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NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS: *BJA FY 2023 Smart* *Prosecution – Innovative* *Prosecution Solutions Competitive* *Grant Solicitation*

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to provide state, local, and tribal prosecutors with funding to reduce crime and increase public safety and trust in the criminal justice system. The program encourages prosecutors and agencies to use data in the development of their strategies and projects and to develop fair, effective, cost-effective, and innovative responses to crime within their jurisdictions.

The program's goal is to test data-driven approaches that address one or more of the objectives listed in the grant solicitation. Successful applicants will work closely with BJA staff and the training and technical assistance provider to assist prosecutorial agencies in incorporating innovative or evidence-based prosecution strategies as a fundamental component of their efforts to reduce crime and ensure public safety.

Grants.gov Deadline: **March 28, 2023**

JustGrants Deadline: **April 4, 2023**

STRATEGIES IN FOCUS



King County, Washington

In response to community feedback regarding the experiences of victims of sexual exploitation, the [King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office \(KCPAO\)](#) has improved its capacity to identify and prosecute human trafficking cases in Seattle, Washington, and the surrounding areas. The office is focused on building a survivor-centered response to human trafficking by hiring a second specialized prosecutor to handle trafficking-related vertical prosecutions; partnering with civil society to develop upstream intervention points, including the use of technology, to stop harm before it happens; conducting specialized trainings to help law enforcement better understand and respond to human trafficking; and working with the community to raise awareness about these offenses.

The goals of KCPAO's program are to increase capacity to identify human trafficking victims and to reduce the demand for human trafficking by deterring buyers. One of the technology tools that the KCPAO has helped collaborate on is called [Project: SugarFree](#), which is an automated AI technology platform that intercepts predatory social media posts, reports and identifies exploiters, and provides education and awareness material as a means to prevent harm.

The office is also working to remedy unjust convictions of trafficking victims through

its vacatur program. Although analysis into the program's effectiveness is still ongoing, initial research has revealed that, as of August 2022, KCPAO's collaboration with a local non-profit to connect survivors with pro-bono attorneys has resulted in the vacatur of 83 convictions. The office's Human Trafficking Unit has also been working to hold traffickers accountable—for example, by uncovering trafficking in [massage parlors](#), and obtaining a plea in a case where the defendant was [charged with recruiting victims over social media](#). By publicizing these successes, the prosecutor's office is raising awareness in the community about the impacts of human trafficking.

CASE HIGHLIGHT

[*Caniglia v. Strom*, 141 S. Ct. 1596 \(2021\).](#)

After a heated argument with his wife at their home in Rhode Island, the defendant placed an unloaded handgun on the kitchen table and told his wife to "shoot [him] and get it over with." *Id.* at 1598. His wife left the house and spent the night at a hotel. The following morning, after discovering that she could not reach her husband by phone, she called the police to report the argument and request a welfare check. *Id.* When the police arrived at the defendant's home, the defendant refused to go to the hospital for a mental health evaluation, but eventually relented after the police allegedly promised not to confiscate his firearms. *Id.* Once the ambulance had taken the defendant away, the police seized the weapons.

The defendant sued, alleging that the police violated his Fourth Amendment rights when they entered his home and seized him and his weapons without a warrant. *Id.* The trial court granted summary judgment to the respondents, and the First Circuit affirmed on the basis that the "community caretaking exception" to the warrant requirement applied to the search and seizure of the defendant and his handguns. *Id.* The defendant appealed again, and the Supreme Court granted certiorari.

In a unanimous decision, the Court held that the "community caretaking exception"

does not apply to searches and seizures of the home, and that police officers must generally obtain a warrant before conducting them. *Id* at 1600. The Court referred to its previous decision in *Cady v. Dombrowski*, 413 U.S. 433 (1973), which held that the Fourth Amendment does not prohibit the warrantless seizure of firearms from a vehicle if there is probable cause to believe that the person in possession of the firearms is dangerous, and the seizure is necessary for the safety of the police or public. The Court distinguished *Caniglia* from *Cady*, noting that in the current case, the firearms were seized from a home—which the Court has long recognized as enjoying a higher level of Fourth Amendment protections than a vehicle. *Id*. Thus, the Court limited the scope of the “exigent circumstances exception” to vehicles, and reaffirmed the importance of the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable searches and seizures in the home.

SELECTED RESOURCES: RISK TERRAIN

Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM) is a data analysis process that considers how environmental and spatial factors affect crime rates. It identifies geographic elements (like liquor stores, abandoned buildings, and street lights), analyzes their concentration, and uses statistical techniques to identify which factors are most strongly associated with crime. The risk scores generated by RTM can help law enforcement predict where criminal behavior will be high, and thus can be utilized to inform prevention strategies to increase public safety.

