



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## *Department of Criminal Justice Services*

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller  
Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq.  
Chief Deputy Director

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### **Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting**

May 30, 2024

#### ***Members Present***

Chief Craig Branch, Chair  
Ed Macon (Proxy for Karl  
Hade)  
\*Ebony Clark  
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.  
Maria Jankowski  
\*Russell "Rusty" McGuire

#### ***Members Absent***

Sheriff Brian Hieatt

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chief Craig Branch called the meeting to order at 11:09 AM

#### **II. Roll Call**

Chief Branch asked DeAndrea Williams to conduct the Roll Call. DeAndrea stated there was a quorum with six members present. Members Ebony Clark (Morrisville, NC due to childcare) and Russell "Rusty" McGuire (Louisa, VA due to court) joined via electronic communication.

#### **III. Introductions/ Opening Comments**

Chief Branch officially welcomed guests and agency dignitaries.

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Chief Branch called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the April 25, 2024 meeting. A motion was made by Ed Macon to approve the minutes and was seconded by Maria Jankowski.

#### **V. Grant Review**

- a. **Addiction Recovery Grant Program – Adult Justice Programs Section, Patricia Shaw**

The purpose for the Addiction Recovery Grant Program (ARGP) is to develop a model addiction recovery program that may be administered by Sheriffs, Deputy Sheriffs, Jail Officers, Administrators, or Superintendents in any local or regional jail. The programs will be based on best practices suggested by existing research, related standards developed for substance use disorder treatment and criminal justice programming, as well as what experts and experienced practitioners have found to work best for intervention in criminal justice settings.

There are currently four ARGP programs in Virginia; all receive grant funding from DCJS at \$38,400 per program per year. For Fiscal Year 2025, DCJS received four (4) applications.

DCJS staff denied zero (0) applications.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund four (4) projects for the 12-month fiscal year (07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025), totaling \$153,600, using State General Funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Maria Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**b. ARPA for Sexual and Domestic Violence Services Grant Program – Victim Services Section, Kristina Vadas**

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for Sexual and Domestic Violence Services grant program is twofold:

1. ARPA funding comes from Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF). The primary purpose of CSLFRF funding is to provide state, local, and Tribal governments with the resources needed to respond to the pandemic and its economic effects and to build a stronger, more equitable economy during the recovery. In accordance with the CSLFRF Final Rule, these funds may be used by eligible programs to respond to the increased incidents of sexual and domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Additionally, in accordance with state budget language, these funds must be awarded to sexual and domestic violence (SDV) organizations to offset reductions in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025.

For SFY 2025, DCJS staff requested approval to award \$3,365,679 in federal ARPA funds to 54 sexual and domestic violence organizations that saw a decrease in available VOCA funding for their core services.

DCJS staff proposed ARPA awards that would ensure level core service funding in SFY 2025 to that received in SFY 2024. DCJS provided each agency with the amount

needed for level funding and applicant agencies submitted applications based on that amount. This was a non-competitive funding opportunity, and applications were not scored. DCJS staff reviewed applications to ensure requested amounts were equal to or less than the predetermined amount and that funds were requested for allowable purposes only.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 54 projects for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), totaling \$3,365,679, using federal ARPA funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**c. Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) – Law Enforcement Equipment – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section, Tracy Matthews**

The purpose of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (“JAG”) funds is to allow states and units of local government, including tribes, to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own state and local needs and conditions. As the State Administrative Agency (SAA), DCJS has the responsibility of managing the coordination and distribution of JAG funds in a manner that supports and improves the overall criminal justice system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This competitive funding opportunity was open to all local and public campus law enforcement agencies. Applicants were invited to submit applications with a project to purchase equipment that improves or enhances the delivery of daily law enforcement services to the community and/or ensures the safety of citizens and officers.

