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**State of Georgia FY 2020  
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program  
Program Narrative**

The State of Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) is pleased to submit this application for the 2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program as the State Administering Agency (SAA) for JAG funds. As provided in CJCC's enabling statute (O.C.G.A. § 35-6A-1), CJCC was created to "to provide the necessary leadership to coordinate the major components of the criminal justice system by establishing a statewide coordinating body which represents all components and all levels of the criminal justice system." CJCC's 27 Council members, as statutorily defined, includes representatives from every facet of the criminal justice system at the state and local levels, in addition to citizen members appointed by the Governor. The representatives provide insight and direction to CJCC staff regarding the coordination and update of the state's strategic plans for drug and violent crime control, crime victim services, violence against women, and statistical analysis and evaluation.

In addition to JAG, CJCC is designated as the SAA for several other federal formula grant programs. SAA operations are supported, in part, by administrative funds originating from these grants, such as the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Program, STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant Program, Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Program, and Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program. CJCC also includes Georgia's designated State Analytical Center, the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC).

## **Statement of the Problem**

For 2020 JAG funds, the state of Georgia is committed to continue funding for its vital law enforcement and public safety efforts in accordance with the following priorities:

1. Drug prohibition and strategic planning efforts around the continuous rise of methamphetamine and opioid usage;
2. Coordination of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies through the sharing of relevant crime and trend data;
3. A statewide strategic plan to determine the needs of local law enforcement and assess the best use for the less than \$10,000 funds.

Since Georgia's final federal allocation for JAG FY 2020 formula grant has not yet been announced, the budget for this application is \$1. Initiatives funded by JAG are law enforcement training at the state level to drug task forces as well as crime reduction projects at the local level. Staff will employ a strategic planning process to identify gaps in services and allocate funds to target those service areas. In addition, staff will: 1) evaluate proposed and existing activities to assess the extent of relevance to the state's funding priorities; 2) utilize performance data to evaluate current initiatives; and 3) review program goals and resources to determine sustainability.

### *Program Identifiers*

- Taskforces
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Training – Use of Force
- Training – De-Escalation
- Training – Racial & Ethnic Bias

- Terrorism Preparedness

#### *Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces*

Georgia continues to place a high priority on funding multi-jurisdictional drug task force agencies (MJDTFs) to counter drug-related crime in both rural and metro areas. As an economic and transportation hub, Georgia has become the nexus for gang-related drug activity in the Southeast. In response to the constant expansion of illegal drug activity, CJCC and MJDTFs have established three shared goals: 1) to disrupt illicit drug markets by investigating drug distributors and/or drug trafficking organizations; 2) to broaden awareness as to the trends, threats, myths, and consequences associated with illegal drug use; and 3) to participate in the local drug enforcement strategy through law enforcement intervention with drug abusers. The MJDTFs are committed to addressing and decreasing the current level of drug-related crime within Georgia.

The MJDTFs target three levels of drug distribution that vary in volume among the jurisdictions, including major, mid-level, and street-level distributors. Currently, 14 local and regional MJDTFs are funded across the state— including two K-9 Units. MJDTFs provide crucial drug enforcement support throughout Georgia. Four of these MJDTFs (West Metro, Southeastern, Appalachian, and Southwestern Regional Drug Enforcement Offices) are regional agencies that have combined their individual resources into a unified task force. The unification enables them to target a larger geographic area, much of which was previously without coverage. For example, the West Metro Regional Drug Enforcement Office is a first-of-its-kind work-unit housed in the City of Carrollton that combines assets from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) with assets from local law enforcement authorities to create Georgia's first state and local drug task force. Its partners include several city police departments, county sheriffs' offices, a county police department, the GBI, and the Coweta Judicial Circuit's District Attorney's Office. This regional MJDTF currently serves 26

