Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting
Department of Criminal Justice Services
1100 Bank Street, Richmond, VA 23219, Virtual Meeting

AGENDA - Minutes

April 23, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present	*Members Absent*
Sheriff Brian Hieatt, Chair	
Mr. Adam Blevins	
Mr. Russell (Rusty) McGuire	
Sheriff Jeremy Falls	
Ms. Maria Jankowski	
Chief Travis Christian	

I. Call to Order

Sheriff Brian Hieatt called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Sheriff Hieatt asked Wendy Lohr Hopp to conduct Roll Call. Wendy stated there was a quorum with six (6) members present. All members joined the meeting by electronic communications.

III. Introductions/Opening Comments

Sheriff Hieatt officially welcomed guests and any agency leadership including Director Ashaki McNeil who was present by phone.

IV. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2024

Sheriff Hieatt called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the November 20, 2025, meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski to approve the minutes and was seconded by Mr. McGuire.

V. Grant Approvals

a) Drive to Work Grant Program (DTWP)

The purpose of the Drive to Work (DTW) Grant Program is to assist low income and previously incarcerated individuals with restoring their driving privileges so that they can drive to work and maintain employment. DTW is the only organization that provides legal assistance to help individuals whose licenses are suspended by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to reinstate their driver's license. The DTW program also provides educational services to individuals wishing to have their licenses reinstated. This program is currently funded through $75,000 in state general funds and an additional $75,000 in federal funds. The federal funds come from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG).

No applications were denied.

The Drive to Work program requests were allocated towards Personnel and Supplies and Other Expenses needed to successfully implement and carry out grant activities. These services include office rent, technology, and communication services.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund one grant application for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027), totaling $150,000 using state general funds and federal funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) allocated for this purpose.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

b) Pre-Release and Post-Incarceration Services (PAPIS) Grant Program

The purpose of the Prerelease and Post Incarceration Services (PAPIS) Grant Program is to support PAPIS programs in providing direct services to incarcerated individuals nearing release into the community, or previously incarcerated individuals living in the community. This grant is intended specifically to facilitate case management, coaching, reentry success planning, treatment, and referrals. It also provides resources to meet the basic needs of reentering individuals, such as transitional housing and employment readiness and placement for individuals returning to the community from a local or regional jail or prison. This program is funded by general appropriation funds, which include $3,596,429 designated to support PAPIS programs.

No applications were denied.

DCJS staff recommends funding all PAPIS programs at SFY 2026 level funding. Two grantees made an error in their requests, asking for either more or less than level funding.

The majority of applicant funding requests were allocated towards personnel and supplies/other expenses needed to successfully implement and carry out grant activities. These include transportation assistance, emergency housing assistance, space rental, technology and communication needs, course materials, assistance with obtaining identification documents, wellness and hygiene kits, printing, office supplies, and professional training. Grant funds were also requested to support travel and mileage expenses for reentry professionals associated with the PAPIS program.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund nine grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027), totaling $3,596,429 using state general appropriation funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on the timeline of how long after release that participants are eligible to receive services, how funds are broken down in the applicants' budgets to document personnel and programming costs, and what status reporting is required from subrecipients.

A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

c) Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Prisoners (RSAT) Grant Program - Supplemental

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to break the cycle of drug addiction and violence by reducing the demand for, use, and trafficking of illegal drugs. RSAT's objectives are to enhance the capabilities of states and units of local and tribal governments to provide residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for incarcerated individuals and assist individuals and

communities through the reentry process by delivering community-based treatment and other broad-based aftercare services.

DCJS recommends supplemental funding to support the five currently funded programs through this DCJS funding opportunity. Funds are used to support personnel and consultants that provide direct services to incarcerated individuals and those transitioning back to the community, staff training relating to SUD and evidence-based curricula, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), and reentry supports.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund five current RSAT grantees with a supplemental award of $113,000 each with a required local match of $37,667 for an extended 15-month award period (7/1/2026 - 9/30/2027), totaling $753,335 (including $188,335 in subrecipient match), using federal funds allocated for this purpose. This would bring the award totals for these five programs to $1,309,515 (including subrecipient provided match).

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

d) Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Grant Program (SADVGP)

The purpose of the Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Grant Program (SADVGP) is to support the delivery of direct services to sexual assault and domestic violence victims. Funding comes from both state general funds allocated to support sexual assault and domestic violence victims and federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, awarded to DCJS by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime. A total of $20,737,569 is available for this funding opportunity.

