



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

November 20, 2025

Members Present

Sheriff Brian Hieatt, Chair
Mr. Adam Blevins
Mr. Russell (Rusty) McGuire
Sheriff Jeremy Falls
Ms. Maria Jankowski
Chief Travis Christian

Members Absent

I. Call to Order

Sheriff Brian Hieatt called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Sheriff Hieatt asked Wendy Lohr Hopp to conduct Roll Call. Wendy stated there was a quorum with six (6) members present. All members joined the meeting by electronic communications.

III. Introductions/Opening Comments

Sheriff Hieatt officially welcomed guests and any agency leadership present.

IV. Approval of Minutes of May 29, 2025

Sheriff Hieatt called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the May 29, 2025, meeting. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire to approve the minutes and was seconded by Chief Christian.

V. Committee Process Overview

Ms. Lohr Hopp provided an overview of the committee review process.

VI. Grant Approvals

a) Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCI)

The purpose of the Byrne SCIP funding opportunity is to provide applicants with the opportunity to plan and implement or enhance existing recovery courts, behavioral health dockets, and veterans' treatment dockets (specialty dockets). The goal is to increase program capacity, program acceptance rates, and graduation rates for specialty dockets. The total amount available for funding is \$4,360,916.

Funds will be used to support training for the specialty docket teams, including attending the All RISE Conference. Funds will also be used for emergency and stability supports, such as housing assistance, transportation assistance, and childcare. Some funding will be utilized to assist jurisdictions with the planning and implementation of new specialty docket programs.

No applications were denied. Funds will be used to support training for the specialty docket teams, including attending the All RISE Conference. Funds will also be used for emergency and stability supports, such as housing assistance, transportation assistance, and childcare. Some funding will be utilized to assist jurisdictions with the planning and implementation of new specialty docket programs.

Funds for the Cities of Bristol and Staunton were recommended to be increased after speaking with the applicants regarding their needs for the funding. Both localities requested nominal amounts of funding and indicated that they could use more for professional development to enhance their programs.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 10 grant applications for an 18-month period, totaling \$1,186,582, using federal funds allocated for this purpose. The exact grant period will be dependent on federal approval for these 10 grant applications.

There was discussion on ensuring applicants are adhering to best practices and confirmation that the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia were included in the application review process. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

b) Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program (RSAT)

The purpose of this grant 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, evidence-based substance use disorder (SUD) 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.

No applications were denied. Reduced funding is due to one applicant requesting excessive amounts for training costs.

Funds will be utilized for peer support staff, treatment services, staff training, medication assisted treatment resources, drug testing supplies, and reentry supports (housing, transportation, ID, etc.).

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund five (5) grant applications for an 18-month period, totaling \$1,523,338 in 75% federal (\$1,142,080) and 25% local match (\$381,258) funds

allocated for this purpose. The exact grant period will be dependent on federal approval for these five grant applications.

There was discussion on how this funding opportunity provides the opportunity to expand existing capacity for services. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Sheriff Falls. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

c) Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Supplemental)

The purpose of this Firearms Violence Intervention and Prevention (FVIP) funding opportunity is to reduce violent crime within the Commonwealth of Virginia by funding effective and sustainable intervention and prevention programming designed to interrupt and prevent local cycles of violence. Violence intervention and prevention programs avert interpersonal violence by collaborating with a range of community stakeholders to provide support and intervention to those at highest risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence.

DCJS recommends supplemental funding to support 16 of the 20 FVIP grants currently funded through this DCJS funding opportunity. The 16 selected grantees are non-profit organizations involved in firearms prevention and intervention efforts across the Commonwealth. Sustain Equity Group declined the supplemental funding. Three (3) applicants were not selected because they are local government entities and priority was given to non-profit organizations, but they will be offered an extension of their grant period.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 16 current FVIP grantees with a supplemental award of \$300,000 each ending June 30, 2028, totaling \$4,800,000, using FVIP funds allocated for this purpose. The total revised amount recommended for the selected 16 grants is \$6,549,335.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

d) Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Competitive)

The purpose of this Firearms Violence Prevention and Intervention (FVIP) funding opportunity is to reduce violent crime within the Commonwealth of Virginia by funding effective and sustainable intervention and prevention programming designed to interrupt and prevent local cycles of violence. Violence intervention and prevention programs avert interpersonal violence by collaborating with a range of community stakeholders to provide support and intervention to those at highest risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator of violence.

At the time of solicitation, DCJS anticipated awarding approximately \$2,500,000 through this competitive solicitation. The maximum amount per award is \$250,000.

