

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g. permitting electronic submission of responses.

If you have additional comments, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or need additional information, please contact James Stephan, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 7th Street NW, Washington, DC 20531, or via facsimile (202) to 202-307-1463.

Overview of This Information Collection

(1) Type of information collection. Revision of currently approved collection.

(2) The title of the Form/Collection: Prison Population Reports Midyear Counts; and Prison Population Report Advance Yearend Counts—National Prisoner Statistics.

(3) The agency form number and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection. Form: NPS-1A; and NPS-1B. Corrections Unit, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

(4) Affected public who will be asked to respond, as well as a brief abstract: Primary: State Departments of Corrections. Others: The Federal Bureau of Prisons. For the NPS-1A form, 52 central reporters (one from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons) responsible for keeping records on inmates will be asked to provide information for the following categories:

(a) As of June 30 of the current year and June 30 of the previous year, the number of male and female inmates under their jurisdiction with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates; and

(b) As of June 30 of the current year, and June 30 of the previous year, the number of male and female inmates in their custody with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates.

For the NPS-1B form, 52 central reporters (one from each State, the District of Columbia, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons) responsible for keeping records on inmates will be asked to provide information for the following categories:

(a) As of December 31 of the current year, and December 31 of the previous year, the number of male and female inmates under their jurisdiction with maximum sentences of more than one year, one year or less; and unsentenced inmates;

(b) The number of inmates housed in county or other local authority correctional facilities, or in other state or Federal facilities on December 31 of the current year solely to ease prison crowding;

(c) As of the direct result of state prison crowding during the current year, the number of inmates released via court order, administrative procedure or statute, accelerated release, sentence reduction, emergency release, or other expedited release; and

(d) The aggregate rated, operational, and design capacities, by sex, of each State's correctional facilities at yearend.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics uses this information in published reports and for the U.S. Congress, Executive Office of the President, practitioner, researchers, students, the media, and others interested in criminal justice statistics.

(5) An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time needed for an average respondent to respond: 52 respondents each taking an average 2.5 hours to respond.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 130 annual burden hours.

If additional information is required, contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: January 21, 1998.

Robert B. Briggs,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 98-1847 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-18-M

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Justice Statistics

[OJP(BJS)-1151]

Continuation of Federal Justice Statistics Program

AGENCY: Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), Justice.

ACTION: Solicitation for award of cooperative agreement.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to announce a public solicitation for the continuation of the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP). The FJSP serves as the national resource for data describing the processing of criminal cases in the Federal criminal justice system. Under this program, data generated by Federal

criminal justice agencies are collected, maintained, analyzed, and archived. Data are also linked across agencies to permit more complex analyses of Federal criminal justice issues. Regular annual reports and special topical reports are prepared that describe the Federal criminal justice system, Federal defendants and offenses, and other special issues of interest. In addition, special tabulations are prepared, pursuant to BJS direction, in response to requests from government officials. The project to be funded under the proposed cooperative agreement will continue the program's current activities.

DATES: Proposals must be postmarked on or before March 31, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Proposals should be mailed to: Applications Coordinator, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Scalia, Program Manager, Federal Justice Statistics Program, Bureau of Justice Statistics, (202) 616-3276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Bureau of Justice Statistics Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP) was initiated in 1982 to serve as a central resource for information describing the processing of Federal criminal defendants and characteristics of those defendants. The program collects data from different components of the Federal criminal justice system and tracks the progress of suspects from investigation through prosecution, adjudication, sentencing, and corrections. The program represents the primary BJS effort describing the Federal criminal justice system and responds directly to the legislative authorization that BJS "collect, analyze, and disseminate comprehensive Federal justice transaction statistics (including statistics on issues of Federal justice interest such as public fraud and high technology crime)" as set forth in 42 U.S.C. § 3732(c)(15).

In keeping with the original program plan which was designed to minimize data collection costs, no original data collection is supported under this program. Data are obtained from operational Federal agencies including the Executive Office for the United States Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Bureau of Prisons, and the United States Sentencing Commission. In order to trace the flow of cases from one stage to another and to supplement any individual agency's data, computer matching techniques have been developed that permit the linking of

data obtained from different sources. The linking of these data permit more complex and detailed analysis of particular issues.

Throughout the history of the FJSP, a regular series of reports has been produced. These reports include the annual *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics* (available on the Internet at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cfjs93.htm) which describes transactions in the Federal criminal justice system for a particular year; and a series of Special Reports addressing specific aspects of the Federal criminal justice system, specific offenses, or other special issues of interest. Recent Special Report include: *Prisoner Petitions in the Federal Courts* (available on the Internet at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/ppfc96.htm), *Juvenile Delinquents in the Federal Criminal Justice System* (www.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/jdfcjs.htm), and *Noncitizens in the Federal Criminal Justice System* (www.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/nifcjs.htm). In addition, the program serves as the primary source of information for other BJS statistical series that describe individuals in the Federal criminal justice system; program staff have also responded to ad hoc BJS requests for specific data tabulations and analyses.