counties, to include the entire Metro Atlanta area. It functions as a hybrid between a traditional GBI Regional Drug Enforcement Office and a local MJDTF working to address drug enforcement by closing the gap between local law enforcement and federal enforcement efforts. The Southwestern Regional Drug Enforcement Office (SRDEO) is the newest law enforcement/drug enforcement collaborative effort between state and local governments that has combined local drug task forces with the GBI's Regional Drug Enforcement Office. This Regional Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force is currently serving an area of 41 counties in Southwestern Georgia. With its dual purpose, this office responds to general requests for assistance from local law enforcement, as well as has responsibility for the GBI's drug enforcement effort within a designated area of Georgia's more rural counties. The SRDEO collaborates with federal, state, and local agencies by sharing intelligence and jointly conducting investigations, search and seizures, and undercover drug buys. This collaboration not only ensures an underserved area is now being covered, but also works to enhance intelligence sharing and ensure services are not duplicated.

#### *Regional K-9 Multi-Jurisdictional Resource Teams*

Regional K-9 resource teams are an invaluable resource to the state's MJDTFs and local law enforcement agencies. The expense of acquiring and maintaining K-9 resource teams for each MJDTF or law enforcement agency is cost prohibitive. The two regional K-9 resource teams located in Chatham (Savannah) and Dawson (North Georgia) counties have assisted local, state, federal, multi-jurisdictional, and private agencies throughout the course of their existence. The K-9 resource teams and K-9 training facility continue to support the following law enforcement activities: safe school searches (narcotics and firearms); street sweep operations (narcotics and firearms); neighborhood drug activity suppression (narcotics); traffic safety checks (narcotics and firearms); service of search warrants (narcotics, firearms, explosives); recovery of evidence

(narcotics, firearms, explosives), school and community drug education/detection demonstrations (narcotics); participation in multi-level narcotics interdiction efforts (narcotics); narcotics sweeps of correctional facilities (narcotics); and explosive detection (threat response, physical security, VIP protection). Since the events of September 11, 2001, the K-9 resource teams have also provided support to counter-terrorism investigations at the port of Savannah and small regional airports throughout Georgia.

Together, the MJDTFs and the K-9 resource teams have successfully seized large quantities of a variety of illicit drugs over the past two years as shown in the following table.

<i><b>Total Seizures by Drug Seized and Year</b></i>							
<b>Drug Seized</b>	<b>2016 (Grams)</b>	<b>2017 (Grams)</b>	<b>2018 (Grams)</b>	<b>2019 (Grams)</b>	<b>Change in Seizures from 2016 to 2017</b>	<b>Change in Seizures from 2017 to 2018</b>	<b>Change in Seizures from 2018 to 2019</b>
Methamphetamine	176,678	278,606	161,817	1,037,415	58%	-42%	541%
Cocaine	73,272	107,578	687,570	498,443	47%	539%	-28%
Marijuana (Commercial& Hydroponic)	1,981,869	391,129	1,476,238	923,084	-80%	277%	-37%
Crack	2,965	1,276	2,976	2,214	-57%	133%	-26%
MDMA	746	3,383	2,094	6,743	354%	-38%	222%
Heroin	28,531	5,437	33,940	6,336	-81%	524%	-81%
Prescription Medications	65,111	16,777	16,741	6,400	-74%	-0.2%	-62%

Also, approximately 92% of MJDTFs and K-9 teams' arrests have resulted in either State or Federal prosecution for the 2019 calendar year.

<i><b>Total Arrestees by Year</b></i>	
2016	2,285
2017	2,720
2018	2,321
2019	2,126

<i><b>Total Prosecutions by Year and Jurisdiction</b></i>				
Jurisdiction	2016	2017	2018	2019
State	1,871	2,051	2,034	1,892
Federal	155	151	100	65

### *Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC)*

Law enforcement use of force continues to be a concern for many citizens. Accusations of police excessive force or incorrect level of force have been prevalent in the media, putting focus on law enforcement training and tactics. The Georgia Public Safety Training Center's (GPSTC) TASER program has been updated to include the use of new advanced devices for 2020 allowing law enforcement training in use of force alternatives and allowing previously trained personnel to obtain recertification.