Thirty-five (35) applications were denied. Out of those applications, seven (7) were deemed ineligible as they are local units of government or state entities, and this solicitation is solely for non-profit organizations. Thirteen (13) grants were denied due to the lack of clarity and detail in their application, lack of supporting documentation, or insufficient justification to meet programmatic purposes. Thirteen (13) applications are from current FVIP grantees and are recommended for denial in this funding opportunity, as they are being considered under the FVIP Supplemental Funding option. Two (2) were denied because they receive earmark funding in the state budget.

Applications that are recommended include funding for personnel to carry out grant goals and objectives, staff training, travel allocation to support local mileage for programming, and program supplies.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 14 grant applications for a 24-month grant award period (1/1/2026-12/31/2027), totaling \$2,761,142 using FVIP funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion confirming reporting requirements for outcomes and the ability to demonstrate success of the project. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

e) Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (FVIP Juvenile Justice)

The purpose of this Juvenile Justice Firearm Violence Intervention and Prevention (FVIP) funding opportunity is to provide current Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention (JJDP) grantees, whose grant ends December 2025, the opportunity to continue their work reducing violent crime within the Commonwealth of Virginia through effective and sustainable intervention and prevention programming designed to interrupt and prevent local cycles of violence.

No applications were denied.

Funding will be used to hire or maintain current personnel such as case managers, resource counselors, clinicians, facilitators and mentors. Additionally, recommended applications include funding for program curriculums, materials, and licenses.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund six (6) grant applications for the 36-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2028), totaling \$1,054,990, using FVIP funds allocated for this purpose.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Chief Christian, seconded by Sheriff Falls. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

f) Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Supplemental)

The Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (OCGF) is designed to support the implementation of strategies that will reduce violent crime within the Commonwealth while implementing effective and sustainable solutions to intercept and eliminate local cycles of violence. The purpose of this OCGF supplemental award is to support continuation of local law enforcement and prosecution programs funded under the 2024 Operation Ceasefire Grant Funding Opportunity.

DCJS currently supports eight (8) programmatic grants under this opportunity, as well as various equipment-only grants. We are recommending supplemental funding to the programmatic grantees to continue the work begun under their existing grants.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund eight (8) current OCGF grantees with a supplemental award of \$250,000 each ending June 30, 2028, totaling \$2,000,000, using Operation Ceasefire funds allocated for this purpose. The total revised amount recommended is \$3,433,338.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

g) Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Competitive)

The purpose of this Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (OCGF) initiative is to provide funding for local units of government and law enforcement to execute projects that are designed to build or support violent crime reduction strategies.

At the time of solicitation, DCJS anticipated awarding approximately \$10,000,000 through this competitive solicitation. The maximum amount per award is \$500,000.

Forty-five grants were denied due to the inclusion of unallowable costs within the proposed budget, such as unallowable equipment, insufficient justification to support requests, and not meeting the established criteria set forth in the funding solicitation. Applications recommended for funding include funding for personnel to carry out grant goals and objectives, staff training, and equipment.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 41 grants for a 36-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2028), totaling \$9,981,861, using Operation Ceasefire funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion regarding how applications are reviewed to ensure a connection with the purpose of the Operation Ceasefire funding. Discussion also encouraged providing examples to future applicants on detailed grant project descriptions to include what is being funded. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. Ms. Jankowski abstained from the vote. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

h) Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (Ceasefire Forensic and Analytical Technology)

The purpose of this Operation Ceasefire Grant Fund (OCGF) initiative is to support the use of technology that will reduce violent crime within the Commonwealth while implementing effective and sustainable solutions to intercept and eliminate local cycles of violence. Projects funded under this program will support local initiatives to fight violent crime by providing resources for law enforcement.

At the time of solicitation, DCJS anticipated awarding approximately \$6,000,000 through this competitive solicitation. The maximum amount per award is \$300,000.

Forty-two grants were denied. The grants did not adhere to the criteria established in the grant solicitation or provided insufficient justification to support requests. The reductions in requested funding focused on unallowable costs, specifically including requests for surveillance equipment and unmanned aircraft. Further, reviewers utilized crime mapping and considered geographic representation in making final recommendations.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 39 grant applications for a 24-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2027), totaling \$6,042,593, using Operation Ceasefire funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on collaboration with the Department of Forensic Science. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

i) Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)

The purpose of the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) is to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of rape crisis centers and other nongovernmental or tribal programs and projects to assist individuals who have been victimized by sexual assault, without regard to the age of the individual (34 U.S.C. §12511(b)(2)(B)). SASP funding originates from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women.

This Calendar Year (CY) 2026 funding opportunity is a continuation funding opportunity for 31 applicants. Applicants were asked to develop budgets equal to, or less than, their current SASP award; one applicant submitted a budget that was one dollar higher. DCJS staff recommends funding level awards.

