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**State of Georgia FY 2023
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Narrative**

The State of Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) is pleased to submit this application for the 2023 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 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 (SAC).

Statement of the Problem

For 2023 JAG funds, the state of Georgia is committed to the continued 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. Planning to determine the needs of local and state law enforcement and assess the best use of funding.

Georgia's federal allocation for JAG FY 2023 formula grant is \$6,167,769. CJCC proposes to use the FY 23 JAG funding to support multiple initiatives including law enforcement training at the state level for currently funded drug task forces as well as crime reduction projects at the local level. In addition, CJCC is requesting to use funding to support the use of Confidential Funds. This will allow CJCC to continue to prioritize funding to counter drug-related crime in both rural and metro areas. The JAG program is the leading source of federal criminal justice funding to Georgia and is critical in providing necessary support to a range of programs throughout the state. CJCC staff will also employ a strategic planning process to identify potential gaps in services and work to 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
- School Safety

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, 13 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 the task forces 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 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 drugbuys. This collaboration not only covers a once underserved area but also works to enhance intelligence sharing to ensure that services are not duplicated.

Confidential Funds

The Confidential Funds would be granted to two Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Regional Drug Enforcement Offices (RDEO) - Southeastern based in Metter, GA and Southwestern based in Dougherty, GA. The regional approach enables the task forces to target a larger geographic area, much of which have previously been without coverage. 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. Both SWRDEO and SERDEO have a dual purpose, to respond to general requests for assistance from local law enforcement, as well as have responsibility for the GBI's drug enforcement efforts within a designated area of the State's more rural counties. Both also collaborate with federal, state, and local agencies by sharing intelligence and jointly conducting investigations, search and seizures, and undercover drug buys. This collaboration not only covers a once underserved area but also works to enhance intelligence sharing to ensure that services are not duplicated.

The RDEOs adhere to GBI established policies and procedures related to Confidential PE/PI. In addition, both RDEO Commanders have signed and submitted the Confidential Funds Certification. Due to both RDEOs' reliance on confidential funds through the support of Byrne JAG funds to execute investigations, it would be highly doubtful that CJCC would be able to fund this portion of the project through another source. This will likely lead to a decrease in viable investigations which in turn will lead to a decrease in the state's efforts to eradicate the illicit drug and gang presence throughout Georgia.

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 four years as shown in the following table.

<i>Total Seizures by Drug Seized and Year</i>							
Drug Seized	2019 (Grams)	2020 (Grams)	2021 (Grams)	2022 (Grams)	Change in Seizures from 2019 to 2020	Change in Seizures from 2020 to 2021	Change in Seizures from 2021 to 2022
Methamphetamine	1,037,415	204,602	2,401,226	3,368,962	-80%	1,073%	40%
Cocaine	498,443	1,769,595	128,365	278,010	255%	-93%	117%
Marijuana (Commercial& Hydroponic)	923,084	9,166,065	2,627,128	467,444	893%	-71%	-82%
Crack	2,214	1,400	2,093	3,233	-37%	50%	54%
MDMA	6,743	10,248	4,391	52,034	52%	-57%	1,085%
Heroin	6,336	17,821	51,658	3,261	181%	190%	-94%
Prescription Medications	6,400	31,344	28,557	25,232	390%	-9%	-12%

Also, approximately 38% of MJDTFs and K-9 teams' arrests have resulted in either State or Federal prosecution for the 2022 calendar year.

<i>Total Arrests by Year</i>	
2018	2,321
2019	2,126
2020	4,211
2021	4,201
2022	3,943

<i>Total Prosecutions by Year and Jurisdiction</i>					
Jurisdiction	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
State	2,034	1,892	2,913	2,922	1,380
Federal	100	65	152	165	113

Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC)

Concerns over law enforcement use of force has been at the forefront of social justice movements over the past few years. As accusations of excessive or incorrect level of force become more prevalent in the media, more focus is being place on law enforcement training and tactics. In 2020, the Georgia Public Safety Training Center's (GPSTC) TASER program was updated to include the use of new advanced devices allowing law enforcement training in use of force alternatives and allowing previously trained personnel to obtain recertification.

Through the use of the state JAG funds, CJCC 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.

With the evolving nature of law enforcement, training instructors are tasked with continuously monitoring the validity of the curricula. Some of the curriculum changes which have been

implemented over the years have included: Street Gang ID and Awareness replaced with Gang Recognition and Identification Training Course to incorporate a more hands-on approach, the Gang Investigator Course replaced with Gang Investigation and Prosecution Training which encompasses additional material involving investigations to prosecution of gang and drug related cases. Last year, Verbal Defense and Influence was replaced with a very proactive, scenario-based course: Tactical Diffusion Strategies. The newer course provides officers with the latest theories in verbal communication and situational de-escalation techniques.

With this federal funding, GPSTC will further the mission of protecting the public and providing adequate training to peace officers throughout 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 its 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.