State JAG funds will continue to support the GPSTC drug enforcement and TASER training programs. The taser, a conducted electronic weapon (CEW), is recognized as an efficient non-lethal option for law enforcement. If used correctly, the taser provides a safe alternative to other non-lethal force options. Someone struck by a taser experiences a stimulation of sensory nerves and motor nerves, resulting in strong involuntary muscle contractions. Tasers do not rely on pain compliance, except when used in the "drivestun" mode.

The purpose of the taser is to reduce officer injuries, suspect injuries, excessive force complaints, and prevent a possible escalation of force. Research shows officer injuries decreased by 76% when a taser was used. CEWs are a popular use of force option as thousands of police agencies have purchased them for officers. Additionally, industry representatives report more than 15,500 law enforcement agencies in more than 40 countries are using CEWs. Tasers provide a safety benefit for police officers as they have a greater deployment range than expandable batons, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, or empty-hand techniques.

This federal funding will further the mission of protecting the public and providing adequate training to peace officers in the state. To collaborate with others, GPSTC works with subject matter experts to analyze and develop curricula to address training needs. Continued funding of these

programs will allow GPSTC to better foster professionalism, competency, and safety within the ranks of the Georgia's Public Safety Community by developing, delivering, facilitating, and supporting training that meets our customer's needs. GPSTC's vision is to be recognized by the members of Georgia's Public Safety Community as providing the highest quality public safety training in the nation.

### *Drug Enforcement*

Currently, a significant portion of training addresses the complex issue of illegal drug crime. Training public safety professionals in the detection, disruption, dismantlement, and prosecution of illicit drug and gang-related criminal enterprises supports law enforcement in areas where drug and gang-related activity has increased.

The state of Georgia is a regional and national hub for drug distribution. Access to two major airports in both Atlanta and Savannah, as well as the Brunswick and Savannah seaports, makes the state a prime distribution center for high-level drug trafficking. Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) continue to operate in Atlanta due to its diverse and expansive transportation system. Most of these shipments are arriving in Atlanta via commercial and personal vehicles, but in an attempt to diversify shipping methods and hinder investigative efforts, DTOs are increasingly sending smaller and more frequent shipments of narcotics.<sup>1</sup> Although the illegal drug trade encompasses an array of drugs in the state, methamphetamine is the most prevalent and lethal. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) reports methamphetamine as the top illegal drug tested in its crime labs in 2018. The GBI Forensic Chemistry section reported 1,890 drug samples tested positive for methamphetamine, which is more than twice the number of positive cases for any other drugs. The

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration. 2018 National Drug Threat Assessment.

top six drugs (methamphetamine, cocaine, alprazolam, oxycodone, heroin, and hydrocodone) reportedly mirror the top six from 2017.<sup>2</sup>

The current methamphetamine market of Georgia is saturated. It is believed that a readily available supply of methamphetamine increased in 2016 when Mexico-based sources increased their production levels. Sources can produce a methamphetamine with a higher profit margin and do not have to acquire product from another source country. In addition to the upward trend of methamphetamine availability, the increasing presence of synthetic and designer drugs has further complicated drug enforcement. The consistency of synthetic drugs changes with each new formulation.

In the past few years, Georgia has experienced a leveling in heroin seizures and heroin related overdose deaths, a large spike in opioid usage, and the emergence of fentanyl is creating significant issues for law enforcement and public safety in general. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Crime Lab reported a 400% increase in designer opioid usage from 2016 to 2017 and an increase of 2,600% in Fentanyl. As a result, regular training is critical to ensure officers can identify designer drugs as well as behavioral patterns that result from use<sup>3</sup>.

