



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **BSCC Approves Federal JAG Awards**

VENTURA (Feb. 12, 2015) -- The Board of State and Community Corrections today approved the awarding of \$16.6 million in federal grant funds for a range of public safety projects over the next year, including those designed to reduce school violence, reduce gang involvement, provide detention alternatives to low-risk juveniles and increase graduation rates.

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants will provide funding in each of three years and are subject to non-competitive renewal if counties meet performance objectives. The total amount counties would receive at the end of the grant cycle depends upon the annual federal allocation to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, which administers the grants nationally. At the current level of funding it could mean nearly \$50 million to the counties over three years.

On March 1, 2015 the BSCC will release the first of three annual installments to the 32 counties whose proposals were ranked most deserving by an Executive Steering Committee. The BSCC received 51 proposals for funding.

Small counties could apply for up to \$220,000 annually, medium counties \$715,000 and large counties \$1,045,625 (with the exception of Los Angeles, which was able to apply for up to \$2,091,250).

Leading up to the decision, the Executive Steering Committee surveyed stakeholders to determine California's needs within the Bureau of Justice Assistance's funding priority areas. The stakeholders rated crime prevention and education, law enforcement efforts to fight gangs, and court, prosecution and defense strategies as the top priorities. The ESC also included drug abuse prevention, drug enforcement and gun violence reduction, among other categories. In previous years the money had been used by law enforcement solely to fund narcotics task forces.

A list of the winning counties with synopses of their proposals is attached to this press release.

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# Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Project Summaries of Counties Recommended for Funding

## Large Counties *(in rank order)*

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### 1. San Diego County..... \$1,045,625

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** San Diego County Probation Department

San Diego County will provide a continuum of detention alternatives to juvenile offenders who do not require secure detention, which will include assessment, referral, case advocacy, home detention, reporting centers, non-secure shelter, intensive case management and wraparound family support services.

### 2. Contra Costa County..... \$1,045,625

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education/ Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department

Contra Costa County will implement the Youth Justice Initiative (YJI), a project devoted to advancing optimal outcomes for at-risk youth and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The School Success Team (SST) will advance school-wide prevention and intervention initiatives for some of the County's highest-risk students, beginning with a pilot middle-school in the Antioch School District (AUSD). The Reentry Success Team (RST) will provide comprehensive post-dispositional advocacy and reentry services to improve outcomes and reduce recidivism for juvenile probationers throughout the county.

### 3. Kern County ..... \$1,004,344

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Kern County Probation Department

The goal of the Kern County JAG Project is to reduce school violence and juvenile delinquency. The approach will include collaboration among school districts, the Probation Department, the Sheriff's Department, and community based organizations. The plan outlines a multi-pronged support system that first provides universal programs to address school climate, identifies at-risk youth who need higher levels of support, and provides evidence-based practices to address specific needs.

### 4. San Francisco County..... \$1,045,625

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** San Francisco County Department of Children, Youth and their Families

The Three-Year Prevention and Intervention Strategy project will focus on reducing recidivism for disconnected Transitional Age Youth (TAY). This project will provide a framework for preventing the school-to-prison pipeline led by San Francisco's law enforcement, criminal justice, and substance abuse treatment agencies.

### 5. Ventura County ..... \$1,045,000

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Ventura County Sheriff's Office

The project Transformation Works Ventura County will utilize a countywide, two-pronged approach, through law enforcement initiatives and intensive case management services, led by a multi-agency taskforce. These services provide youth and adult gang members with comprehensive education, employment and support services designed to reduce involvement in gangs and gang activities.

**6. San Mateo County ..... \$885,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** San Mateo County Manager’s Office

San Mateo County will implement Students With Amazing Goals (SWAG), a multi-disciplinary program aimed at increasing high school graduation rates and reducing truancy in East Palo Alto. The SWAG program strategy relies on a robust referral network led by high schools and middle schools, Probation, the courts, local non-profit and CBOs, and local law enforcement, to make certain the right children are being referred for the right reason.

**7. San Joaquin County ..... \$1,045,625**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** San Joaquin County Sheriff’s Office

The prevalent gangs, drugs and violence problems in San Joaquin County will be addressed by implementing Project Navigate Constructive Change, a program that will focus on prevention, education and alternatives to incarceration.

**8. Los Angeles County ..... \$1,248,156**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department

The Los Angeles County Comprehensive Plan is a multi-faceted approach, led by the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Narcotics Bureau, designed to positively impact the criminal justice system throughout multiple neighborhoods within the county. A cooperative, countywide plan centered on enforcement, prosecution and treatment best deals with those individuals and groups that spread social malaise through illicit drug abuse and narcotics-related crime and gang culture.

