U.S. Department of Justice FY 2021 President's Budget

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

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Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

I. Overview

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, the Department requests \$174 million for COPS programs under the State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance appropriations heading of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) as part of the President's Budget proposal to move COPS under OJP. COPS Office programs further the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) goal to assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies in their efforts to prevent crime, enforce laws, and represent the rights and interests of the American people. The funding highlights include:

- \$99.0 million for the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) to assist in hiring additional sworn law enforcement professionals, including the following set-asides:
 - \$8.0 million for Tribal Resources Grant Program;
 - \$3.0 million for Tribal Acces Program;
 - > \$7.0 million for Community Policing Development;
 - \$13.0 million for the Police Act Program;
 - \$2.0 million for the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Program;
 - > \$10.0 million for Regional Information Shared Services (RISS); and
- \$75.0 million for COPS STOP School Violence

Currently, the COPS Office administers grants and provides expertise and other assistance in advancing public safety through the implementation of community policing strategies in jurisdictions of all sizes across the country. Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

In FY 2021, these community policing activities and the staff that oversee them will be merged with OJP, allowing the Department to centralize and strengthen the partnerships it has with state and local law enforcement and to promote community policing not only through its hiring programs but also through the advancement of strategies for policing innovations and other innovative crime-fighting techniques.

II. Summary of Changes

Item Name	Description				
		Pos.	FTE	Dollars (\$000)	
COPS Hiring Program	Transfer of COPS Programs to OJP	0	0	-\$235,000	Note 1
Police Act Program	Transfer of COPS Programs to OJP under CHP	0	0	-\$10,000	Note 2
COPS School Safety	Transfer of COPS Programs to OJP	0	0	-\$50,000	Note 3
Anti-Heroin Task Forces	Consistent with FY 2020 President's Budget	0	0	-\$35,000	Note 4
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces	Consistent with FY 2020 President's Budget	0	0	-\$13,000	Note 4
TOTAL		0	0	-\$343,000	

Note 1: The Budget proposes to transfer these activities to OJP. It includes \$99 million for the COPS Hiring Program under OJP's State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance account.

Note 2: The Budget transfers the Police Act Program to OJP, where it will be a set-aside under the COPS Hiring Program (CHP).

Note 3: The Budget transfers the School Safety program to OJP, and requests \$75 million in 2021.

Note 4: Funding for these programs are not requested in 2021. The Department already supports state and local task forces with funding provided by its law enforcement bureaus. These program eliminations are included in the offset section of the budget. The FY 2019 President's Budget and FY 2020 President's Budget proposed to eliminate funding for both of these programs, as does the FY 2021 President's Budget.

The FY 2021 Request proposes to transfer COPS Program activities and staff to OJP. In 2021, the Budget includes \$174 million for COPS Program activities under OJP's State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance account.

III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

The FY 2021 President's Budget does not request a separate appropriation for COPS Office programs, and instead proposes to merge those programs into the Office of Justice Programs. To implement this merger, the Department requests \$174 million for COPS programs under the State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance appropriations heading of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).