DCJS reviewed the thirty-three (33) outstanding applications that required additional review and/or budget revisions. Staff requested the approval to award \$970,646.00 in federal JAG funds to twenty-seven (27) Law enforcement agencies.

Six (6) applications were denied for this JAG funding opportunity.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund thirty-three (33) projects for the 9-month period (7.1.2024-3.31.2025), totaling \$970,646.00, using federal JAG funds allocated for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr., seconded by Ed Macon. Six (5) members voted for; one (1) member voted against. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**d. Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG) – Public Safety Based Programs – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section, Tracy Matthews**

The purpose of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (“JAG”) funds is to allow states and units of local government, including tribes, to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own state and local needs and conditions. As the State Administrative Agency (SAA), DCJS has the responsibility of managing the coordination and distribution of JAG funds in a manner that supports and improves the overall criminal justice system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This competitive funding opportunity was open to all local units of government and local and public campus law enforcement agencies. Applicants were invited to submit applications with a focus on specific criminal justice programs to include law enforcement programs, community policing and youth programs, combatting drugs, law enforcement accreditation and policy development programs, law enforcement overtime to support specific programmatic initiatives, and other innovative criminal justice programs.

DCJS reviewed the three (3) outstanding applications that required additional review and/or budget revisions. Staff requested the approval to award \$118,938.00 in federal JAG funds to all three (3) Law enforcement agencies.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund three (3) projects for the 15-month period (7.1.2024-9.30.2025), totaling \$118,938.00, using federal JAG funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**e. Child Advocacy Centers Grant Program – Juvenile and Child Welfare Section, Jenna Foster**

The purpose of the FY25 VDSS Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC) Grant is to provide pass-through funding to local CAC programs that meet the following eligibility requirements:

- The program must be operational and have trained forensic interviewers available to assist child victims of crime at the time of application.
- The program must be in full compliance with state and national (NCA) accreditation standards.
- For VOCA funding eligibility, funds must be used for direct services to victims of child abuse. Examples of eligible victim groups are:
  - Children who have self-reported as a victim of abuse to a caregiver or trusted adult.
  - Children who have been identified by local law enforcement or departments of social services as victims of child abuse.

- Children who have been referred to law enforcement or local departments of social services as possible victims of child abuse are also eligible if the referral results in an investigation or family assessment (must be determined a valid complaint).
- Children identified by the court as victims of abuse.

This is a continuation grant to the Virginia Department of Social Services. Because of the reduction in VOCA funding, DCJS invited them to apply for a total of \$1,875,000 (\$1,500,000 VOCA funding request/\$375,000 match).

DCJS staff requested approval to fund one (1) continuation grant in the amount of \$1,500,000 in federal funds.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**f. Community Corrections and Pretrial Services Grant Program – Adult Justice Programs Section, Jennifer MacArthur**

The purpose of CCCA/PSA grant is to support local community-based probation and pretrial services agencies established and operating under the authority of the CCCA, as specified in the Code of Virginia.

Local community-based probation agencies were created in 1995 by the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act (CCCA, §9.1-173 COV). They were created to provide an alternative sentencing option for individuals convicted of certain misdemeanors or non-violent felonies for which sentences would be 12 months or less in a local or regional jail. Local community-based probation agencies provide services or referrals to services to include community service, assessment, education and/or treatment, and substance abuse testing.

Pretrial services were first created in Virginia in 1989, pursuant to authorizing language in the Appropriations Act. In 1995, pretrial services agencies were authorized by statute with the passage of the Pretrial Services Act (PSA, § 19.2-152.2 COV). Pretrial services agencies provide information, to include risk of failure to appear for court hearings and risk to public safety, to judicial officers (judges and magistrates) to help them make release decisions. Pretrial services agencies also supervise those released to the community and ordered to pretrial supervision pending trial. Pretrial services assist court-ordered individuals in meeting the conditions of their bail, such as compliance with substance abuse testing and Home Electronic Monitoring.