In addition, the FJSP supports the efforts of the Coordinating Committee on Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics. This interagency committee—represented by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Executive Office for the U.S. Attorneys, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, and the United States Sentencing Commission—was established as a forum for discussing issues related to the collection of data describing the Federal criminal justice system and the reporting of Federal criminal case processing statistics. With the support of the Coordinating Committee, beginning in 1998 BJS will annually publish *Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics*. This report—which will supplement each agency's annual statistical report—will highlight specific aspects of the Federal criminal justice system as well as describe significant trends in Federal criminal case processing. The statistics presented will be tabulated according to procedures agreed upon by each participating agency.

Objectives

The purpose of this award is to support the continuation of the Federal Justice Statistics Program. The recipient of funds will serve as the Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center whereby the recipient will continue to collect,

maintain, and archive data from Federal justice agencies, produce annual reports (the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics* and *Federal Criminal Case Processing*), and topical special reports. Any Special Reports prepared by the recipient will be prepared under the direction of BJS staff. In addition, BJS staff may also initiate Special Reports. The recipient will be expected to assist BJS staff with Special Reports by providing the necessary data for analysis and, when requested, assisting in the preparation of data tabulations and reviewing the methodology used to analyze the data.

Type of Assistance

Assistance will be made available under a cooperative agreement. Awards will be made for a period of 12 months with an option for two additional continuation years conditional upon the availability of funds and the quality of the initial performance and products. Costs are estimated at not to exceed \$650,000 for the initial 12-month period. Funding for subsequent years may include reasonable increases for cost-of-living and changes in scope of work, where applicable.

Statutory Authority

The cooperative agreement to be awarded pursuant to this solicitation will be funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics consistent with its mandate as set forth in 42 U.S.C. 3732.

Eligibility Requirements

Both for-profit and nonprofit organizations may apply for funds. Consistent with Office of Justice Programs fiscal requirements, no fees may be charged against this project by profit-making organizations.

Scope of Work

The objective of the proposed program is to continue basic activities initiated under the ongoing BJS Federal Justice Statistics Program. Specifically, the recipient of funds will serve as the Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center. The Resource Center will—

1. *Maintain and expand the Federal Justice Statistics Program Database.* This will involve the collection, processing, and maintenance of data provided by Federal agencies participating in the program. The agencies currently participating in the program are: the Executive Office for the United States Attorneys, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, the Bureau of Prisons, and the United States Sentencing Commission. (In addition to providing data describing the Federal courts'

criminal docket, the Administrative Office also provides data describing the activities of the Federal pretrial services agencies and the Federal Probation and Supervision Service. The Federal Judicial Center has provided data describing the Federal courts' appellate docket.) The recipient should attempt to expand the program to include other Federal law enforcement agencies. The recipient will also be responsible for processing data to meet uniform classification categories and for linking data to permit analysis of data obtained from different sources.

2. *Prepare tapes and related documentation for archiving in the national archive maintained by BJS.* The public use data tapes of the source data shall conform to BJS standards for submission to the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data at the University of Michigan. In addition, the recipient will prepare a set of standard analysis data files from each agency's source data for each fiscal year. These standard analysis data files will describe a particular cohort of defendants and will include all variables included in the source data and all variables created for the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics*. These standard analysis files will be included on a CD-ROM to be produced by BJS. The recipient will document each of the standard analysis data files and all programs used to create BJS reports. Such documentation, to the extent possible, will be maintained in an electronic database from which users can query variables of interest. This electronic data dictionary will also be included on the CD-ROM prepared by BJS. In addition, the recipient will document the methodology used to produce the *Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics*—including the production of the standard analysis data files.

3. *Prepare the Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics and the Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics report and submit both text and tables in camera-ready format for each Federal fiscal year.*

4. *Prepare BJS Special Reports, data tabulations, analyses, data sets, and other data manipulations in response to BJS requests.* Any Special Reports proposed by the recipient will be designed in coordination with BJS. BJS will approve all Special Report topics proposed by the recipient. The recipient will provide tabulations, as requested, describing Federal offenders to support BJS's National Correctional Reporting Program and the National Judicial Reporting Program.

5. *Provide BJS with electronic access to the Federal Justice Statistics Resource*

Center (including all source data, standard analysis data files, and software used to produce BJS reports) and computing resources, as necessary. In addition, the recipient must provide BJS staff with daily access to the standard analysis data files (for the most recent reporting period available) in a form in which variables name and values correspond to those included in the FJSP electronic data dictionary.