#### *Georgia Information Sharing Analysis Center (GISAC)*

The state of Georgia is home to a unique variety of critical infrastructure, private sector assets, and key resources, contains numerous vital military installations, hosts 357 of the Fortune 500 companies, and maintains offices for every federal agency. Additionally, the Atlanta Metropolitan area is home to the busiest airport in the nation, one of the five largest convention centers in the US, and serves as the headquarters for CNN, a global news source. All the structures, businesses,

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<sup>2</sup> GBI Lab Seeing More Meth Than Any Other Illegal Drug. *AJC*. Retrieved from [https://www.ajc.com/news/gbi-lab-seeing-more-meth-than-any-other-illegal-drug/XOXsFEs6ULH8gFZQuYDqBO/http://cjcc.georgia.gov/sites/cjcc.georgia.gov/files/related\\_files/document/ApprovedforRelease\\_FinalReport.pdf](https://www.ajc.com/news/gbi-lab-seeing-more-meth-than-any-other-illegal-drug/XOXsFEs6ULH8gFZQuYDqBO/http://cjcc.georgia.gov/sites/cjcc.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/ApprovedforRelease_FinalReport.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> GPSTC JAG Funding Application (2019). Page 2



and facilities that comprise Georgia's critical infrastructure could be considered targets for cyber or terrorist actors. Moreover, to compound the issue further, there may be significant overlap between criminal networks and terrorist or extremist networks. This potential nexus between terrorist/extremist networks and traditional criminal networks (i.e. illegal drug operations, gangs, major theft, fraud, etc.) signifies the need for an approach that incorporates terrorism and other high-risk threats into the existing reporting framework. Such an approach ensures that possible precursor crimes are analyzed for connections to larger-scale terrorist or extremist crimes.<sup>4</sup>

The Georgia Information Sharing Analysis Center (GISAC) facilitates connectivity between local, state, and federal agencies in Georgia. The purpose is to share resources and information in a way that enhances the capacity to identify, detect, mitigate, prevent, and respond to criminal activity. As an all-crimes Fusion Center, GISAC works both criminal intelligence and counterterrorism related incidents. This approach incorporates terrorism into the existing criminal intelligence framework to ensure that all possible precursor crimes are analyzed for links to larger-scale terrorist activity. GISAC's efforts to collect information from state and local sources ensures greater availability and integration of information from those sources.

As the intelligence clearinghouse for the state of Georgia, GISAC is the central repository for Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) at the state level. Vetting of suspicious activity reports via GISAC promotes collaboration and coordination between federal, state, and local partners to ensure that appropriate investigative action has been taken to address SAR information and to minimize potential intelligence gaps. In addition to the processing and vetting of SARs, GISAC has continued to play a major role in training local and state police officers regarding suspicious activity and defining what information should be reported pursuant to its overarching terrorism

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<sup>4</sup> SAC JAG Funding Application (2020). Page 2

prevention strategy. GISAC analysts also utilize SARs to compare information from Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) notifications. GISAC also ensures other state and local agencies receive bulletins and assessments produced by federal agencies that are relevant to their areas of responsibility. Funds from this grant assist GISAC in purchasing wireless mobile devices that are necessary for GISAC to provide these program activities on a 24/7 basis. Additionally, this grant funds GISAC's daily operational costs such as internet and other vital telecommunications, critical analytical software, and supplies that allow GISAC to provide real time support throughout the state.