**Medium Counties***(in rank order)*

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**1. Sonoma County ..... \$715,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Sonoma County Probation Department

Sonoma County will implement the Keeping Kids in School Initiative, which will seek to reduce school absence and truancy among students in Sonoma County school districts by providing case management and comprehensive support for young people and their families who are at greatest risk for disengagement from school.

**2. Yolo County ..... \$655,195**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Yolo County District Attorney’s Office

Yolo County will implement a Neighborhood Court, an adult criminal diversion program based on restorative justice that addresses criminal violations that impact the quality of life in the community. Restorative justice is accomplished in Neighborhood Court by involving the victim, the offender and community members. The Yolo County Program will expand to the jurisdictions of West County, Woodland and a new target population of homeless offenders in the county.

**3. Butte County ..... \$714,960**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Butte County Sheriff’s Office

Butte County will identify young adult offenders, 16-24 years of ages, scheduled to re-enter communities – whether released on parole, probation, upon completion of a terminal sentence or alternative custody supervision. Services will be provided to prevent gang involvement, reduce substance abuse, juvenile delinquency and reduce recidivism. Participants will be placed into community supervision coupled with other evidence-based and age-appropriate treatment services, along with an educational and vocational training program.

**4. Santa Cruz County ..... \$715,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Santa Cruz County Sheriff’s Office

In collaboration with the County Health Services Agency, local hospitals and the four municipal law enforcement agencies, Santa Cruz County will develop, implement and monitor a Sobering Center as an alternative to jail incarceration for individuals detained for public intoxication.

**5. Stanislaus County ..... \$715,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Department

Through a partnership among law enforcement agencies, the Boys and Girls Club, Applied Performance Sciences, the Stanislaus Family Justice Center, the Stanislaus Drug Enforcement Agency, the Probation Department and the District Attorney’s Office, Stanislaus County will work to expand services, implement new prevention/education programs, mentoring and therapy for at-risk youth, and engage the community and parent involvement.

**6. Tulare County ..... \$715,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Tulare County Sheriff’s Department

Tulare County will implement the Closing the Circle program, an education-based strategy, that will provide evidence-based instruction to at-risk students at selected middle schools and court and community schools to reduce gang affiliation, low academic achievement, drug abuse, and other problem behavior associated with delinquency and crime. The suppression component will focus on juvenile and young adult offenders, and refer appropriate youth to the educational component for relevant programs.

**7. Placer County ..... \$715,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Placer County Sheriff’s Office

The Placer County Sheriff’s Office and partners propose a transformational Trauma-Informed Response (TIR) project that unites first responders with multi-agency collaborative systems (System of Care). TIR

incorporates five major initiatives to close the gaps in the current system and address the growing epidemic of substance abuse, mental health and trauma that lead children down a path to prison.

**8. Merced County.....\$59,845**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement/ Prosecution, Courts, Defense, Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Merced County Probation Department

Merced County will develop a multi-disciplinary team to provide prevention and intervention services to youth on probation with gang affiliation. There will be a balance of justice agencies and treatment providers who will work together to reduce recidivism, increase awareness and facilitate change.

**Small Counties***(in rank order)*

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**1. Tehama County.....\$219,973**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Tehama County Sheriff's Office

Tehama County will implement a Hot Spot Policing Team utilizing the SARA (Scanning, Analysis, Response and Assessment) crime analysis model to target substance abuse and violent crime. The project will include the expansion of a highly effective, evidence-based program to 5,000 students in eight high-need middle and high schools. In addition, the county will implement an Adolescent Diversion Project for first-time juvenile offenders.

**2. Shasta County .....\$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Shasta County Sheriff's Office

Shasta County's JAG project will attempt to reduce the youth criminal justice system reentry rate, remove as many youth and children as possible from environments where drugs are present, and eliminate as many drugs and drug suppliers as possible from children's and youth's environments.

**3. Mendocino County .....\$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Mendocino County Office of the Sheriff/Coroner

Mendocino County seeks to develop a Behavioral Health Court (BHC) for adults in the criminal justice system. Implementation of a BHC will reduce arrests, incarceration and recidivism by identifying, stabilizing, and addressing the underlying needs of those for whom serious mental illness is a substantial factor in their conduct.

**4. Lake County.....\$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Lake County Sheriff's Office

The Lake County Sheriff's Department will establish a Day Reporting Center (DRC) with co-located services to maximize access to technology upgrades for education, job training, employment counseling and other comprehensive services for adults and juveniles currently in the criminal justice system.

**5. Plumas County ..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Education and Prevention / Law Enforcement / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Plumas County District Attorney’s Office

Plumas County’s Helping Offenders Pursue Excellence (HOPE) program is designed to provide a holistic approach to assist rural Plumas County’s criminal justice partners in their efforts to enhance public safety, foster collaboration and improve the outcomes of individuals and their families under the supervision of community corrections.

**6. Imperial County ..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Education and Prevention / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Imperial County District Attorney’s Office

The Imperial County LEAD (Local Enrichment and Decision-Making) Program will coordinate a law-related teaching program and implement a Truancy Mediation Program to address juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and school violence. Imperial County District Attorney’s Office is collaborating with the Imperial County Office of Education to coordinate two separate teaching programs for students in Imperial County.

**7. Lassen County ..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Lassen County Sheriff’s Office.....

Lassen County will establish a multi-agency, county-wide youth crime reduction program. The target population will be youth ages 12-25, and delivery will be through coordination with area schools and other youth organizations. Services will include a diversionary program which will last three years with evaluations/modifications taking place during years two and three.

**8. Mono County..... \$211,186**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Mono County District Attorney’s Office

Mono County will implement a project called the Comprehensive Approach to Addressing Narcotics and Substance Abuse in Mono County. Services will be provided to deliver a more comprehensive approach to drug issues in the county.

**9. Madera County..... \$195,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Madera County Sheriff’s Office

Madera County will implement a multi-disciplinary project in drug suppression through active community education, diversion of users and enforcement. The region will integrate a variety of new and existing efforts for this project focus.

**10. Yuba County ..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Prevention and Education
- **Lead Agency:** Yuba County Probation Department

Yuba County, the school district and probation department will identify at-risk elementary age children

and provide targeted education and family-based services directed toward prevention of truancy, future delinquency, gang involvement, substance abuse and violent behaviors.

**11. Kings County..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement / Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Indigent Defense
- **Lead Agency:** Kings County Sheriff’s Office

The Kings County Gang Task Force (KCGTF) and partners will implement a project to reduce juvenile and young adult gang-related crimes, high rates of juvenile delinquency, and recidivism of moderate- and high-risk young adults through a balance of prevention, intervention, and suppression programs and strategies.

**12. Calaveras County..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Calaveras County Sheriff’s Office

Calaveras County will implement Life Skills Training, DEA Take Back events, the High Point Drug Market Intervention, enhanced assistance to drug-endangered children, and a Community-Oriented Controlled Substances Law Enforcement program toward the end goal of meeting the community’s substance and drug enforcement needs.

**13. San Benito County..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** San Benito County Sheriff’s Office

San Benito County will enhance its task force model for enforcement while implementing the evidence-based “Strengthening Families” program in order to make an impact on the illegal and illicit drug trade that is often carried out by local criminal street gangs. The goal is to interrupt the drug and arms trafficking which will in turn make the community safer.

**14. Mariposa County..... \$202,360**

- **JAG Program Purpose Areas:** Prevention and Education / Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Mariposa County Probation Department

Mariposa County will implement Project School Climate, which will focus on prevention and education to reduce behavioral misconduct in schools. The county’s drug task force will continue to combat street and mid-level drug related crimes involving adults and juveniles who are suspected of selling, manufacturing and/or distributing illegal drugs. ....

**15. Humboldt County..... \$220,000**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office

Humboldt County will fund the Sheriff’s Marijuana Enforcement Team, whose primary function is the eradication and investigation of mid- to major-level illegal marijuana grows. The unit not only focuses on eradication, but on the development of cases for successful prosecution, seizing illegally gained assets, and assisting natural resource agencies with identifying environmental damages caused by this illegal activity.

**16. Nevada/Sierra Counties.....\$51,481**

- **JAG Program Purpose Area:** Law Enforcement
- **Lead Agency:** Nevada County Sheriff's Office

In partnership with the Sierra County Sheriff's Office, the Nevada County Sheriff's Office will lead a Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Force (NFT). The NFT will coordinate efforts between law enforcement, prosecution and probation in identifying, arresting, prosecuting, and conducting supervision of narcotics offenders. The NFT and Community Recovery Resources will focus on education regarding the dangers and consequences of illegal narcotics use. The NFT will have a cooperative protocol in place for the removal and handling of Drug Endangered Children (DEC) with Child Protective Services.

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