In accordance with VOCA guidelines, direct services to victims of crime include efforts that:

1. Respond to the emotional, psychological, or physical needs of crime victims;
2. Assist victims to stabilize their lives after victimization;
3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and/or
4. Restore a measure of security and safety for the victim.

This was a continuation funding opportunity for which applicants could request level funding. No applications were denied. The total amount recommended is more than the total amount initially requested. Due to confusion with the grant guidelines, some applicants initially inadvertently requested less than level funding but were permitted to resubmit their budgets to request level funding. One applicant submitted more than level funding, so the application was decreased to level funding.

Recommended funding supports the following: 1) personnel (counselors, therapists, victim advocates, volunteer coordinators, supervisory staff, outreach and education staff); 2) supplies (office supplies, printing costs, shelter maintenance, training registrations, victim emergency clothing, victim moving expenses, agency phone and internet services); 3) consultants (translation and interpretation services, victim childcare services, certified public accountants, technology services, victim therapy services); 4) travel (staff mileage and per diem reimbursement for meetings, court accompaniment, hospital accompaniment, and trainings); 5) indirect costs in accordance with a federally negotiated indirect cost rate or the de minimis rate; and 6) training funded by this grant program may be used to train paid staff and volunteers on how to provide services to victims of crime.

The Virginia state budget may include an increase to support this grant program. If approved, DCJS would include additional funds in the awards using a proportional allotment process based

on objective factors for each program, such as geographic area and services offered by the program. DCJS will work with applicants to add these funds into their budgets using the same requirements set forth in the grant guidelines.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 54 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027), totaling $20,737,569, using federal VOCA funds and state general funds allocated for this purpose, plus additional funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly to be added proportionately to approved recipients' award amounts.

There was discussion on how requested funds are broken down in applicants' budgets to document personnel and programmatic costs. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski seconded by Sheriff Falls. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

e) Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP)

The purpose of Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) funding is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. This funding opportunity offered continuation funding for a group of currently funded subrecipients selected through a competitive application process in 2025. The initial funding opportunity was designed to fulfill the federal requirement that 10% of VOCA funding support services to victims from underserved populations. It is anticipated that this is the final continuation funding year for this group of subrecipients.

Funding for VSGP comes from both state general funds allocated to support this program, and federal VOCA funds awarded to DCJS by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime. There is also a subrecipient match requirement.

In accordance with VOCA guidelines, direct services to victims of crime include efforts that:
1. Respond to the emotional, psychological, or physical needs of crime victims;
2. Assist victims to stabilize their lives after victimization;
3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and/or
4. Restore a measure of security and safety for the victim.

No applications were denied. Two applicants requested amounts that were slightly more than their predetermined award amounts, which resulted in the difference between the total amount requested and the total amount recommended.

Recommended funding supports the following: 1) personnel (counselors, therapists, victim advocates, volunteer coordinators, supervisory staff, outreach and education staff); 2) supplies (office supplies, printing costs, shelter maintenance, training registrations, victim emergency clothing, victim moving expenses, agency phone and internet services); 3) consultants (translation and interpretation services, victim childcare services, certified public accountants, technology services, victim therapy services); 4) travel (staff mileage and per diem reimbursement for meetings, court accompaniment, hospital accompaniment, and trainings); 5) indirect costs in accordance with a federally negotiated indirect cost rate or the de minimis rate; and 6) training funded by this grant program may be used to train paid staff and volunteers on how to provide services to victims of crime.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 32 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026-6/30/2027), totaling $5,163,982, using $4,129,947 in state general funds and federal VOCA funds, and $1,034,035 in subrecipient provided match.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Ms Jankowski, seconded by Chief Christian. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

f) School Resource Officer (SRO) Grant Program - Continuation

The purpose of the School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program is to provide funding for School Resource Officer (SRO) positions in Virginia public schools. School Resource Officer positions provide law enforcement and security services to schools across the Commonwealth. Funding is authorized under §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

The FY 2027 SRO Incentive Grant Program will continue funding for currently active SRO grants. The recommended funding includes current fiscal year grants that are in their first through fifth year of funding. However, based on the final state budget, there may be adjustments made to the final awards for fifth-year grant applications.

Approval of this funding request will provide continuation funding for 100 current SRO grants.