JAG funding will continue to support the GISAC's primary goal of collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information with an all-crimes approach that incorporates terrorism into the larger framework. JAG funds enable GISAC to provide investigative support to law enforcement in Georgia for all criminal activity. GISAC will also continue to expand the National SAR Initiative through training, Watch Desk, and Regional Terrorism Specialists (RTS). GISAC will expand its network of public safety, law enforcement, and private sector relationships to include implementation of an Intelligence Liaison Officer (ILO). In an effort to serve as a single point of access for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of tips and leads concerning emerging, imminent, or existing threats, GISAC will also work to enhance capability of Watch Desk personnel, as well as upgrade existing software and deploy new analytical software to keep analysts up to date with latest technological advances. GISAC will continue to expand the existing product line using updated software. GISAC also aims to enhance proactive intelligence and outreach through the attendance of private and public sector meetings/briefings, increased

collaboration with locals via GBI Regional Threat Specialist, and the promotion and promulgation of enhancements to the SAR mobile application.<sup>5</sup>

### *Gang Intelligence Platform*

The Georgia General Assembly determined the state to be in crisis caused by violent criminal street gangs whose members threaten, terrorize, and commit a multitude of crimes against the peaceful citizens of their neighborhoods. These activities present a clear and present danger to public order and safety.<sup>6</sup> The number of street gang violence and gang-related activities have increased in many areas of Georgia. Law enforcement agencies are doing what they can to reduce the amount of gang-related issues within their jurisdictions but are limited in capacity.

To effectively punish and deter criminal street gangs, the General Assembly passed legislation to take forfeiture of the profits, proceeds, and instrumentalities acquired, accumulated, or used by criminal street gangs.<sup>7</sup> Defined by Code Section 16-15-3, street gangs refer to “the criminal activity in the means of commission, attempted commission, conspiracy to commit, or solicitation, coercion, or intimidation of another person to commit any criminal offense related to stalking, racketeering, rape or statutory rape, and aggravated sodomy.”<sup>8</sup> People who are either employed by or associate with any criminal street gang and participate in any gang-related activities which violates Code Section 16-15-3 shall be deemed unlawful.

In response, the Prosecuting Attorneys’ Council of Georgia (PAC) proposed a statewide gang prosecution and investigative case management pilot program. This program is intended to support all major areas in the state where gang violence is most prevalent by using a software program that

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<sup>5</sup> GISAC JAG Funding Application (2020). Page 8

<sup>6</sup> LexisNexis. Title 16 crimes and offenses chapter 15 street gang terrorism and prevention (2015). Code Section 16-15-2 Retrieved June 14, 2019. <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/gacode/Default.asp>

<sup>7</sup> LexisNexis. Title 16 crimes and offenses chapter 15 street gang terrorism and prevention (2015). Code Section 16-15-2 Retrieved June 14, 2019. <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/gacode/Default.asp>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

can help all law enforcement agencies work together. The success of the pilot project has led to a statewide initiative that has been implemented in collaboration with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). The first pilot implementation in December 2015 through March 2017, delivered 3,500 profiles added to the network by the pilot agencies and over 1,500 matches were made across case files. Since expanding through the use previous JAG funding, the platform yielded 2,960 new profiles as of December 2019 which resulted in 3,645 matches to gang related events. As of December 2019, the platform contained over 46,456 gang case files and has connected over 41,414 matches between files.

The chart below presents a general conception of how the system tracks gang-related individuals who have been arrested and/or accused, as well as previous offenses if any:



Gang presence and related violent crimes are becoming an increasing problem. The software has played a vital role in lowering gang violence in Georgia. Gang-related information collected by different law enforcement districts can now be communicated among law enforcement agencies. By establishing a central repository to ensure all shared information can be viewed and collected,

the gang platform has improved the state's ability to accurately track and publish gang-related data.

*Sexual Offender Registration Review Board (SORRB)*

House Bill 1059 was passed in 2006 and created the current Sexual Offender Registration Review Board (SORRB), which is comprised of 15 Governor-appointed voluntary professionals from across the state and paid agency staff. It details registration requirements and the classification process for individuals convicted of a Sexually Dangerous Offense on or after July 1, 2006; sex offenders convicted of criminal acts against minors who were incarcerated as of July 1, 2006; and sex offenders who are new residents of Georgia. O.C.G.A. § 42-1-13 and 42-1-14 specifically outlines the responsibilities of the SORRB, which includes determining the risk posed by a sex offender via a risk assessment that places a sex offender in one of three increasing risk levels for potential to reoffend: Level 1 – low risk; Level 2 – moderate risk; and Sexually Dangerous Predator – high risk.

