tools	0	0	1,250
Contractual Field Support	0	0	2,331
<b>Subtotal, DEA</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$39,033</b>
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$40,158</b>

In his 2022 State of the Union address, President Biden emphasized the importance of beating the opioid epidemic. Synthetic opioids such as fentanyl remain the primary driver of the increase in overdose deaths. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated numerous factors involved in opioid addiction. Provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate 100,306 drug overdose deaths during the 12-month period ending in April 2021, demonstrating a 28.5 percent increase since that period in the previous year.<sup>1</sup>

To combat drug trafficking, the Department requests a total of \$40.2 million in enhancements to continue the fight against dangerous organizations, both domestically and internationally. These enhancements will enable the Department to capitalize on available resources to track illicit funding sources and prevent the flow of deadly drugs into the hands of those who grow, manufacture, or distribute controlled substances destined for illicit traffic in America. In addition, this Budget sustains \$418.0 million worth of grants in the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in support of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), a continued investment in our communities to relieve the scourge of drugs.

As part of the FY 2023 President's Budget, and as an essential part of the Department's commitment in its Strategic Goal to Keep Our Country Safe, the Department deploys an integrated approach to combat the opioid crisis through increased resources within the Civil Division (CIV) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). Through evidence-based enforcement strategies, the Department will work to save lives by enjoining and deterring prescribers and pharmacists from illegally dispensing opioids.

**Civil Division (CIV): \$1.1 million and 7 positions (5 attorneys)**

**Prescription Opioid Litigation**

Using a wide range of enforcement tools, the Civil Division is uniquely positioned to pursue bad actors throughout the entire opioid distribution chain. CIV plays a key role in stopping those who are recklessly over-prescribing and over-dispensing opioids and has advanced the Department's investigations related to chain pharmacies to

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combat the opioid epidemic. This request provides resources necessary to pursue highly complex national chain pharmacy litigation against well-financed defendants, requiring coordination across multiple agencies and U.S. Attorney's Offices. *Current services are \$2.2 million and 10 positions (10 attorneys).*

**Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA): \$39.0 million positions (10 agents, 2 attorneys)**

**DEA Information Sharing Center (DISC): \$31.1 million and 62 positions (10 agents, 2 attorneys)**

With this request, the DEA will transform how it exploits, stores, and integrates data to enhance investigations through the creation of the DISC. The DISC will serve as a one-stop shop to support operational data collection, sharing, and analytics. Requested personnel resources will facilitate the flow of data and information—such as local crime data—between divisions and local law enforcement agencies and will support bulk data movement and storage from external sources. Through this new coordination hub, the DEA will be able to perform proactive and reactive analysis to support the sharing of real-time investigative and overdose information. *There are no current services for this program.*

**Cell Site Simulators (CSS): \$3.8 million and 0 positions<sup>2</sup>**

The DEA's request for Over the Air CSS technology will provide funding for CSS technology in all district offices within each field division's area of responsibility. Resources will also support necessary upgrades to ensure the DEA's existing technology is able to keep pace with additional frequencies. This updated CSS technology allows DEA to continue to keep pace with drug traffickers.

**Cyber Coordinators: \$582,000 and 0 positions<sup>2</sup>**

This request establishes a Regional Cyber Coordinator (RCC) program to assist investigators in navigating cyber cases. The RCC team will travel regularly to their respective areas to serve as subject matter experts; assist with coordination and procurement of cyber resources; evaluate, document, and support investigations; and coordinate all regional cyber efforts to ensure consistent application of cyber investigative practices and techniques across the DEA.

**Cyber Tools: \$1.3 million and 0 positions<sup>2</sup>**

With this request for \$1.3 million, the DEA will expand its cyber technology capabilities and evaluate, purchase, and centralize new tools. Multiple tools improve confidence, transparency, and provide a more robust record of transactions.

**Contractual Field Support: \$2.3 million and 0 positions<sup>2</sup>**

The DEA SCC Exploitation Unit provides analytical support critical to field investigations in the evolving cyber environment. This \$2.3 million request will support the hiring of contractor personnel to assist with active case support as the need for cyber support in narcotics cases expands.

**For additional information, please consult the FY 2023 Budget and Performance Summary.**

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<sup>2</sup> This enhancement is a portion of the DEA's Investigative Technology and Cyber Support program increase, totaling \$8.0 million and 0 positions. *Current services are \$13.5 million and 74 positions (4 agents).*