No applications were denied.

Examples of requested items for funding include the following: 1) personnel (counselors, therapists, victim advocates, volunteer coordinators); 2) supplies (office supplies, printing costs, victim emergency clothing); 3) consultants (translation and interpretation services, victim therapy or counseling services); 4) travel (staff mileage and per diem reimbursement for meetings, court accompaniment, hospital accompaniment, and trainings); 5) indirect costs in accordance with a federally negotiated indirect cost rate or the de minimis rate; and 6) training costs (training funded by this grant program may be used to train paid staff and volunteers on how to provide services to victims of sexual assault).

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 31 grant applications for the 12-month period, (1/1/2026-12/31/2026), totaling \$1,051,444, using SASP federal funds allocated for this purpose.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

j) Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution Grant Program (VSTOP Continuation)

The purpose of the Virginia Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecution (VSTOP) Grant Program is to provide funding to promote a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women; to encourage the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women; and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$3.5 million in federal funds from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) have been allocated to support continuation applicants for the 12-month award period. In addition, programs within the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and discretionary categories must provide a minimum 25% match.

No applications were denied. Some requests were reduced as they exceeded the allowable award amount. Some award amounts were increased to recalculate and include the required 25% match.

Funding within the VSTOP grant program supports staffing costs for prosecutors, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, forensic nurse examiners, virtual and in-state training opportunities, travel for VSTOP-funded staff, and legal assistance services.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 82 grant applications for the 12-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2026), totaling \$4,555,283, using \$3,572,826 in federal STOP funds allocated for this purpose and \$982,457 in subrecipient-provided match.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

k) Virginia Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution Grant Program (VSTOP Competitive)

The purpose of the Virginia Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecution (VSTOP) Grant Program is to provide funding to promote a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women; to encourage the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women; and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women. This competitive Funding Opportunity was open to new law enforcement category applicants for a 24-month award period. Grant recipients within the law enforcement category must also provide a minimum 25% match.

Three (3) applications were denied. One (1) applicant was not eligible to apply for this funding opportunity. Two (2) applications were not recommended for funding as the proposed projects were not in accordance with the established priority area for this funding opportunity.

Projects funded under this funding opportunity will increase access to justice for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, by establishing new VSTOP law enforcement officer positions.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund three (3) grant applications for the 24-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2027), totaling \$366,666, using \$266,667 in federal STOP funds allocated for this purpose and \$99,999 in subrecipient-provided match.

There was discussion on determining funding levels in a competitive grant process and the federal requirements to be considered under the Law Enforcement category for VSTOP funding. DCJS staff assured committee members that applicants can ask for advice on completing a successful application for future funding opportunities. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

I) Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replace Program (Drone)

The Unmanned Aircraft Trade and Replace Grant Program CY2026 provides funding to assist Virginia first responder agencies in replacing unmanned aircraft (drones) manufactured by foreign adversaries with secure, compliant alternatives. The program supports continued operational capability, security, and compliance with state and federal standards.

Included in the 2025 Appropriations Act was \$1 million to be administered by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), to support compliance with federal drone regulations while mitigating fiscal impact. Eligible law enforcement, fire, EMS, and other first responder agencies may receive up to \$25,000 in reimbursement for approved drone replacements.

28 applications were denied for one or more of the following reasons: insufficient funding to support all eligible applicants; submission of incomplete or improperly completed applications; or point reductions resulting from application deficiencies that caused the proposal to fall below the median threshold for consideration. Applications submitted by ineligible entities were also disqualified from funding consideration. Due to the limited availability of funds, not all meritorious applications could be supported.

Furthermore, funding reductions were applied to awards that included requests for items determined to be unallowable under the established grant guidelines.

This funding will support the replacement of 54 unmanned aircraft (drones) and their accessories and spare parts, enhancing the functional capacity and longevity of the drones for 46 agencies across the Commonwealth.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 46 grant applications for the 12-month period (1/1/2026-12/31/2026) totaling \$998,162, using state funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on criteria set in the Appropriations Act to ensure geographic disbursement of funds. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

VII. Old Business

No Old Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VIII. New Business

No New Business was brought forth at this meeting.

IX. Public Comment

Michele Satterlund requested information on how public entities can locate the CJSB approved awards and the amounts.

X. Announcements

Sheriff Hieatt announced that the next meet will be held on March 5, 2026.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed unanimously.

Recusals

Chief Travis Christian

- Application #530052 – City of Petersburg
- Application #561917 – City of Petersburg
- Application #561613 – City of Petersburg

Mr. Russell (Rusty) McGuire

- Application #561262 – Louisa County