



Utah Commission
on Criminal and
Juvenile Justice

2013

ANNUAL REPORT

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The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice coordinates criminal and juvenile justice policy among the various branches and levels of government. Commission policy is developed and honed by leveraging the expertise of stakeholders in the criminal and juvenile justice systems to ensure that all voices are heard and the best policies are implemented. In addition, the Commission conducts on-going research and seeks to implement justice programming using evidence-based practices. Where possible, the Commission funds these initiatives using grant resources.

CCJJ Update

Grant Overview

In FY 2013, CCJJ distributed \$7,987,104 in 224 grants to state, local and non-profit agencies for critical criminal and juvenile justice initiatives.

Judicial Nominating Commission

During the 2010 General Session CCJJ was given the responsibility to manage nine judicial nominating commissions throughout the state. When a judicial vacancy exists, the appropriate nominating commission receives applications from individuals interested in serving as a judge, interviews selected applicants and certifies a list nominees to the Governor who then appoints a judge from the list of nominees. Judicial appointees are subject to Senate confirmation. Over the past fiscal year, these Commissions have examined 143 applications to fill five judicial vacancies.

Jail Reimbursement

In 2009, CCJJ was assigned responsibility for management of the state's Jail Reimbursement Program. The jail reimbursement program provides financial compensation to counties for housing inmates sentenced to jail as a condition of felony probation. In FY 2013, the Commission verified 401,380 bed days. The total amount dispersed in FY 2013 by the Division of Finance was \$11,967,100.

Domestic and Sexual Violence

The Office of Domestic and Sexual Violence (ODSV) has provided over 10 years of service to victims, agencies, and organizations who work to end domestic violence and rape and sexual assault. The ODSV works to close existing disparities in State and judicial systems by addressing obstacles and recommending solutions. It also uses a collaborative multi-disciplinary approach to move forward priority issues for these societal problems. During the 2013 Legislative session, the ODSV supported the successful passage of the Dating Violence Protection Act (HB 50).

The ODSV currently operates two councils, the Utah Sexual Violence Council and the newly formed Utah Domestic Violence Planning Advisory Council, both of which make recommendations to CCJJ. The Utah Sexual Violence Council will host its third summit in March 2014 entitled, "Intervention and Treatment of Sexual Violence". This event will bring together for the first time therapists for both victims and perpetrators. The Utah Sexual Violence Council also produced a "Resource Manual, Investigating and Prosecuting of Sexual Assaults" to use for response training. The Utah Domestic Violence Planning Advisory Council has a mission to align priorities, integrate efforts, and work together to efficiently

drive down rates of domestic violence and lethality in Utah. Both councils provide leadership within the state to hear cross cutting issues to support one another on budget requests, hearings, and other concerns impacting Utah families.

Extraditions

Since 1992, CCJJ has had the responsibility to coordinate out-of-state felony fugitive extraditions for state and local law enforcement agencies. In FY 2013, the Commission spent \$373,466 on 289 extraditions, at an average cost of \$1,292 per extradition. This was down slightly from a high of \$1,376 per extradition (\$419,658 total) in the previous fiscal year.

Utah – Justice Assistance Grant

In FY2013 the U.S. Department of Justice awarded Utah \$1,619,555 in formula grant funding from the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. The Utah JAG formula grant program is administered by CCJJ and allocated to units of state and local government along with private non-profit and faith-based organizations throughout the state. JAG grant awards are limited to criminal justice agencies and criminal justice service providers.

JAG formula funding can be allocated to various criminal justice purpose areas including: Law Enforcement Programs, Prosecution and Courts Programs, Prevention/Education Programs, Corrections and Community Corrections Programs, Drug Treatment and Enforcement Programs, Planning/Evaluation/Technology Improvement Programs, and Crime Victim and Witness Programs.

From the FY 2013 JAG award, CCJJ will award grant funding to 89 mostly rural law enforcement agencies (\$674,943), and 5 awards will be made in support of evidence based juvenile justice projects designed to prevent delinquency and reduce recidivism (\$406,460). The remaining \$380,000 will be applied to evidence based drug treatment projects and

criminal justice technology improvement projects. Additionally, JAG - SORNA funding will be used to continue supporting the Utah Department of Corrections in their effort to improve Utah's Sex Offender Registry (\$90,796).