There are currently 37 CCCA and 35 PSA agencies that receive grant funding to support local probation and pretrial services. For the FY2025 CCCA/PSA solicitation, DCJS staff received 37 applications and requested approval to award \$31,847,402 in state general funds to the 37 applicants. Of the request, \$825,000 would be awarded to

Albemarle and Wise County for the Central and Southwest Virginia Regional Jail Expansion Authority. Additionally, funding was added to the FY2025 Appropriations Act for Prince Edward County, Salem, and Staunton to expand pretrial services into new localities served by their local pretrial agencies.

Full-time, state-funded CCCA/PSA employees received a 3% increase in the FY2025 state budget. Once DCJS receives the amount for disbursement from the Department of Planning and Budget, they will increase the awards accordingly.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 37 CCCA/PSA agencies for the 12-month fiscal year (07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025), totaling \$31,847,402, using State General Funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**g. Court Appointed Special Advocate Grant Program – Juvenile and Child Welfare Section, Terry Willie-Surratt**

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administers funds designated for the purpose of supporting Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs as grants to non-profit organizations and local units of government. This grant is intended specifically to support local Court Appointed Special Advocate programs as specified in §§9.1-151 et seq. of the Code of Virginia. Funds are to be used for purposes of continuing, improving, and/or expanding existing agencies and services designed to provide court appointed volunteer advocacy services to child victims of abuse and neglect.

For Fiscal Year 2025, DCJS staff requested approval to award \$1,499,900.00 in Federal VOCA funds and \$1,532,870 in State General funds to 27 local CASA programs.

There were no applications denied as funding is awarded on a non-competitive formula basis (see attached formula table).

CASA programs must meet the following eligibility requirements to apply for CASA grant funding:

- The program must be operational and have trained volunteers assigned to cases at the time of application.
- The program must be in full compliance with state regulations, and with the National CASA Association Standards.
- For VOCA funding eligibility, funds must be used for direct services to victims of child abuse and neglect. Examples of eligible victim groups are:
  - Children who have been identified by local departments of social services

- as victims of child abuse and neglect.
- Children who have been referred to local departments of social services as possible victims of child abuse and neglect are also eligible if the referral results in an investigation or family assessment (must be determined a valid complaint).
- Children identified by the court as a victim of abuse or neglect.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 27 CASA programs for the 12-month period 7/1/2024-6/30/2025, totaling \$3,032,770.00, using \$1,499,900.00 in Federal VOCA funds and \$1,532,870.00 in State General Funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**h. Department of Forensic Science – Continuation – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section, Tracy Matthews**

The purpose of the continuation grant to the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) is to continue to fund a part-time forensic training position to provide targeted training to Law Enforcement personnel across Virginia focusing on reinforcing the importance of properly gathering and handling of crime scene evidence to be submitted to DFS for analysis. This important training helps to ensure accurate and thorough analysis of evidence. Twenty (20) to thirty (30) programs of varying lengths and complexities are offered each year with between 500 and 600 officers receiving the training.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund one (1) project for a two-year grant period, beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, totaling \$107,730, in general funds. \$53,865 each year is to be allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**i. Drive to Work Grant Program – Adult Justice Programs Section, Cynthia Nwarache**

The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) administers general appropriation funds to Drive to Work (DTW). The Appropriations Act provides DTW with \$75,000 in state general funds and an additional \$75,000 in federal funds when available. The federal funds have historically come from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

DTW provides assistance to low income and previously incarcerated individuals to restore their driving privileges so they can drive to work and maintain employment.

DTW is the only organization which provides legal assistance to help individuals whose licenses are suspended by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to reinstate their driver's license. They also provide educational services to individuals wishing to have their licenses reinstated.

DCJS received one (1) application from the DTW Program requesting a total of \$150,000, with \$75,000 in state general funds and an additional \$75,000 in federal funds.

No applications were denied.