No applications were denied. All reduced applications were due to applicants requesting higher than their allotted funding in Special and/or Match funds. All increased applications were due to applicants originally requesting less than their allotted funding or adjustments to their composite index match amount.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 100 grant applications for the 12-month period (07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027) totaling $21,200,745, using $13,886,291 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $7,314,454 in required subrecipient provided match.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

g) School Resource Officer (SRO) Grant Program - New

The purpose of the School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program is to support the establishment of new School Resource Officer (SRO) positions in Virginia public schools. SROs provide law enforcement and school safety services that help maintain a safe and supportive learning environment across the Commonwealth. Funding is authorized under §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

The FY 2027 School Resource Officer Incentive New Grant Program funding opportunity is intended to support the creation of new SRO positions. Applications may request funding for personnel, supplies, equipment, travel, and subsistence, as permitted under program guidelines.

One application was denied due to the requested position already being locally funded. Reduced applications were due to applicants requesting ineligible items. All increased applications were due to applicants incorrectly filling out their budgets and/or adjustments to their composite index match amount.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 10 grant applications for the 12-month period (07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027), totaling $1,401,952. This funding includes $892,569 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $509,383 in required subrecipient provided match.

There was discussion on the eligibility requirements to be considered a new application and the trend for new position requests in elementary schools.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

h) School Safety Officer (SSO) Grant Program - Continuation

The School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program provides funding for School Security Officer (SSO) positions in Virginia. SSOs help maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, and investigate violations of school board policies. Funding is authorized under §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

The FY 2027 SSO Incentive Grant Program will continue funding for currently active SSO grants. Recommended awards include grants in their first through fifth year years of funding. However, based on the final state budget, there may be adjustments made to the final awards for fifth year grant applications.

Approval of this funding request will provide continuation funding for 44 current SSO grants.

No applications were denied.

Recommended funding primarily supports SSO positions and also covers certain SSO equipment costs and participant expenses for the DCJS School Safety Training Forum.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 44 continuation grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027) totaling $7,264,740.00, using $4,552,468 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $2,712,272 in required subrecipient provided match.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

i) School Safety Officer (SSO) Grant Program - New

The purpose of the School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program funding opportunity 567212 is to fund new School Security Officer positions to maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, and investigate violations of school board policies. Funding originates from §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

No applications were denied.

Recommended funding primarily supports SSO positions for school divisions across the Commonwealth. It also funds some necessary SSO equipment and expenses for some participants to attend the DCJS School Safety Training Forum.

In summary, DCJS Staff request approval to fund 10 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027), totaling $1,758,853 using $1,282,185 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $476,668 in required subrecipient provided match.

There was discussion on School Security Officers being requested for Pre-Kindergarten Centers.

A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Chief Christian. Ms. Jankowski abstained from the vote. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

j) School Safety Personnel and Programming (SSP) Grant Program - Continuation

The School Safety Personnel and Programming (SSP) Grant Program aims to provide funding to support school safety personnel within school divisions and law-enforcement agencies. This funding also covers equipment necessary for personnel effectiveness and supports training and programming that strengthens school-law enforcement partnerships.

The primary objective of this grant is to enhance student and staff safety through implementation of targeted positions and programming designed to prevent crimes and violence. Funding is authorized under §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

Approval of this funding request will provide continuation funding for (5) Division Safety Coordinators and eight (8) Behavior Interventionists.

No applications were denied. One (1) applicant reduced their requested award amount during the continuation application correction process. One (1) applicant requested funding above their FY 2026 award amount. One (1) applicant included a request for supplies already purchased during the previous award year. One (1) applicant submitted an incorrect amount and requested to revise it. Changes in match contributions reflect updates to the composite index or adjustments to the special request amount.

In summary, DCJS staff requests approval to fund nine (9) grant applications for a 12-month period (07/01/2026- 06/30/2027), totaling $1,146,976. This includes $799,380 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $347,596 in required local match funds.

There was discussion confirming that the Behavioral Interventionist positions are school employees.

A motion was made by Chief Christian, seconded by Ms. Jankowski. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

k) School Safety Personnel and Programming (SSP) Grant Program - New

The School Safety Personnel and Programming (SSP) Grant Program provides funding to school divisions and law enforcement agencies to support relevant school safety personnel. Funding also covers expenses related to equipment, training, and programming that enhance the school–law enforcement partnership. The goal of this funding opportunity is to promote the safety of students and school staff through the implementation of positions and programming designed to prevent crime and violence. Funding is authorized under §9.1-110 of the Code of Virginia.