Georgia Information Sharing Analysis Center (GISAC)

The state of Georgia is home to a unique variety of critical infrastructure, private sector assets, key resources, numerous vital military installations, 357 of the Fortune 500 companies, and 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 the headquarters for CNN, a global news source. All the structures, businesses, 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.

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 prevention strategy. GISAC analysts also utilize SARs to compare information from Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) notifications. GISAC 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 will assist GISAC in purchasing wireless mobile devices that are necessary for GISAC to provide these program activities on a 24/7 basis. Additionally, JAG

funds support 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.

In recent years, Georgia has noted a significant increase in the prevalence of domestic extremism among racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists, anti-government extremists, anarchists, and homegrown violent extremist. The state of Georgia has an exigent need to improve its ability to detect and alleviate these threats. The problem that has emerged is that the threats of terrorism and targeted violence increasingly intersect with one another. Fortunately, there is some alignment in the methods that can be utilized to increase awareness and prevent targeted violence

and domestic terrorism. As pervasive and persistent narratives regarding the nature of domestic terrorism continue to complicate the landscape, GISAC seeks to expand its capabilities to prevent targeted violence and mass casualty incidents, including those associated with domestic terrorism. In most of the recent cases, the perpetrator has conveyed all or part of their intent to at least one other person prior to the attack. GISAC receives tips on a 24/7 basis concerning imminent threats to life via the “See Something, Send Something” mobile application that require immediate processing, analysis, and dissemination. Along the lines of the uptick in domestic terrorism, criminal street gangs have become more violent and present in the state of Georgia as well. In 2021, the GBI’s Gang Task Force investigated 446 gang-related cases across 100 counties, charging more than 170 gang members. In 2023, the GBI Gang Task Force announced its expansion into Middle Georgia in order to expand access to the task force’s resources for the area. Criminal street gangs directly correlate with domestic terrorists because they both commit acts of targeted violence to illicit fear, promote their cause, and harm individuals in the community. GISAC diligently analyzes tips from citizens and requests from our state, local, and federal partners to help mitigate and resolve potential threats. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation prioritizes efforts to end domestic terrorism and criminal street gangs in Georgia to keep residents and visitors safe. The vital analytical support and intelligence that GISAC provides is furthering the endeavor to eradicate violence and turmoil in the state of Georgia.

Sexual Offender Risk Review Board (SORRB)

House Bill 1059 was passed in 2006 and created the current Sexual Offender Risk 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. The Evaluators are experts in the field of sex offender behavior and risk, and with the support of the administrative staff, in 2020 were able to complete 665 cases for the Board to determine final classification. In addition, with support of JAG funding, over 1000 cases were prevented from being added to the backlog. The overall backlog currently totals 6,150 sex offenders and although this is a slight increase from over the years that can be attributed mostly to the recent pandemic, 50% of those backlog cases are sex offenders that committed their offense in another State and moved to Georgia. Due to the difficulty in obtaining documentation from other States, SORRB has focused their efforts classifying Georgia convicted sexual offenders and that backlog has been reduced to approximately 2500 offenders with the assistance of this grant program. The State of Georgia currently has approximately 34,347 sex offenders on its registry, increasing, on average by 1,200 each year.

Deaths in Custody Data Reporting

Beginning October 2019, state administering agencies like CJCC were vested with the responsibility for collecting Deaths in Custody Data (DCRA 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 DCRA 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. Through these efforts, the SAC worked out reporting partnerships with the Georgia Department of Corrections, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Department of Juvenile Justice, and four metro medical examiner's offices. Based on MEO reports, the SAC contacts the identified agency to collect the data elements necessary to comply with DCRA reporting.

To confirm decedent records and check for overall reporting quality, the SAC forged a working partnership with the Department of Public Health and was able to execute a data sharing agreement to share death certificate data. Each month the SAC receives a year-to-date file of all death certificates from the beginning of the year to the current reporting period. This file is used to check for report quality and to confirm cause/manner of death for decedents. This data has also been used to report previous decedent records that were not collected through the specified means above. A more detailed State Implementation Plan for DCRA reporting in Georgia is enclosed with this application package.

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, 2024 – December 31, 2024: Monitor awards, conduct site visits, and provide technical assistance as needed

Project Design and Implementation

CJCC periodically engages stakeholders in strategic planning to identify priorities and appropriate funding strategy. 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.

In addition, 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 do not conflict with, nor duplicate, efforts. The goal of the 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 2023 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, RSAT, SASP, VAWA, VOCA, Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program, Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), multiple competitive Adult Drug Court Discretionary grants, multiple Body-Worn Camera Grants, multiple 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 (DCRA) 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 created the data collection tool in Interviewer Server Administrator to capture data from reporting agencies, completes the quarterly PMT report, and conduct follow-ups with reporting agencies to obtain report completion.