

**TO: Chairman and Members**

**DATE: July 26, 2012**

**SUBJECT: 2012 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant  
Application**

**AGENDA ITEM: J**

**ACTION: X  
INFORMATION:**

**RESOURCE PERSON: Shalinee Hunter**

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**Summary:**

This agenda item seeks the Board of State and Community Corrections' (BSCC) approval of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012-13. As required by the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), BSCC staff submitted this application on July 16, 2012, pending BSCC approval. If approved, California will receive approximately \$20 million in JAG funds as a result of this application.

**Background:**

As part of the Governor's 2011 Public Safety Realignment, a number of grant programs previously administered by CalEMA are now under the jurisdiction of BSCC. JAG is one such program. Similar to other federal grants administered by BSCC, JAG requires the annual submission of an online application requesting grant funds appropriated by Congress. The JAG application was due May 14, 2012 and was originally submitted by the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) by that date. Following submission, however, BJA informed both agencies they could not accept the application from CalEMA on behalf of BSCC. Consequently, they advised BSCC staff to wait until after the July 1, 2012 statutory creation of BSCC. Most recently, BSCC staff were informed the application would have to be re-submitted by July 16, 2012 but would not receive final approval until after BSCC action.

Given the timing of the transfer of responsibility for the JAG program, BSCC management, in consultation with CalEMA management, determined it best to continue the funding approach currently employed by CalEMA for one more year. This will minimize disruption to existing JAG grantees and will allow BSCC time to establish the systems and processes needed to effectively undertake administration of the various new programs and responsibilities, including JAG. The FFY 2012-13 JAG grant application concludes the funding strategy established in the 4-year statewide plan developed by CalEMA for JAG spending. As a result of the 4-year plan, existing grantees anticipated at least this final year of funding.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant - \$20 million**

JAG-funded programs have historically been used in California to support state and local law enforcement efforts, with an emphasis on suppression of drug-related crimes. The application submitted by CalEMA, and later re-submitted by BSCC, includes the following:

- Anti-Drug Abuse Enforcement Team Program (\$13.5 million): This program provides funding to all 58 counties to support local multi-jurisdictional drug enforcement teams made up of law enforcement, prosecutorial agencies, probation, child protective services and others.
- Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Training and Technical Assistance Program (\$360k): This program serves the entire State by providing DEC training to JAG-funded multi-jurisdictional drug task forces to standardize DEC procedures and protocols among all 58 counties.

- CrackDown Multi-Community Task Force Program (\$2.2 million): This program allows the State Department of Justice to fund task force commanders who, along with their teams, are responsible for arresting and prosecuting major drug trafficking organizations.
- Marijuana Suppression Program (\$2.2 million): This program supports local multi-jurisdictional marijuana enforcement teams made up of law enforcement, prosecutorial agencies and others within 13 California counties. These teams work to eradicate marijuana on public lands, prosecute those responsible, and education youth about the dangers of marijuana.
- Campaign Against Marijuana Planting Program (\$65k): This program provides air support via helicopters to local multi-agency marijuana eradication teams.
- Administration (\$1.6 million): A portion of the total funding is made available to pay for personnel, benefits and overhead costs associated with administering the JAG program funds.

As noted above, in keeping with the adopted 4-year statewide plan for JAG spending, BSCC staff intend to continue the direction established by CalEMA for this fourth and final year. In the near future, we will be back before this Board to start the process of setting direction for the next 4-year plan.

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**Recommendation/Action Needed:**

Staff requests approval of the FFY 2012-13 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance.