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

DRAFT

AGENDA - Minutes

May 28, 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 10:01 a.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Introductions/Opening Comments

Sheriff Hieatt officially welcomed guests and any agency dignitaries.

IV. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2024

Sheriff Hieatt called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the April 23, 2026, meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Jankowski to approve the minutes and was seconded by Sheriff Falls. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

V. Grant Approvals

a) Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program (BJAG) – Criminal Justice Programs

The purpose of the FY2027 BJAG - Criminal Justice Programs funding is to provide units of local government, including tribal governments, with the flexibility to support a broad range of initiatives designed to prevent and control crime in accordance with state and local priorities and conditions.

As the State Administrative Agency (SAA), DCJS is responsible for coordinating, administering, and distributing JAG funds in a manner that strengthens and enhances the overall criminal justice system of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Awards under this competitive solicitation will be made for a 15 month project period and must align with one of the identified priority focus areas: Innovative and Evidence-Based Criminal Justice Strategies and Programs; Re-entry and Successful Community Integration; Human Trafficking Demand Reduction and Services; Criminal Justice Planners to Support Community Criminal Justice Boards; Peer Support Pilots in local Probation, Pretrial Services, or Jails; and Community Policing and Youth Engagement Programs.

28 applications were denied. Three applications (two regional jails and one community services board) were ineligible because they are not classified as a unit of local government. A total of 25 applications were denied because they did not have a strong programmatic focus. One application was reduced due to the applicant requesting more in total funds than the total cost of their requested supplies. Two applications were reduced due to requesting unallowable items.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 11 grant applications for the 15-month period (7/1/2026 - 9/30/2027) totaling $894,928, using $671,194 in federal funds allocated for this purpose and $223,734 in subrecipient provided match.

There was discussion on the use of grant-funded equipment/software for purposes other than what is approved in the grant. DCJS staff confirmed that BJAG funded equipment must be returned or transferred to another federally funded project if the grant funded project is discontinued.

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

b) Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (BSCI)

The purpose of this grant funding initiative is to provide applicants with an opportunity to increase program capacity, program acceptance rates, and graduation rates for recovery courts, behavioral health dockets, and veterans treatment dockets (specialty dockets). Funding will support programs in planning, implementing, and/or enhancing specialty dockets by examining program needs, evidence-based curricula, staff training and development, and other resources.

One program was denied due to currently receiving funding under this grant program. DCJS staff worked with the other four applicants to increase their funding requests. DCJS staff recommend funding the four eligible applicants for a total of $399,493.

Funds will be used to support training for the specialty docket teams, treatment services, and stability supports, such as housing and transportation assistance. Some funding will be utilized to assist jurisdictions with the planning and implementation of new specialty docket programs.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund four (4) grant applications for the 15-month period (7/1/2026 – 9/30/2027), totaling $399,493, using federal funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on oversight and monitoring to ensure the use of nationally recognized best practices by the grant funded programs. DCJS staff confirmed the collaboration with the Office of the Executive Secretary and all monitoring activities. Additional discussion confirmed that one program is not eligible for funding consideration because they already receive this grant funding.

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

c) Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

The purpose of this CASA grant funding opportunity is to provide state general funds of $1,534,712 and federal VOCA funds of $1,498,300 to existing CASA programs to continue, improve, and/or expand their services.

There were **no applications denied** as funding is awarded on a non-competitive formula basis.

The grant funds are allocated to support a variety of essential personnel, equipment, supplies, and training necessary for organizational effectiveness. Personnel costs primarily encompass salaries and wages for staff funded by the grant. Equipment expenditures include items valued over $5,000 per unit, such as computers designated for grant-funded personnel, as well as copy machines and printers within the same financial threshold. Supplies, defined as tangible personal property that is not classified as equipment, encompass a wide range of items, including office supplies, postage, telephone and cell phone services, internet provider contracts, and membership fees. Additional allowable expenses include training or conference registration, equipment maintenance, vendor contracts, and utilities.