DCJS staff requested approval to award the DTW Program in Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025), a total of \$150,000, using State General Funds and Federal Funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**j. Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program – Juvenile and Child Welfare Section, Greg Hopkins**

The Purpose of the 2025 Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program is to support the implementation of strategies that will result in the reduction of violent crime within the Commonwealth of Virginia while implementing effective and sustainable intervention and prevention programming to interrupt and prevent local cycles of violence. Eligible applicants under this solicitation were nonprofit organizations and local units of government. Because other funding sources were specifically available for law enforcement offices and prosecutor offices, these entities were specifically excluded from this solicitation.

The applicants were required to present clear plan for sustainability. Applicants seeking to expand or replicate an existing project had to demonstrate progress and success within the existing undertaking.

DCJS received 31 applications totaling \$5,778,350.71. DCJS anticipated that approximately \$2,500,000, would be available through this solicitation. After grant reviews, DCJS recommended approval of 20 grants totaling \$2,447,724.50.

Eleven applications are recommended for denial. Out of the 11 applications, nine applications had insufficient information for approval and two applications were deemed ineligible.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 20 projects for a 24-month period (7/1/24-6/30/26) totaling \$2,447,724.50, using State General Funds allocated for this purpose.



After much discussion, a motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**k. Jail Mental Health Grant Program – Adult Justice Programs Section, Patricia Shaw**

The purpose for the Jail Mental Health Pilot Programs (JMHP) is to provide model behavioral health assessment, intervention, and treatment to those in local or regional jail settings. The programs will be based on best practices suggested by existing research, related standards developed for substance use disorder treatment and criminal justice programming, as well as what experts and experienced practitioners have found to work best for intervention in criminal justice settings.

The JMHP sites are required to collect and report on a quarterly basis qualitative and quantitative data of pilot site performance including:

- mental health screenings and assessments provided to inmates,
- mental health treatment plans and services provided to inmates,
- jail safety incidents involving inmates and jail staff,
- the provision of appropriate services after release, [and]
- the number of inmates re-arrested or re-incarcerated within 90 days after release following a positive identification for mental health disorders in jail or the receipt of mental health treatment within the facility.

There are currently six JMHP sites in Virginia; all receive grant funding from DCJS per year. For Fiscal Year 2025, DCJS received five (5) applications. DCJS staff requested approval to award \$1,875,000.00 in state funds to 5 Jail Mental Health Pilot Programs.

DCJS staff denied zero (0) applications.

Hampton Roads Regional Jail ceased operations on April 1, 2024, and did not reapply for JMHP funding for Fiscal Year 2025.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund five (5) projects for the 12-month fiscal year (07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025), totaling \$1,875,000.00 using State General Funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr., seconded by Ed Macon. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**l. Operation Ceasefire Grant Program – Juvenile and Child Welfare Section, Greg Hopkins**

The purpose of the Operation Ceasefire Grant Program is to support the implementation of strategies that will result in reducing violent crime within the Commonwealth while implementing effective and sustainable solutions to intercept and eliminate local cycles of violence. The purpose of the current OCGP grant solicitation is to support local law enforcement and community-based organizations' efforts to address violent crime.

DCJS received a total of 41 applications totaling \$6,501,957.84. After grant reviews, DCJS recommended approval of 33 grants totaling \$3,971,438.34. The amount of funding that DCJS anticipated being available for this particular solicitation was \$3,700,000. DCJS recommended deleting funding for drones and for overtime in each request submitted.

Eight applications were not recommended for funding. Of these, six submitted insufficient information to justify the funding, one applicant exceeded the available per equipment request, and one submitted an application only for drones.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 33 grant applications for the 24-month period 7/1/24-6/30/26 totaling \$4,042,944.34, using State Funds allocated for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr., seconded by Ed Macon. Six (5) members voted for; one (1) member voted against. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**m. Peer Supported Critical Incident Stress Management Grant Program – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section, Tracy Matthews**

The Peer-Support Critical Incident Stress Management Grant Program for FY25, makes state funds available to support nonprofit organizations providing post-critical incident seminars and peer-supported critical incident stress management programs to law enforcement agencies and their staffs.