SORRB conducts risk assessments on sex offenders in Georgia to determine the danger they present to the communities and assist law enforcement/management agencies in that effort. Evaluation/Assessments are done both individually (each sex offender is assessed) and agency wide. Currently, the staff consists of five full-time clinical evaluators and two full-time administrative staff members. Staff hired through the CJCC grant includes six administrative positions. The Evaluators are experts in the field of sex offender behavior and risk, and with the support of the administrative staff, they classified 916 cases in 2019. In addition, with the assistance of the CJCC grant staff, 350 cases were prevented from being added to the backlog due to a review indicating the case was either a duplicate or the case could not be leveled. Overall, with SORRB staff and the CJCC grant staff, the backlog was reduced from 7800 in 2018 to 5960

in 2019. The reduction is a result of staff identifying cases already in the database that are duplicates or cannot be leveled. As of May 2019, the State of Georgia has 33,692 sex offenders on its registry.

The goal of this project is to make Georgia communities safer. This will be achieved by identifying, assessing, and monitoring sex offenders appropriately. The objectives are to level more sex offenders per month and reduce the backlog of unclassified offenders. Once implemented, the project will move the State of Georgia closer to substantial implementation and enhance ongoing Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) compliance.

#### *Deaths in Custody Data Reporting*

Starting October 1, 2019, state administering agencies like CJCC were vested with the responsibility for collecting Deaths in Custody Data (DICRA reporting) to report to the Bureau of Justice Assistance via the Performance Measurement Tool. Previously, the SAC collected Arrest-Related Data for the Bureau of Justice Statistics' data collection, the division forged a partnership with the GBI Medical Examiner's Office (MEO) to identify deaths in the presence of law enforcement. Based on the MEO's report, the SAC would contact the law enforcement agency for completion of the CJ-11A form, which was used at the time to collect the statistical data. To comply with the DICRA reporting requirement, the SAC has engaged with the GBI's medical examiner and metro-Atlanta medical examiner's offices to identify deaths in law enforcement presence or custody. The SAC is working with the Georgia Sheriff's Association and the Georgia Chiefs Association to alert their membership about the upcoming data collection and request their participation. The SAC worked out a reporting partnership with the Georgia Department of Corrections and is working to develop a similar partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice. Based on MEO reports, the SAC contacts the identified law enforcement agency, jail, or

the Georgia Department of Corrections to collect the data elements necessary to comply with DICRA reporting.

#### Subgrant Award Process and Timeline

Upon award, CJCC staff will draft and release a grant solicitation for existing state and local initiatives. Funding criteria will include, but not be limited to: 1) whether the proposed program activities are aligned with state priorities as outlined above; 2) implementation of evidence-based or evidence-informed programs; 3) the outcome of funded activities to date (if applicable); and 4) a feasible sustainability plan. Staff will review proposals in accordance with the identified funding criteria, as well as federal guidelines. After approval by the Council, funds will be awarded. The proposed timeline for the subgrant award process is as follows:

October 1: Receive and accept JAG award

October 15: Release state and local Requests for Proposals

November 15: Deadline for proposals

November 15 – 30: Review applications and draft recommendations for Council

December 4: Make recommendations to Council for review and approval

December 4 – 15: Award subgrantees in accordance with Council approval

January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021: Monitor awards, conduct site visits, and provide technical assistance as needed

#### **Project Design and Implementation**

In 2015, CJCC engaged in a comprehensive strategic planning process to identify priorities and appropriate funding strategy. The SAC created and distributed a survey to 1,416 stakeholders, 437 of whom responded. At 54%, most respondents were subgrantees even though over a quarter were from a local criminal justice government agency and 17% were from state criminal justice

agencies. The stakeholders' priorities are varied and include advocacy for crime victims and training for criminal justice professionals, such as the training needs related to drug enforcement and intelligence sharing tools, such as the gang intelligence system. The stakeholders identified a few acute needs, including "improving law enforcement/community relationships" and "addressing the needs of mentally ill offenders."

Given this information, CJCC continues to engage its Council members, as well as members of multiple Committees on which staff provides representation. CJCC is in the unique position of administering accountability court and juvenile justice grants under the guidance of the Council of Accountability Court Judges and the Council, respectively. Also, CJCC provides representation on Committees and Boards purposed for reentry, combatting opioid use, addiction studies, human trafficking, and sexual assault and domestic violence. Staff will use these avenues to solicit input on gaps in services, underserved populations, current initiatives, and available resources.

Staff will work with the Governor's Office, criminal justice services, victim services, and public service agencies to ensure initiatives under consideration resulting from the strategic planning process do not conflict with, nor duplicate, efforts. The goal of the strategic planning process is to determine how to maximize JAG funds to obtain the most effective and efficient outcomes. CJCC staff will work to develop a similar strategic planning process for 2020 and beyond.

### **Capabilities and Competencies**

As the SAA for the state of Georgia, CJCC is the eligible entity to apply for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program and has the experience and capacity to administer the award in accordance with federal guidelines. Moreover, CJCC is the recipient of multiple formula and competitive grants, including: JAG, SORNA, RSAT, SASP, VAWA, VOCA, Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program, Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a



2019 competitive BJA Adult Drug Court Discretionary grant, a competitive 2019 Body-Worn Camera Grant Program, a competitive 2018 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program, and a competitive Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Family Treatment Drug Court Grant. CJCC's superlative record in successfully managing a myriad of federal grant programs demonstrates the agency's technical ability to oversee these additional funds. CJCC will provide fiscal management for the grant program by monitoring the budget and approving expenditures per federal guidelines. The agency has well-established systems, policies, and procedures to ensure proper administrative oversight of federal funds. In addition, CJCC staff regularly conducts site visits and desk reviews and offers technical assistance for subgrantees.

Coordination among criminal justice entities in Georgia is supported through the active involvement of the CJCC and its diverse membership which includes: police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, judges, court personnel, and representatives from the State Executive and Judicial Branches; the Office of Homeland Security; Administrative Office of the Courts; State Board of Pardons and Paroles; Georgia Bureau of Investigation; Department of Community Supervision; Public Defenders; Departments of Corrections, Community Affairs, Education, Juvenile Justice, and Public Safety; as well as the Judicial Council and Prosecuting Attorneys' Council. CJCC provides and receives strategic planning input through membership on relevant committees and task forces. The agency's Executive Director, Deputy Director, Division Directors, and Program Directors serve as members on numerous criminal justice system bodies that provide forums for meaningful exchanges of information relevant to the control of violent and drug-related crime.

### **Performance Measures**

To demonstrate program progress and success, CJCC staff will collect performance measures on a quarterly basis through PMT. This data provides a detailed analysis of the various programs and

allows CJCC to evaluate performance. Additionally, CJCC has specific staff members who are dedicated to helping subgrantees complete their PMT reports and ensuring they are valid and accurate. Staff will continue to offer technical assistance as part of desk reviews and site visits as well. This process will ensure JAG funds are used effectively.

As discussed above, the SAC will assist with Death in Custody Reporting Act (DICRA) on BJA's Performance Measurement Tools (PMT) Data Collection. Under the Georgia Death Investigations Act (OCGA 45-16-20) any death occurring in the presence or custody of law enforcement, including in a penal institution, must be referred to a medical examiner for investigation. Additionally, the SAC Programmer will build the data collection tool in Interviewer Server Administrator to capture data from reporting agencies, complete the quarterly PMT report, and conduct follow-ups with reporting agencies to obtain report completion.