To learn more about Risk Terrain Modeling, please see below for selected resources:

[A Multi-jurisdictional Test of Risk Terrain Modeling and a Place-based Evaluation of Environmental Risk-Based Patrol Deployment Strategies](#)

[Facilitators and Impediments to Designing, Implementing, and Evaluating Risk-Based Policing Strategies Using Risk Terrain Modeling- Insights from a Multi-City Evaluation in the United States](#)

[Forecasting Crime and Understanding its Causes. Applying Risk Terrain Modeling Worldwide](#)

[Forecasting Homicide in the Red Stick- Risk Terrain Modeling and the Spatial Influence of Urban Blight on Lethal Violence in Baton Rouge, Louisiana](#)

WRITTEN RESOURCES

[Guiding and Supporting the Victim's Choices Regarding Participation in the Prosecution of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence:](#) The criminal justice process can expose survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence to unique re-traumatization. While multidisciplinary response efforts employing victim-centered and trauma-informed practices have greatly facilitated the reporting and engagement of survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence, the process itself remains daunting. Some survivors ultimately decline to participate, avoiding service of process or refusing to appear under subpoena. This article explores strategies that will assist advocates and allied professionals in guiding and supporting victims throughout the criminal justice process in ways that will help ensure their choices about participation are fully informed, and their interests are protected and advanced at all stages in the process.

["Next-Level" Compulsion of Victim Testimony in Crimes of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence: Prosecutorial Considerations Before Using Bench Warrants/Body Attachments and Material Witness Warrants:](#) This article examines the considerations that should be weighed in deciding whether to employ next-level measures, such as material witness warrants and body attachments, to compel victim testimony in sexual and intimate partner violence cases. While prosecutors have a great deal of discretion in deciding whether to use compulsive measures beyond issuance of a subpoena, the decision to resort to such measures should be made with great care and with an awareness of the potential consequences, as well as consideration of

possible alternatives.

[Developing and Leading a Prosecutor's Community Advisory Board](#): This article, written by the Prosecutors' Center for Excellence, provides guidance for prosecutors' offices seeking to develop a Community Advisory Board (CAB). Based on discussions with three elected prosecutors from diverse jurisdictions across the country, this resource contains basic guidance on establishing the purpose of a CAB, creating guidelines for its composition, conducting meetings, and more.

RECORDED RESOURCES

[Implementing Community Based Violence Intervention \(CVI\) Strategies](#) is a 5-part recorded webinar series, hosted by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. DOJ, which delivers information on a wide range of issues important to successfully implementing CVI strategies. The webinar series was hosted each month from September 2022 to January 2023. Using the Bureau of Justice Assistance's [CVI Checklist](#) as a framework, the series walks through the stages of planning and implementation of CVI strategies and takes a deeper dive into several important issues.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

March 29, 2023: Virtual Training on Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG)

SAKI TTA, on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), will be hosting a virtual training on Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG) on **Wednesday, March 29th**. The FBI Investigative Genealogy (IG) team will be leading this 1-day training which will serve as an updated refresher course to the 3-day event held in Spring 2022.

This training will provide an opportunity for all applicable BJA-funded grantees and non-funded jurisdictions to discuss best practices, identify approaches to common challenges, and collaborate with partners to further the successful implementation of FGG into their investigative workflows.

Attendance will be capped at 500. The training **will not be archived** and must be viewed live. Priority attendance will be given to law enforcement, prosecutors, and criminal intelligence analysts. All others will be considered as space permits. Attendees will receive a certificate of completion.

Prerequisite Information

Those interested in attending this 1-day course must meet **one** of the following requirements:

1. Attended the 3-day DOJ-BJA Virtual FGG training that was held on March 29 – April 1, 2022. The certificate received from last year's event will be required as proof of attendance. Additional information will follow.
2. Completion of the online archived DOJ-BJA Virtual FGG training. Please note, due to law enforcement sensitivities, the FBI presentations held during the 3-day live event were not recorded and thus, are not available as part of this archived version. The archived training will serve as a general overview of the FGG process and will provide the necessary foundation for the upcoming 1-day refresher course. The archived training is entitled “OVCCC: Forensic Genetic Genealogy Training” and can be found here: <https://academy.sakitta.org/>. Certificate of completion will be required for proof. Additional information will follow.

If you have any questions about the prerequisite requirements, please contact Ashley Rodriguez, ashleyrodriguez@rti.org.

Stay tuned for additional information on how to register for this event.

The poster features a dark blue background with a repeating pattern of colorful, stylized human figures. The text is prominently displayed in white and teal. The title 'UPCOMING WEBINAR' is at the top in large white letters. Below it, the subtitle 'TAPPING INTO OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY: Using Wiretapping in State-Level Human Trafficking Cases' is in teal. The date and time 'April 11, 2023 1pm Eastern' are in white. The registration information 'Register Now: AEquitasResource.org/Trainings' is in white. The AEquitas logo, a white square with a stylized 'AE' in blue and red, is in the bottom left corner.

UPCOMING WEBINAR

TAPPING INTO OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY: Using Wiretapping in State-Level Human Trafficking Cases

April 11, 2023
1pm Eastern
Register Now:
[AEquitasResource.org/Trainings](https://www.aequitasresource.org/trainings)



April 11, 2023, 1 PM ET - 2:30 PM ET: Tapping into Offender Accountability: Using Wiretapping in State-Level Human Trafficking Cases

Law enforcement are regularly challenged to build cases that can be successfully prosecuted when victims are unable to participate. There are a myriad of ways to build cases that are not wholly dependent on victim testimony, and one powerful strategy is to use wiretaps that can capture communications and ultimately establish the elements of “force, fraud, or coercion”. Eavesdropping warrant investigations are technical and resource-intensive, however they are highly effective in obtaining evidence to prosecute offenders without relying on testimony from victims who are often fearful, distrustful, intimidated, and traumatized.

This training will focus on how prosecutors and law enforcement can effectively use eavesdropping warrants to hold traffickers accountable and build strong, actionable investigations even if wiretapping is not ultimately employed. Presenters will provide approaches to maximize resources, even when limited, to enable jurisdictions of all sizes to utilize eavesdropping warrants. Additionally, practical strategies to comply with ethical and legal obligations will be discussed, including methods to minimize harm and trauma to victims and survivors.

Learning Objectives:

- Build an investigation sufficient to support an application for an eavesdropping warrant
- Define legal requirements before, during, and after intercepting electronic communications
- Litigate pretrial motions to admit out-of-court statements and expert testimony

[Register here.](#)

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First Mondays of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 3:30 PM PST - 5 PM PST: Survivor Center 2023 Trainings

The Prosecutors Alliance of California's (PAC) Survivor Resource and Training Center presents the Survivor Center 2023 Trainings. These free trainings will be offered virtually throughout 2023, and MCLE will be available for select sessions. The topics are:

- **2/6/23:** California Crime Survivor Focused Laws and Victim Compensation Updates
- **4/3/23:** Trauma Recovery and Crime Survivors
- **6/5/23:** Identifying and Reporting Elder Abuse
- **8/7/23:** Working with Families of Homicides
- **10/2/23:** Understanding Family Violence
- **12/2/23:** Assessing the Individual Needs of Crime Survivors

[Register here.](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[OVW Fiscal Year 2023 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program](#)

This program supports efforts to enhance the safety of rural victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and supports projects uniquely designed to address and prevent these crimes in rural areas. Eligible applicants are limited to: States and territories, Indian tribes, local governments, and nonprofit (public or private) entities, including tribal nonprofit organizations in the United States or U.S. territories. The deadline to apply is **April 11, 2023 (Grants.gov)** and **April 18, 2023 (JustGrants)**.

[OJJDP FY 2023 Community-Based Alternatives to Youth Incarceration Initiative](#)

With this solicitation, OJJDP seeks to fund jurisdictions to close and repurpose youth detention and correctional facilities, reinvest cost savings to expand community-based alternatives to youth incarceration, and assess and respond to the economic impact of closures on facility staff and surrounding communities. Applicants must describe how their proposed project/program will integrate and sustain meaningful youth and family partnerships into their project plan and budget. The deadline to apply is **April 11, 2023 (Grants.gov)** and **April 25, 2023 (JustGrants)**.

[OJJDP FY 2023 Juvenile Justice System Reform and Reinvestment Initiative](#)

With this solicitation, OJJDP seeks to support states' and counties' implementation of innovative and/or research-based, data-informed recidivism-reduction policies, practices, and programs across multiple juvenile justice system components and disciplines, and sustainable strategies for reinvesting resulting costs saved or averted into effective juvenile justice prevention and intervention programs. The deadline to apply is **April 20, 2023**.

[Improving State Procedures to Counter GBV](#)

The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the U.S. Department of State announces an open competition for organizations to submit applications to carry out a project to design, implement, and evaluate a model for

early attention, investigation, and prosecution of crimes associated with gender-based violence (GBV). This solicitation seeks proposals to strengthen the efforts to prevent femicides and gender-based violent crimes. The deadline to apply is **May 1, 2023**.

For more grant opportunities, please visit grants.gov.



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