This is a continuation grant, in the fourth year of a four (4) year cycle, originally awarded for FY22. The grant period for these awards would be from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. This budget funds both agencies previously awarded this four-year grant

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 2 awards, totaling \$300,000, through the Peer-Supported Critical Incident Stress Management Grant Program.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**n. Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Prisoners Grant Program – Adult Justice Programs Section, Patricia Shaw**

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Program receives federal funds from the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). These RSAT grant funds provide opportunities to allow for the creation, implementation, and enhancement of evidence-based residential substance use treatment programs, including Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) services, in local and regional jails in collaboration with a community services board or community non-profit organizations.

The purpose of the RSAT Program is to break the cycle of drug addiction and violence by reducing the demand for, use, and trafficking of illegal drugs. RSAT’s objectives are to enhance the capabilities of states and units of local and tribal governments to provide residential substance abuse treatment for incarcerated individuals, prepare individuals for reintegration into communities, and assist individuals and communities through the reentry process by delivering community-based treatment and other broad-based aftercare services.

The RSAT programs in Virginia all receive grant funding from DCJS. Funds are awarded by an application process for a yearly solicitation released by DCJS. RSAT funds are administered to the Commonwealth of Virginia from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. DCJS has been awarded RSAT funding for programming that are currently funded through Federal Grants 2020-J2-BX-0042, 15PBJA-21-GG-00086, 15PBJA-22-GG000499, and 15PBJA-23-GG-01563. Grantees are required to provide 25% in cash and/or in-kind matching funds. Federal funds under this award may not cover more than 75% of the total cost of the project.

For Fiscal Year 2025, DCJS received seven applications for RSAT funding. DCJS staff requested approval to award \$483,098 in Federal Funds, with a \$161,036 match requirement, for a total of \$644,134.

DCJS staff denied zero (0) applications.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund seven projects for the 12-month fiscal year (07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025), totaling \$644,134, using Federal Funds and Match for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**o. Victims Services Grant Program - Competitive – Victim Services Section, Kristina Vadas**

The purpose of the Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. Funding for this grant program comes from federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime. In addition, state general funds have been appropriated to support this program. In accordance with VOCA guidelines, direct services to victims of crime include efforts that:

1. Respond to the emotional, psychological, or physical needs of crime victims;
2. Assist victims to stabilize their lives after victimization;
3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; OR
4. Restore a measure of security and safety for the victim.

VOCA requires that a minimum of 10% of each state's award must fund projects that support victims from underserved populations; therefore, this competitive funding opportunity prioritized projects designed to serve underserved populations.<sup>1</sup>

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, DCJS staff requested approval to award \$1,246,330 in State General funds to 11 victim serving organizations.

The requests for funds from applicants exceeded the funds available for this grant program by approximately \$8 million. DCJS received 77 applications. On May 9, 2024, the Criminal Justice Services Board approved funding for 21 projects from this solicitation. Since that time, additional state general funds were appropriated to support additional VSGP competitive applications. As a result, staff requested approval to support 11 additional projects from this solicitation.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 11 projects for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), totaling \$1,246,330, using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr., seconded by Maria Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**p. Victims Services Grant Program for Sexual and Domestic Violence Services – Non-Competitive – Victim Services Section, Kristina Vadas**

The purpose of the Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) for Sexual and Domestic Violence Services is to support the delivery of direct services to sexual assault and domestic violence victims. Funding comes from both State General Funds allocated to support sexual assault and domestic violence victims and federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime. In accordance with VOCA guidelines, direct services to victims of crime include efforts that:

1. Respond to the emotional, psychological, or physical needs of crime victims;
2. Assist victims to stabilize their lives after victimization;
3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; OR

4. Restore a measure of security and safety for the victim.

DCJS set aside this funding for sexual and domestic violence agencies to ensure continuity of services from previous years.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, DCJS staff requested approval to award \$11,232,141 in Federal VOCA funds and \$4,568,114 in State General Funds for a total of \$15,800,255, to 55 sexual and domestic violence organizations.