Utah State Task Force Grant

The Utah Legislature passed H.B. 91 in 2007 creating the Law Enforcement Operations Account (LEOA). CCJJ is required to grant funds from the LEOA under the State Task Force Grant program (STFG). Grants are awarded to criminal justice service providers in order to address illicit drug use and other crime issues. The first priority of the STFG grant program is to provide operational support for Utah's established multi-jurisdictional drug and crime task force units. The second priority of STFG funding is the reduction of illegal drug activity through education, prevention, treatment and research programs. In FY2013 CCJJ awarded \$1,540,803 in STFG grant funding to Utah's 17 multi-jurisdictional drug task force projects.

JAG and STFG Results

FY2013 STFG and SAFG grants were used to assist 17 multi-jurisdictional drug and crime task force projects serving 27 of Utah's 29 counties. Last year, Utah's task force projects produced the following results: *2,745 drug related arrests (8 % above the 5yr. average); 415 gang related arrests (-9% below the 5yr. average); the removal of 29 kilograms (kg) of cocaine (-8% below the 5yr. average); 132kg of methamphetamine (89% above the 5yr. average); 12,940 units of prescription medication (25% above the 5yr. average); 24kg of heroin (140% above the 5yr. average) and 364kg of marijuana (-49% below the 5yr. average). The task forces seized \$2.1 million in criminal assets (34% above the 5yr. average) and made 266 public drug education presentations.*

Utah Sexual Exploitation of Children Prevention Grant

In 2006, the Utah Legislature approved House Bill 170 - *Prosecution and Prevention of Child Pornography Offenses Amendments*. H.B.170 directs CCJJ to, "allocate and administer grants...for approved education programs to help prevent the sexual exploitation of children."

In FY2013 CCJJ maintained support for one internet safety project that is operating with grant funding of \$195,000 awarded in fiscal year 2011 and \$338,800 awarded in fiscal year 2010. The recipient agency, Utah Education Network (UEN), used the funding to develop a comprehensive internet safety program and website known as NetSafeUtah - www.netsafeutah.org

In FY2013 UEN achieved the following results using this grant funding: Provided direct NetSafe training to 47,960 K-12 students (ages 5-18), teachers, and parents (146,998 since the start of the project in 2006).

NetSafe Utah Training Delivery Methods

NetSafe Utah presentations continue to reach statewide. Groups trained this fiscal year included those attending the Region V UACT Conference and the PTA personnel representing the Welfare and Safety Commission in their local PTA organizations as well as schools throughout the state. The primary method for educating students, teachers, parents, and others regarding Internet safety is face to face presentations; however, NetSafe Utah also offers an online class to teachers in addition to providing downloadable Internet safety content resources to anyone. Unless specified otherwise, all training is conducted in person by a trained trainer.

Utah State Asset Forfeiture Grant (SAFG)

In 2004 the Utah Legislature passed Senate Bill 175 making federal and state asset forfeiture funding available

for use in criminal justice service projects. CCJJ developed the State Asset Forfeiture Grant (SAFG) program as a means of evaluating and distributing state forfeiture funds.

SAFG grants are awarded to governmental agencies that provide criminal justice services. In FY 2013, CCJJ awarded 27 SAFG Grants for a total of \$1,585,493 (\$375,000 to drug court programming, \$211,682 to drug task force programming and \$998,811 awarded to twenty-four state and local law enforcement agencies through a formula award process). State forfeitures collections in the Criminal Forfeiture Restricted Account (CFRA) remain strong.

Law Enforcement Support Account

The 2010 Legislature passed SB217 which required that CCJJ administer an account used for increased law enforcement in municipalities with halfway houses run by the Utah Department of Corrections. The total allocation for FY 2013 is \$617,900.

Technology Priorities

Over the next 4 years the Department of Public Safety (DPS), in a cooperative effort with CCJJ, will rewrite the Utah Criminal Justice Information System (UCJIS) application to modernize and provide new functionality and enhancements to law enforcement and other agencies.

The UCJIS system was first developed and implemented over 10 years ago with the objective of unifying and distributing data from dozens of separate data sources and agencies to a robust, easy-to-use, powerful resource for crime enforcement in the state of Utah.

These new and updated applications are provided via the Public Safety's web-based service-oriented environment that currently hosts Driver License and UCJIS. DPS has recently upgraded the Protective Orders and Statewide Warrants

systems. UCJIS applications scheduled for upgrades this year include Driver License, Gun Checks, Concealed Weapons, and Criminal History.