Certain costs, such as public relations, advertising, and professional services, are also funded. However, it is important to note that specific expenses, including volunteer recognition, audit costs, and certain printing projects, are not permissible under VOCA rules. Overall, this funding framework is designed to ensure that organizations have the necessary resources to operate efficiently and fulfill their missions.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 26 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027), totaling $3,033,012, using state general funds and federal VOCA funds allocated for this purpose; plus additional funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly to be added in accordance with the funding formula to approved recipients' award amounts.

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

d) Comprehensive Community Corrections Act and Pretrial Services Act (CCCA/PSA)

The purpose of the CCCA/PSA funding opportunity is to support local community-based probation and pretrial services agencies established and operating under the authority of the Comprehensive Community Corrections Act for Local-Responsible Offenders (CCCA) and the Pretrial Services Act (PSA), as specified in the Code of Virginia. Funding is open to existing agencies meeting the requirements set forth in the Code.

The CCCA authorizes the creation of local, community-based probation agencies. First established in 1995, these agencies provide a sentencing option for courts to use for individuals convicted of certain misdemeanors or non-violent felonies for which sentences

would be 12 months or less in a local or regional jail. Local community-based probation agencies provide services or referrals to services to include community service, assessment, education and/or treatment, and substance abuse testing.

Pretrial services agencies were first created in Virginia in 1989, pursuant to authorizing language in the Appropriation Act. In 1995, pretrial services agencies were authorized by statute with the passage of the PSA. Pretrial services agencies provide information, to include risk of failure to appear for court hearings and risk to public safety, to judicial officers to help them make release decisions. Pretrial services agencies also supervise those released to the community and ordered to pretrial supervision pending trial. Pretrial services assist court-ordered individuals in meeting the conditions of their bail, such as compliance with substance abuse testing and electronic monitoring.

There were no applications denied. This was a continuation funding opportunity for which applicants could request level funding from their FY2026 base award. The total amount recommended is less than the total amount initially requested. Fourteen applicants submitted more than level base funding, so the applications were decreased to base level funding, and two applicants initially inadvertently requested less than level funding but were permitted to resubmit their budgets to request level funding.

Recommended funding is primarily for the salaries and fringe benefits of sworn pretrial and local probation officers. Additional expenses include office supplies, drug testing materials, office space rent, telephone service, travel (mileage) and subsistence (lodging and per diem) for conferences, membership or professional training for staff, and indirect costs (not to exceed 1% of the total state-funded grant award).

The 2026 General Assembly approved HB29, which contains amendments to the current state budget for FY2026, including a one-time 2% bonus for full-time employees of local Pretrial Services Act and Comprehensive Community Corrections Act programs. For localities that accepted the one-time bonus, DCJS will use a proportional allotment process based on legislative directives and increase the award amounts accordingly.

Additionally, the FY2027 state budget may include a salary increase for full-time employees of this grant program. If approved, DCJS will include additional funds in the awards using a proportional allotment process based on the funds received. DCJS will work with applicants to add these funds into their budgets using the requirements set forth in the grant guidelines.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 37 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027) totaling $32,656,996, using state general funds allocated for this purpose, plus additional funds for bonuses and raises directed through the Appropriation Act for state funded local employees.

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

e) Comprehensive Community Corrections Act and Pretrial Services Act - Regional Jail Expansion (CCCA/PSA Jail Expansion)

The purpose of the CCCA/PSA Jail Expansion Funding Opportunity is to support expanded Comprehensive Community Corrections and Pretrial Services Act Programs for localities belonging to the Central Virginia Regional Jail Authority and the Southwest Virginia

Regional Jail Authority. Programs are established and operated under the authority of the Comprehensive Community-Corrections Act for Local Responsible Offenders (CCCA, § 9.1-173) and the Pretrial Services Act (PSA, § 19.2-152.2) of the *Code of Virginia.*

Award amounts are designated in the Appropriation Act and reflect 75% of the costs projected for expanded services in the community-based correction plan submitted by each Authority at the time of their jail expansion. In accordance with the Appropriation Act, the localities are required to provide the remaining 25% as a condition of receiving these funds.

These funds are proposed to be expended on salaries and fringe benefits of sworn pretrial officers, travel (mileage), office supplies, drug testing supplies, rent for office space, telephone costs for operations, and indirect costs.

