

# PSN TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*Monthly Newsletter*



Thank you for following our monthly Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) bulletin. The monthly bulletin highlights TTA and resources provided to PSN task forces and local law enforcement agencies. TTA requests can be made online [here](#). If you have questions regarding TTA, please contact your regional TTA liaison or the PSN TTA team at [psntta@cna.org](mailto:psntta@cna.org).

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## **PSN WEBINAR: RECOGNIZING & INVESTIGATING EMERGING FIREARM CRIME**

In March, the PSN TTA Team hosted a webinar on Recognizing and Investigating Emerging Firearm Crime. The presentation details firearm crime associated with personally made firearms (PMFs) and machinegun conversion devices (MCDs). Robert Thompson, a crime gun intelligence detail detective with the City of Miami Police Department (MPD), presented a 90-minute overview of what these firearms and devices look like, how they function, and the current trends regarding their use within the South Florida region. The presentation also discussed "red flag" behaviors, what to look for, and how MPD extracts intelligence from these firearms through a combination of test fire, the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), and Trace investigations.

You can view a recording of the webinar [here](#).

Access the PowerPoint slides [here](#).



## NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT KNOWLEDGE LAB: FEDERAL INTERVENTIONS DASHBOARD

The US Department of Justice (DOJ), along with the National Policing Institute, has announced the launch of a new resource within the National Law Enforcement Knowledge Lab: A Federal Interventions Dashboard. This dashboard provides users with information regarding civil consent decrees and settlement agreements between the DOJ and local and state government entities when there are underlying allegations of unconstitutional police practices.

Law enforcement leaders may use the information within the dashboard to supplement their ongoing efforts to improve their practices and navigate challenges and opportunities within their communities. The dashboard includes information regarding the types of federal pattern-and-practice investigations that involve law enforcement agencies, the reforms agreed upon in the civil consent decrees and settlement agreements, and other information that can help promote meaningful discussion on police reform and organizational improvements. Users can search by topics and intervention types and also view maps and timelines.

The dashboard supports public safety by identifying and disseminating fair and effective policing practices and providing technical assistance. The Knowledge Lab is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, DOJ, and it is supported by the National Policing Institute, 21CP Solutions, and the Institute for Intergovernmental Research.

[Click Here](#) to Visit the Official Dashboard

### WEBINARS

**Youth Reentry Work Matters: Comprehensive Youth Reentry Planning and Case Management**

Date:

April 18, 2023,  
3:00–4:15 pm EST

[Registration link](#)

**Using Google Location Data to Solve Crimes Webinar**

Date:

April 12, 2023,  
1:00–2:15 pm EST

[Registration link](#)

*Follow [@PSNTTA](#) on Twitter to get regular updates, learn about resources, or ask questions.*



## **GRANTS SPOTLIGHT BY JOAN BRODY: GRANTS, GRANTS & MORE GRANTS**

Yes, I know you are in the thick of it this month applying for grant funding. There are so many grant applications due in the next few weeks, and you are most likely feeling overwhelmed. Even if you are submitting a single proposal, there is so much to do. I hope these suggestions help reduce your stress so you can successfully maneuver through the next few weeks.

1. **Be realistic.** Although everyone could use more money, it is better to submit one really great application that has a good chance of being funded than several mediocre proposals that may not be as competitive.

2. **Find out who won the grant you are applying for last year.** Search for the DOJ grant solicitation for FY 2022, and then scroll down on the page. You should see a list of the winners with short summaries of their winning projects. Next, call one of the winners. Just look up the agency's phone number, and ask who wrote the winning grant. Tell them that you are applying for the same grant this year and are seeking their advice. Since everyone loves giving advice, their grant person or subject matter expert will probably be happy to talk with you and even share their winning proposal. Obviously, you can't copy someone else's proposal because you have different crime rates, populations, geography, and so on. But seeing a winning proposal will build your confidence and help you structure your own application. Plus, reaching out to past winners will help you grow your network with grant seeking professionals from other agencies.



## **GRANTS SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED**

**3. Try to submit your application a few days earlier than the deadline.** I know this is easier said than done, especially if you are waiting for last-minute letters of support or approval from higher-ups in your organization. To avoid last-minute submissions, set internal deadlines earlier. Ask that letters of support be sent at least a week earlier. Show superiors a draft proposal a week or two weeks sooner, letting them know you will make cosmetic rather than content changes to the final version.

**4. At the very least, make sure every proposal you submit meets the basic minimum requirements of that grant application, which are listed clearly in every solicitation.** Applications that don't meet the basic minimum requirements for the associated solicitation will not be reviewed by a peer review panel.

**5. Realize that all of your hard work may not always pay off right away.** Sometimes, completed proposals do not end up getting submitted for internal and external reasons. Maybe another organization is submitting a proposal for the same grant program, and your leadership decides at the last minute not to compete. Maybe you had a technical issue with the online submission and didn't make the deadline. No worries! This happens to everyone at some point. Just realize that all your work was not for naught. You can cut and paste sections of your proposal for other grant seeking efforts or even use the same proposal next year.

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# NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) established the National Public Safety Partnership (PSP) to provide an innovative framework to enhance federal support of state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution authorities in building capacity to reduce violent crime. PSP is designed to promote interagency coordination by leveraging specialized law enforcement expertise with dedicated prosecutorial resources to promote public and community safety —with the end goal of reducing violent crime and making our communities safer places to live and work.

PSP's strategic focus is to support communities that (1) struggle with sustained levels of violent crime far in excess of the national average and (2) would benefit from DOJ's support in developing their own capacities.

PSP is a three-year commitment from DOJ to deliver no-cost customized site-specific training and technical assistance (TTA). PSP is not a grant program, and participating law enforcement agencies do not receive direct funding through this initiative. Agencies benefit from interacting with PSP network participants, learning from leading practitioners and academics, and accessing the many violence reduction tools and resources available to the sites. Please visit the PSP website at [nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org](https://nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org) to learn more about the initiative.

In 2023, DOJ will review potential candidates to join PSP. Interested jurisdictions should complete the TTA Request Form and Statement of Interest (application). Jurisdictions should also complete the [Violent Crime Reduction Self-Assessment Tool](#). The PSP team will be notified once you submit your responses. (Results from this assessment will be reviewed by DOJ representatives.) The [Violent Crime Reduction Operations Guide](#) is also recommended for you to review.





## NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS CONTINUED

In consultation with U.S. Attorneys and DOJ law enforcement partners, sites will be selected through a quantitative and qualitative evaluation process. This process will consider, at a minimum, whether a jurisdiction:

- Has violent crime rates well above the national average.
- Is presently under-resourced in its capacity to drive down violent crime (special consideration may be given to rural jurisdictions).
- Has demonstrated readiness to participate in this collaborative initiative and coordinate efforts with the local Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program.
- Is a mid-size or larger jurisdiction.

In addition, in making final selections, DOJ will consider geographic diversity (to ensure representation from jurisdictions in different geographic regions with distinct characteristics; although jurisdictions of any size may apply and be considered) and the availability of DOJ resources to support the location. Please note that eligible applicants are limited to units of local government and federally recognized Indian Tribal governments that perform law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior).

Please complete, sign, and submit the Training and Technical Assistance Request Form and Statement of Interest (application) **by 11:59 p.m., ET, on April 30, 2023**. Selected cities will be notified by June 15, 2023.

If you have any questions, please email [BJANTTAC@usdoj.gov](mailto:BJANTTAC@usdoj.gov).

**[Apply Here!](#)**

