

Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020 **CONTACT:** Pamela Wong, 202-532-3276 Pamela.Wong@ojp.usdoj.gov

FACT SHEET

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS \$45 MILLION TO SUPPORT TESTING, TRACKING OF SEXUAL ASSAULT KITS

WASHINGTON – The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs today announced that it has awarded more than \$45 million to increase the number of sexual assault kits submitted to crime labs and help law enforcement agencies and crime labs process sexual assault evidence, therefore enabling them to solve more crimes, including cold cases.

The awards are made through the **National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative** (SAKI) and the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence – Inventory, Tracking and Reporting Program (SAFE-ITR), both managed by OJP's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

BJA National Sexual Assault Initiative (\$43.4 million)

Category I: Comprehensive Approach to Unsubmitted Sexual Assault Kits

State	Awardee	Amount
Alabama	Jefferson County District Attorney's Office	\$2,000,000
California	City of Fresno	\$2,186,109
Florida	City of Fort Lauderdale	\$218,496
Florida	City of Jacksonville	\$1,000,000
Georgia	Criminal Justice Coordinating Council	\$2,500,000
Georgia	Fulton County Board of Commissioners	\$2,000,000
Kentucky	Justice and Public Safety Cabinet	\$1,500,000
Louisiana	Orleans Parish District Attorney	\$1,949,672
Massachusetts	Office of Grants and Research	\$1,500,000
Minnesota	City of Minneapolis Police Department	\$2,000,000
Minnesota	State of Minnesota	\$2,000,000
Mississippi	City of Jackson	\$1,179,593
Missouri	Office of the Attorney General	\$2,000,000
Montana	Department of Justice	\$992,072
Nebraska	City of Omaha	\$966,882
New Mexico	Second Judicial District Attorney	\$2,141,147
Tennessee	City of Memphis	\$2,000,000
Utah	Department of Public Safety	\$1,500,000

State	Awardee	Amount
Virginia	Office of the Attorney General	\$2,084,762
West Virginia	Justice and Community Services	\$252,860

Category II: SAKI for Small Agencies (fewer than 250 sworn officers)

State	Awardee	Amount
Texas	City of Irving	\$79,902

Category III: Expansion of DNA Databases to Assist with Sexual Assault Investigations and Prosecutions: Collection of Lawfully Owed DNA from Convicted Offenders and Arrestee DNA Collections

State	Awardee	Amount
Minnesota	City of Duluth	\$662,659
Tennessee	Bureau of Investigation	\$1,000,000
Washington	State Attorney General	\$670,000

Category IV: Investigation and Prosecution of Cold Case Sexual Assaults

State	Awardee	Amount
Illinois	City of Chicago	\$1,000,000
Maryland	County of Baltimore	\$911,108
Michigan	Charter County of Wayne	\$999,755
Minnesota	City of Duluth	\$678,502
New Jersey	Department of Law & Public Safety	\$918,058
New Mexico	Second Judicial District Attorney	\$993,979
Nevada	Attorney General's Office	\$261,599
North Carolina	City of Charlotte	\$587,891
North Carolina	City of Durham	\$518,667
North Carolina	City of Fayetteville	\$1,000,000
Ohio	City of Akron	\$150,000
Ohio	Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office	\$1,000,000

BJA Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence – Inventory, Tracking and Reporting (\$2.2 million)

Funding through the SAFE-ITR program enables agencies to document their unanalyzed sexual assault kits, efficiently process sexual assault evidence and upload DNA profiles to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) – steps that are effective in reducing violent crime.

Funds may be requested to help defray costs for all three of the following tasks or, if an inventory has already been completed, for two and three only:

Task 1: Inventory. "Inventory" refers to a detailed and descriptive list of sexual assault kits containing information such as, but not limited to, item identifiers, quantity and location.

Task 2: Tracking. "Tracking" refers to the monitoring and accounting of sexual assault kits through the course of their movement from collection through final disposition.

Task 3: Reporting. "Reporting" refers to delivering a written report to the appropriate entity within the prescribed period and with the applicable data provided.

State	Awardee	Tasks	Amount
Alaska	Department of Public Safety	2	\$998,791
Maryland	County of Baltimore	1, 2, 3	\$218,180
Minnesota	Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	2, 3	\$982,232

More information about the programs and awards announced today is available here: <u>OJP</u> <u>Awards Data webpage</u>.

The Office of Justice Programs, directed by Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Katharine T. Sullivan, provides federal leadership, grants, training and technical assistance, and other resources to improve the nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems. More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.

The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of our agency at www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years.

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