To help facilitate these upgrades, CCJJ will be using money from several awarded federal grants:

2013 National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)

This grant is to help states improve the accuracy, utility, and interstate accessibility of criminal history records and enhance records of protective orders involving domestic violence and stalking, sex offender records, automated identification systems, and other state systems supporting national records systems and their use for criminal history background checks.

\$214,000 from this grant will be used to fund the Criminal History System rewrite portion of the UCJIS upgrade. The rewrite of the Utah Computerized Criminal History process will involve upgrading to a modern and supported programming language, thus allowing for program enhancements, improved functionality and processing of records internally, and federal justice information systems.

2013 National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP)

This grant is made available through the U.S. Department of Justice. The program furthers DOJ's mission by improving the records available to NICS. This is accomplished by helping eligible states to improve the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems.

\$400,000 from this award will be used for the Utah Gun Check Application Rewrite. Utah is a designated point of contact state for the pre-sale of firearms background checks. The DPS Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) is responsible for performing the checks. Database checks are then submitted to state and federal

systems, with the results being programmatically reviewed for possible hits. The current Utah Gun Check Application system is outdated and an application rewrite is needed to integrate existing systems, provide system enhancements and functionality, and to upgrade support tools, system architecture, firmware, and programming systems.

CCJJ Research

Our research team works with various state agencies and the University of Utah to coordinate and conduct research and evaluation projects on topics, programs, and policies that are a priority to the Commission. We have a collaborative research relationship with the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center (UCJC), as well as other researchers at the University (e.g., Department of Economics).

In 2013, we partnered with researchers at UCJC to evaluate the Utah Department of Corrections' implementation of the Level of Service Inventory (LSI-R) risk assessment instrument. This in-depth evaluation identified various data quality and administrative issues that may impact the accuracy of our current assessment process. The recently completed report also provides a literature review of risk assessment practices and recommendations for how we may improve our use of the LSI-R moving forward.

For the past year and a half, CCJJ has been working to assess the efficacy of the Employment Placement Project (EPP), which was implemented in 2009 by the Utah Department of Corrections and funded through grant funds provided by CCJJ. EPP was designed to provide offenders with enhanced job

readiness workshops and to collaborate directly with potential employers. This is an important area of research, as enhanced parolee labor market participation has been linked to a reduction in recidivism. The project involves collaboration between CCJJ, Utah Department of

Corrections, Utah Department of Workforce Services, and the Economics Department at the University of Utah. This evaluation should be completed by June 2014.

In late 2013, CCJJ initiated a project to conduct its sixth Utah Crime Survey, which assesses both crime victimization (previous year and lifetime) and attitudes and beliefs about crime and the criminal justice system in Utah. Data collection for the current version of the survey targeting a representative sample of 2,000 Utah residents 18 years or older has begun in January 2014, and we expect to have a summary report completed later in the year.

Each year, CCJJ coordinates a multi-agency research contract with the UCJC to support projects of interest to the participating agencies (CCJJ, Department of Corrections, Courts, and Juvenile Justice Services). In 2013, UCJC completed the following projects:

- A study of the characteristics of minors in the Utah adult criminal justice system
- A review of prisoner reentry initiatives
- An evaluation of truancy reduction efforts in Utah
- A meta-analysis of educational and vocational programs for adult offenders (for inclusion in CCJJ's Cost of Crime project)

The CCJJ research team also provides ongoing research assistance to other related commissions and groups, including the Sentencing Commission, UBJJ, USAAV, and the Office of Domestic and Sexual Violence.



Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice 2013 Membership

Senator Stuart Adams

Utah State Senate

Camille Anthony

Chair, USAAV Council

Dan Becker

State Court Administrator

Chief Frank Budd

Utah Chiefs of Police Association

Susan Burke

Division of Juvenile Justice Services

Kathleen Christy

Public Education Representative

Rollin Cook

Utah Department of Corrections

Karen Crompton

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

Sim Gill

Statewide Association of Prosecutors

Clark Harms

Chair, Board of Pardons and Parole

Representative Eric Hutchings

Utah House of Representatives

Judge Elizabeth Lindsley

Utah Juvenile Court

Judge Thomas Low

Chief Justice Designee

Richard McKelvie

U.S. Attorney's Office

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Utah Sentencing Commission