The SSP Grant Program is intended to fund six (6) Division Safety Coordinators/Emergency Managers/Directors, one (1) Threat Assessment Coordinator, thirty-one (31) Behavior Interventionists/ Specialists/ Registered Behavior Therapists, one (1) Part-time Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, and one (1) Law Enforcement Liaison Officer.

One (1) application was denied due to deficiencies identified during the review process. One (1) application is being partially funded because the applicant requested a position that does not align with the positions outlined in the funding opportunity. Adjustments were made to three (3) applications because the local contributions did not meet the match requirements.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 19 grant applications for a 12-month period (07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027) totaling $3,677,871, using $2,385,112 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and $1,292,759 in required subrecipient provided match.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Sheriff Falls, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

l) Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) Program - Equipment and Training

The purpose of this Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) Equipment and Training funding opportunity is to support local criminal justice agencies in enhancing public safety through the acquisition of critical equipment, technology, and training resources aligned with federal and state public safety priorities.

82 applications were denied for one or more of the following reasons:

- Applications did not meet eligibility requirements or program priorities
- Incomplete applications (e.g., missing implementation plans, goals, or required documentation)
- Requests lacked sufficient justification or demonstrated need
- Limited funding availability prevented full consideration of all qualified applications

General reasons for application reductions include removal of unallowable items and budget adjustments to ensure correct match; one entry had a mistype of $833,300 instead of $8,333 resulting in a distorted match total and overinflated budget.

BJAG funds will support the purchase of safety gear, investigative equipment, essential operational supplies, and evidence-based training.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 34 grant applications for the 4-month period, (06/01/2026 – 09/30/2026), totaling $985,476, using $739,109 in federal funds allocated for this purpose and $246,367 in subrecipient provided match.

There was discussion on the level of assistance provided to applicants by DCJS program staff in competitive application processes. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

m) Combating Hate Crime Grant Program (HCGP)

The Hate Crimes Grant Program (HCGP) provides state funds through a competitive process to localities to help reduce bias-motivated incidents. The program supports institutions and nonprofit organizations at risk for targeted violence based on race, religious conviction, color, gender, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, or national origin.

Four applications were denied because they did not meet the funding opportunity criteria and were not recommended for funding. No local match is required.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund six (6) grant applications for a 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027), totaling $503,392 using state funds allocated for this purpose.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Mr. Blevins, seconded by Sheriff Falls. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

n) Peer-Supported Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Grant Program

The Peer Support Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Grant Program provides state funding to support nonprofit organizations offering post-critical incident seminars and peer-supported stress management programs to law enforcement agencies and their personnel. This program helps law enforcement staff manage the emotional and psychological effects of critical incidents through targeted education and peer support, promoting their well-being and operational effectiveness.

The FY 2027 CISM Grant Program will provide continuation funding for two (2) Virginia-based nonprofit agencies with a proven track record of success in delivering these vital services to law enforcement personnel throughout the Commonwealth.

No applications were denied.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund two (2) grant applications for a 12 month (07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027) totaling $300,000, using CISM funds allocated for this purpose.

There was no discussion. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Chief Christian. Mr. Blevins recused himself from the vote. The motion passed by majority vote. Any recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

VI. Old Business

No old business was bought forth at this meeting.

VII. New Business

No new business was bought forth at this meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

No public comment was bought forth at this meeting.

IX. Announcements

Sheriff Hieatt announced that next meeting will be held on May 28, 2026 in-person. Members were asked to provide information regarding conflicts with in-person attendance as soon as possible to ensure quorum. Mr. McGuire stated that he may have a conflict with in-person attendance due to a scheduled jury trial and will provide more information when possible. Members were reminded to contact DCJS staff to request overnight accommodation if needed.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. The motion passed by majority vote.

Recusals

Mr. Jeffrey Adam Blevins

- Application #568877 – Virginia Law Enforcement Assistance Program
- Application #568975 – Virginia Peer Support Association

Chief Travis Christian

- Application #568729 – City of Petersburg
- Application #568933 – City of Petersburg
- Application #568372 – City of Petersburg

Sheriff Jeremy A. Falls

- Application #568349 – Fauquier County

Sheriff Brian Hieatt

- Application #567803 – Tazewell County
- Application #567820 – Tazewell County
- Application #567863 – Tazewell County
- Application #568033 – Tazewell County
- Application #568461 – Tazewell County
- Application #568148 – Tazewell County

Ms. Maria Jankowski

- Abstain from all School Safety Officer (SSO) Grant Program - New