These award amounts, when added to their non-competitive ARPA award amounts for SFY 2025, will ensure SFY 2025 funding for core services is approximately level to subawards granted in SFY 2023.<sup>2</sup> There is one exception to this method: Bridges of Change. In SFY 2023 and 2024, Bridges of Change received only a competitive federal VOCA subaward for services to sexual and domestic violence victims. DCJS determined they provide core services and added the agency to the list of sexual and domestic violence service agencies to be funded with non-competitive funds.

This was a non-competitive funding opportunity, and applications were not scored. DCJS staff is reviewing applications to ensure all budgetary items are allowable under this funding opportunity.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 55 projects for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), totaling \$15,800,255, using federal VOCA and State General Funds.

A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**q. Victims Witness Grant Program – Victim Services Section, Kristina Vadas**

The purpose of the Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP) is to provide financial support local and statewide victim assistance programs. These programs provide direct services, information, and assistance to victims of crime as required by the *Code of Virginia*. The majority of funding for this grant program comes from federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds administered to DCJS by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime. In addition to federal funds, State General Funds and Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Special Funds also support this grant program.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, DCJS staff requested approval for a 12-month continuation of 114 current VWGP awards. There are no applicants recommended for de novo funding. DCJS staff continue to monitor all grant recipients for compliance with state and federal rules and grant conditions.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 114 projects for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), totaling \$18,049,369. This is comprised of VOCA funds (\$11,884,791), State

General Funds (\$4,663,603), and Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Special Funds (\$1,500,975) allocated for this purpose.

Also, approximately \$1.3 million in additional State General Funds were appropriated in the recently finalized biennium state budget, for a State General Fund total of \$5,988,807. DCJS staff also request permission to proportionally allocate the additional State General Funds to these 114 recipients, increasing the total award to approximately \$19.4 million.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**r. Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund Grant Program Current Discretionary, Prosecution, and Forensic/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Grant Program – Victim Services Section, Kristina Vadas**

The purpose of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) Grant Program is to make funds available to local prosecutors for the cost of attorneys and/or to further dedicate resources to prosecute felonies and misdemeanors involving domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse. In addition, this grant program supports projects that provide advocacy and medical services to victims of and/or children affected by domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse. This grant program is supported by state funds and was established in *Code of Virginia* § 9.1-116.1.

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, the VSDVVF Grant Program funding opportunity was designed so that grant application reviewers could conduct a comprehensive evaluation of current VSDVVF projects. The funding opportunity was only open to current SFY 2024 VSDVVF grant recipients. Grant applications received a thorough compliance review based on elements indicated within the grant application guidelines. DCJS received 49 eligible applications with requests totaling \$2,293,892.

Due to the availability of funding, there are no applicants recommended for denial of funding.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund 49 projects for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), totaling \$2,258,803, using State General Funds and Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (special funds) allocated for this purpose.

A motion was made by Ed Macon, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

**s. Other Grants – No Vote Required: For Information Purposes Only**  
**VI. Earmark Funding in the Appropriations Act – Chapter 2 – Division Director of Programs and Services, Tracey Jenkins**

In accordance with the State Appropriations Act (Chapter 2, Acts of Assembly, 2024 Special Session I), the Department of Criminal Justice Services will administer State General Funds earmarked for designated entities as follows:

