

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2019 **AGENDA ITEM:** D

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

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SUBJECT: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) State Strategy Update: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval to initiate the development of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) state strategy update. The process will identify which JAG program purpose areas are priorities for the State of California in the upcoming grant cycle. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) requires that all states have a five-year strategic plan and state strategy. The BSCC will develop a new state plan to take effect after the current grant cycle ends in 2022.

This report also describes a three percent set-aside of the JAG funding for the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) conversion.

Background

BJA now requires each state to develop a strategic plan and a five-year state JAG strategy. California's JAG program will begin a new funding cycle on October 1, 2019 that will run through September 30, 2022.

To ensure California has an updated strategic plan and state strategy in place before 2022, the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) will collaborate with the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) to assist in conducting statewide stakeholder surveys and listening sessions throughout the state. BSCC staff is developing a project timeline in consultation with NCJA. These sessions will gather data from stakeholders to help determine the priorities for the state. Staff will bring the findings from these sessions to the Board for approval and authorization to start the grant development for the subsequent five-year cycle.

The intent is to have a new state strategy and strategic plan in place before the next JAG cycle starts on October 1, 2022 in compliance with federal requirements.

National Incident Based Reporting System

Since 2018 BJA has imposed a three percent set-aside of the JAG funding for the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) conversion. The FBI has made nationwide implementation of NIBRS a priority because NIBRS can provide more useful statistics to promote constructive discussion, measured planning, and informed policing. To increase planning participation, the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is partnering with the

Bureau of Justice Statistics on the National Crime Statistics Exchange. The UCR program is working with advocacy groups to emphasize the importance of NIBRS data and its utility and transitioning the UCR Program to NIBRS-only data collection by 2021. NIBRS establishes a new baseline that more precisely captures reported crime in a community.

Each state is required to complete the conversion by January 1, 2021. The California Department of Justice (Cal-DOJ) will implement this change and will be funded \$247,704 in 2018 and \$244,688 in 2019.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends the following:

- Approve the strategy for strategic planning and state plan development for the JAG cycle beginning in 2022.