6. *Provide support to the interagency Coordinating Committee on Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics.* The recipient will work with BJS to support the efforts of the Coordinating Committee on Federal Criminal Case Processing Statistics including the production of reconciled case processing statistics, matching records across agencies' databases, identifying differences in data collection and reporting methods, and other technical assistance, as requested.

7. *Provide Internet access to the Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center.* The recipient will provide direct access via the Internet to all FJSP data files (including those files prepared by prior recipients of this award) and the electronic data dictionary. In addition, the recipient will work with BJS to provide a World Wide Web-accessible query system for the Federal Justice Statistics Resource Center. The recipient must provide Internet users with the capability of performing queries of the FJSP data bases in order to extract basic information describing individuals processed in the Federal criminal justice system. Users should be able to disaggregate these data by Federal judicial district.

Award Procedures

Proposals should describe, in appropriate detail, the procedures to be undertaken in furtherance of each of the activities described under the **Scope of Work**. Information provided should focus on activities to be conducted during the initial 12-month period but should also include a more general discussion of three-year objectives for the program. Information on staffing levels and qualifications should be included for each task and descriptions of experience relevant to the project should be included. Resumes of the proposed project director and key staff should be included in the proposal.

Applications will be competitively reviewed by BJS. Final authority to enter into a cooperative agreement is reserved for the Director, BJS, or his designee, who may, in his discretion, determine that none of the applications shall be funded.

Applications will be evaluated on the overall extent to which they respond to the goals of the Federal Justice Statistics Program, and appear to be fiscally feasible and efficient. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of—

1. Knowledge of, and experience in, working with different components of the criminal justice system with particular emphasis on knowledge of operational, management, and statistical data collected and maintained by various Federal criminal justice components;
2. Statistical expertise in the area of data analysis, data linkage, and research;
3. Experience in the application of statistical data to the analysis of criminal justice issues;
4. Demonstrated ability to prepare high quality statistical reports;
5. Availability of qualified professional and support staff and of suitable equipment for data processing and data manipulation;
6. Demonstrated fiscal, management, and organizational capability suitable for providing sound program direction for this multifaceted effort;
7. Demonstrated ability to design and maintain interactive sites on the World Wide Web; and
8. Reasonableness of estimated costs for the total project and for individual cost categories.

Application and Award Process

An original and two (2) copies of the full proposal must be submitted on SF 424 (Rev. 1988), *Application for Federal Assistance*. Proposals must be accompanied by a Budget Detail Worksheet (replaced the SF 424A, *Budget Information*); OJP Form 4000/3 (Rev. 1-93), *Program Narrative and Assurances*; OJP Form 4061/6, *Certification Regarding Lobbying; Disbarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters*; Drug-Free Workplace requirements; and OJP Form 7120/1 (Rev. 1-93), *Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire* (to be submitted by applicants who have not previously received Federal funds from the Office of Justice Programs and are not state or local units of government). If appropriate, applicants must also complete the certificate regarding lobbying activities. All applicants must sign Certified Assurances that they are in compliance with the Federal laws and regulations which prohibit discrimination in program or activity that receives Federal funds. To obtain appropriate forms, contact Getha Hilario, BJS Management Assistant, at (202) 616-3500.

Proposals must include both narrative descriptions and a detailed budget. The program narrative shall describe activities as described in the previous section. The detailed budget and the budget narrative must provide estimated costs including salaries of staff involved in the project and the percentage of time devoted to the project, fringe benefit rate itemization and costs, travel costs, proposed equipment, supplied, and other expenses. Contractual services or equipment must be procured following Office of Justice Programs grant procurement procedures.

Dated: January 21, 1998.

Jan M. Chaiken,

Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

[FR Doc. 98-1864 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4410-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

National Institute of Justice

[OJP(NIJ)-1153]

National Institute of Justice Solicitation for Drug Court Evaluation II

AGENCY: National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Office of Justice Programs.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation.

SUMMARY: Announcement of the availability of the National Institute of Justice "Solicitation for Drug Court Evaluation II."

DATES: The deadline for applications is close of business March 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information about application procedures for solicitations, please call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center 1-800-421-6771.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following supplementary information is provided:

Authority

This action is authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, §§ 201-03, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 3721-23 (1994).

Background

NIJ is soliciting proposals to evaluate 16 drug court sites, which are administered by the Office of Justice Programs, Drug Court Program Office (DCPO). The evaluation will take place in two separate phases. A single initial grant of up to \$500,000 will be awarded for a 12-24 month period. A second