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount for FY2025</b>	<b>Budget Item</b>
Drive-to-Work	Restoration of driving privileges for low income and previously incarcerated persons	\$75,000 *	Item 394 (B)(8)
York County-Poquoson Sheriff's Office	Drug Awareness and Resistance Education (DARE) Program	\$100,000	Item 394 (F)(2)(b)
Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force	Internet Crimes Against Children	\$1,646,547 *	Item 394 (H)(1)
City of Virginia Beach	Jail and Reentry Service Coordination Pathway	\$916,066	Item 394 (L)
City of Portsmouth	Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund	\$500,000	Item 394 (N)(1)(c)
City of Norfolk	Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Fund	\$1,000,000	Item 394 (N)(1)(c)
City of Norfolk	Safer Communities Program	\$3,578,500	Item 394 (N)(4)(a)
City of Portsmouth	Safer Communities Program	\$2,935,300	Item 394 (N)(4)(a)
City of Roanoke	Safer Communities Program	\$2,948,800	Item 394 (N)(4)(a)
City of Richmond	Safer Communities Program	\$3,537,400	Item 394 (N)(4)(a)
VCU L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs	Office of Safer Communities Program Evaluations	\$425,000	Item 394 (N)(4)(d)
Virginia Victim Assistance Network	Unspecified	\$400,000	Item 394 (P)
Impact Living Services	Impact First Responders Program	\$95,000	Item 394 (Q)
Community Resource Opportunity Project	Unspecified	\$30,000	Item 394 (S)
Big Heroes of Minority in Every Society (Big H.O.M.I.E.S.)	Youth development programs	\$2,000,000	Item 394 (T)
Cleaning Up the Streets Youth Employment Program (C.U.T.S.)	Youth development programs	\$1,000,000	Item 394 (T)
City of Richmond	Help Me Help You (reentry from jail and prison)	\$125,000	Item 394 (U)
REAL LIFE	Targeted gun violence intervention	\$500,000	Item 394 (V)
Ayuda	Immigration, legal, and social services to victims of human trafficking	\$200,000	Item 394 (X)(2)

\* Earmark also includes non-general funds as may be available for the designated purpose. Does not include service expansion designations within CCA/PSA.

**VII. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant Program – Juvenile and Child Welfare Section, Greg Hopkins**

The purpose of the Virginia Youth Violence Prevention and Substance Use Grant is to provide federal funds through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act Title II Formula Grants Program to local units of government, state agencies, and juvenile detention centers. The goal of this funding initiative is to provide applicants with an opportunity to request funds to implement programs designed to build or support safe communities, including but not limited to projects designed to address youth violence, and the Fentanyl crisis.

ACJJP Recommendations to the Criminal Justice Services Board: The ACJJP recommended to the CJSB funding six requests for a total of \$499,658.

**VIII. Old Business**

No Old Business was brought forth at this meeting.

**IX. New Business**

No New Business was brought forth at this meeting.

**X. Public Comment**

No Public Comment was brought forth at this meeting.

**XI. Announcements**

Chief Branch announced that the September 26, 2024 meeting will need to be rescheduled due to a scheduling conflict with the Executive Committee meeting on the same day. DCJS will send an invite once the new date has been determined.

**XII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:19pm. A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Officer Bennie Evans, Jr. The motion passed unanimously.

**Recusals**

**Chief Craig Branch, Chair**

- Application # 528934 – Empowerhouse
- Application # 528584 – Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault
- Application # 528135 – Services to Abused Families, Inc.



- Application # 528540 – NOVA Community College
- Application # 528663 – Orange
- Application # 528777 – Spotsylvania
- Application # 527458 – Culpeper
- Application # 527848 – Fredericksburg
- Application # 528349 – Rappahannock Area CASA
- Application # 532968 – Franklin County

**Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.**

- Application # 526833 – Alexandria Sexual Assault Center and Domestic Violence Program
- Application # 528639 - Alexandria
- Application # 526840 – Alexandria Sexual Assault Center and Domestic Violence Program
- Application # 25-O1027VW20 – Alexandria

**Rusty McGuire**

- Victim Witness Grant Program