The 2026 General Assembly approved HB29, which contains amendments to the current state budget for FY2026, including a one-time 2% bonus for full-time employees of local Pretrial Services Act and Comprehensive Community Corrections Act programs. For localities that accept the one-time bonus, DCJS will use a proportional allotment process based on legislative directives and increase the award amounts accordingly.

Additionally, the FY2027 state budget may include a salary increase for full-time employees of this grant program. If approved, DCJS will include additional funds in the awards using a proportional allotment process based on funds received. DCJS will work with applicants to add these funds into their budgets using the requirements set forth in the grant guidelines.

In summary, **DCJS staff request approval to fund two (2) grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026-6/30/2027) totaling $1,100,000,** using $825,000 in state general funds allocated for this purpose and $275,000 in subrecipient match contribution, plus additional funds for bonuses and raises directed through the Appropriation Act for state funded local employees.

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

f) Jail Mental Health Program (JMHP)

The purpose of the Jail Mental Health Program (JMHP) is to provide evidence-based mental health treatment and supportive services to individuals housed in local and regional jails. Services may include mental health screenings and assessments to identify eligible participants, treatment and reentry planning, in-jail treatment services, and connections to community-based support upon release. Historically, this program has been supported through state general appropriation funds with $1,875,000 designated to support JMHP sites.

No applications were denied. Four requests were reduced. Current JMHP grantees were instructed to submit a needs-based budget in anticipation of possible additional funding for the JMHP. Due to the uncertainty of the SFY2027 budget, DCJS staff recommend funding the JMHP sites at their SFY2026 funding levels.

The majority of applicant funding requests were allocated towards personnel, consultants, and supplies and other expenses needed to successfully implement and carry out grant activities. These include evidence-based program curriculum, medication, transportation assistance, housing assistance, staff training and development opportunities, program supplies and

materials, assistance with obtaining identification documents, wellness, food vouchers, and personal care items.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund five (5) grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027) totaling $1,875,000, using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

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

g) Jail Substance Use Treatment (JSUT)

The purpose of the Virginia Opioid Use Reduction and Jail-Based Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Transition Fund (JSUT) Grant Program is to support increased access to substance use disorder treatment and transitional services for individuals incarcerated in local and regional jails throughout Virginia. This grant is specifically intended to support medical assisted treatment therapies, addiction recovery services, substance use disorder services, reentry and transitional supports, or a combination of these services.

This funding opportunity was only available to local and regional jails that currently receive Addiction Recovery Grant Program (ARGP) funding. It is anticipated that ARGP funding will not be included in the SFY2027 budget, and therefore, DCJS proposes transitioning these programs to the JSUT program, which serves the same purpose. The JSUT program is currently funded through state special funds.

No applications were denied.

The majority of applicant funding requests were allocated towards personnel, subsistence, and supplies and other expenses. Requests include evidence-based curriculum, laptops to support program coursework, behavioral health consultants, staff development and training opportunities, harm reduction supplies, housing support, communication technology for telework services, and reentry supportive services designed to increase recovery outcomes, support employment, and reduce recidivism.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund four (4) grant applications for the 36-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2029), totaling up to $600,000 using anticipated state special funds as may be available for this purpose. Adjustments to funding, and the award period, will be made should funding be less than expected and/or in response to budget language.

There was discussion on whether these were continuation grants. DCJS staff discussed the elimination of the Addiction Recovery Grant Program in the *Code of Virginia* during the 2026 Session of the Virginia General Assembly, and the anticipated corresponding budget action. In order to allow the current programs time to transition away from state funding, DCJS invited them to apply under the Jail Substance Use Treatment Grant Program which serves the same purpose.

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

h) Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP)

The purpose of Victim Witness Grant Program (VWGP) funding is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. These services are provided in accordance with the Virginia Crime Victim and Witness Rights Act (Code of Virginia § 19.2-11.01).

Funding for VWGP comes from federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, the Virginia Crime Victim-Witness Fund (state special funds), and state general funds appropriated to DCJS in the Commonwealth of Virginia's state budget.

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. One applicant requested an amount that was more than their predetermined maximum award amount, so this request was reduced. One applicant was permitted to increase their request since they requested an amount under their maximum amount. There were also some rounding and other minor adjustments made. These changes resulted in the difference between the total amount requested and the total amount recommended.

Recommended funding supports the following: personnel, supplies, consultants, travel, indirect costs in accordance with a federally negotiated indirect cost rate or the de minimis rate, and training for paid staff and volunteers on how to provide services to victims of crime.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 116 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027) totaling $20,776,190, using federal VOCA funds, state special funds, and state general funds.

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

i) Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) – Forensic

The purpose of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) Grant Program is threefold: 1) to support prosecution efforts in cases involving domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse; 2) to support victim advocacy and other services for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse; and 3) to support sexual assault service providers and hospitals for the purpose of funding the cost of salaries and equipment for sexual assault forensic examiners, sexual assault nurse examiners, and pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners. This grant program is supported by state general and special funds and was established in Code of Virginia § 9.1-116.1.

For this specific funding opportunity, current SFY2026 forensic nursing grantees were eligible to apply for continuation funding. Additionally, new forensic nursing applicants were eligible to apply through a competitive funding opportunity. Eleven applications were submitted for consideration (six continuation and five competitive).

One application was denied. The new competitive application was found to be ineligible, as the applicant was a victim/witness assistance program and did not propose a forensic nursing project. The approved requests for funding will support personnel expenses for forensic nurse

examiners and sexual assault nurse examiners, as well as equipment necessary to conduct forensic exams.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 10 grant applications (six continuation and four new competitive) for the 12-month award period (7/1/2026 – 0/30/2027) totaling $841,463, using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on the availability of Forensic Nurse Examiner programs across the Commonwealth. DCJS staff confirmed that there is now coverage to all areas of the state and DCJS will continue outreach to encourage additional programs. There was also discussion to confirm that one denial was due to the applicant applying in the wrong category.

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

j) Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) - Prosecution

The purpose of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) Grant Program is to make funds available to local prosecutors for the cost of attorneys and/or to further dedicate resources to prosecute felonies and misdemeanors involving domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse. In addition, this grant program supports projects that provide victim advocacy and other services to victims of and/or children affected by domestic violence, sexual violence/abuse, stalking, and family abuse. This grant program is supported by state general and special funds and was established in Code of Virginia § 9.1-116.1.

No grant applications were denied.

This funding opportunity was only open for current SFY 2026 VSDVVF grantees within the prosecution and discretionary categories. It was not open to new applicants.

Applicants were permitted to request increased award amounts, and a maximum award amounts list was provided in the application instructions; however, multiple applicants did not review this information and requested level funding to SFY 2026 award amounts. During the negotiation process, applicants were permitted to submit new requests to reflect the increases for which they were eligible. This is why the recommended amount is increased so significantly from the requested amount.

Additionally, during the negotiation process, two applicants reduced their initial requests due to having requested unallowable items and/or because they identified other non-grant funds to support their projects.

These grant awards will support personnel expenses for prosecutors, advocates, and legal services staff, as well as culturally-specific services to underserved populations ranging from counseling and shelter placement to outreach and language access services.

In summary, DCJS staff request approval to fund 42 grant applications for the 12-month award period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027) totaling $2,593,513, using state special and general funds allocated for this purpose.

There was discussion on whether additional funding is used to support these positions. DCJS staff confirmed that applicants are asked to provide information on additional fund sources used to support the project.

A motion was made by Mr. Blevins, seconded by Mr. McGuire. The motion passed by unanimous 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 the next meeting is on September 24, 2026, and the final meeting for the year is on November 19, 2026. He also reminded committee members to send their recusals to Mrs. Lohr-Hopp.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m. A motion was made by Mr. McGuire, seconded by Mr. Blevins. The motion passed unanimously.

Recusals

Mr. Jeffrey Adam Blevins
- Application #569872 - Louisa County

Chief Travis Christian
- N/A

Sheriff Jeremy A. Falls
- Application #572801 - Fauquier County
- Application #570459 - Fauquier County

Sheriff Brian Hieatt
- N/A

Ms. Maria Jankowski
- N/A