

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

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FY 2024 Continuing Resolution – Discretionary:	\$662.9 million (100 positions; 6 attorneys)
FY 2025 Budget Request – Discretionary:	\$534.0 million (100 positions; 6 attorneys)
Program Change/Tech Adj. – Discretionary:	-\$128.9 (0 positions)
FY 2024 Continuing Resolution – Mandatory:	\$ 0 million
FY 2025 Budget Request – Mandatory:	\$2,175.0 million
Program Change/Tech Adj. – Mandatory:	\$2,175.0 million

FY 2025 Budget Request At A Glance

Mission:

The mission of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) is to advance public safety through the practice of community policing. Community policing prioritizes preventing criminal and disorderly behavior and the resulting fear by proactively addressing the root causes, rather than simply responding to crimes once they have been committed. Community policing also promotes the use of operational strategies and the development of mutually beneficial relationships between law enforcement and the communities served. By earning community trust and make those individual community members into stakeholders in their own safety, law enforcement can better understand and address the community's needs and the factors that contribute to crime.

Resources:

The FY 2025 discretionary budget request for COPS totals \$534.0 million, which is a \$128.9 million decrease below the annualized FY 2024 Continuing Resolution. The Budget request includes \$2,175.0 million in mandatory funding for the COPS Hiring Program (CHP).

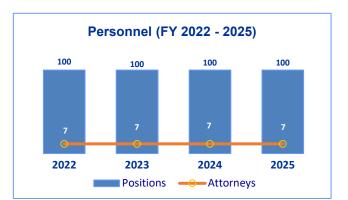
Organization:

The COPS Office is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the Attorney General, and is based in Washington, DC. The COPS Office was established in 1994 to assist law enforcement agencies in enhancing public safety through the implementation of community policing strategies.

Personnel:

COPS's authorized staffing for FY 2025 totals 100 discretionary positions and are the same as FY 2024 Continuing Resolution.





FY 2025 Strategy:

COPS remains steadfast to the communities they serve and the priorities of the Administration, which includes advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. Law enforcement plays a vital role in each of these areas, as it works to maintain meaningful relationships with every part of the community segment. By partnering and working with those communities, law enforcement aims to provide effective services in crime prevention, intervention, and response. Not only does the COPS Office hire and train community law enforcement, it also provides programs and resources to help reform agencies and rebuild the bridges of trust between the community and those sworn to protect and serve.

To advance this mission, COPS develops training and technical assistance aimed at improving law enforcement officers' problem-solving and community interaction skills. It promotes collaboration between law enforcement and community members to develop innovative crime prevention initiatives and provides cost-effective service delivery to grantees supporting community policing.

Community policing is a philosophy that systematically promotes the use of partnerships and problem-solving strategies. This approach proactively addresses the underlying conditions leading to public safety concerns such as crime, social disorder, fear of crime, and dissatisfaction with police services.

COPS awards grants to hire community policing professionals, develop and test innovative policing strategies, and provide training and technical assistance to community members, local government leaders, and all levels of law enforcement. Since 1994, the COPS Office has invested more than \$20.0 billion to help advance community policing, supporting over 13,000 of the Nation's 18,000 law enforcement agencies.

COPS also partners with law enforcement experts and academics to develop and produce informational materials. These materials highlight current and new law enforcement issues and successful community policing strategies used by law enforcement departments nationwide in response to address crime and disorder problems.

These reforms will allow the CHP to expand its focus to include a variety of enforcement strategies and to support initiatives that allow communities to actively participate in violent crime prevention. Combined with other investments requested, the proposed funding level for the CHP offers a comprehensive means to support law enforcement and communities in their combined efforts to enhance public safety.

In FY 2025, the COPS Office will fulfill its mission of advancing public safety through community policing by:

 Grants provided under the CHP that aim to support the hiring of sworn law enforcement personnel nationwide, while also implementing administrative reforms. These reforms seek to better align the program more closely with a broader array of evidence-based strategies for combating violent crime, in partnership with communities. Strategies include: supporting jurisdictions that seek to implement hiring practices which reflect the racial diversity of the communities they serve; aiding jurisdictions that support Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs; and assisting jurisdictions in hiring officers specifically to coordinate with CVI teams and other community stakeholders;

- Providing grants under the COPS Anti-Methamphetamine Program and the Anti-Heroin Task Forces Program. These programs are designed to support investigations into illicit activities related to heroin distribution, unlawful prescription opioids distribution, methamphetamine precursors, laboratories, or heroin and methamphetamine traffickers, and support prevention efforts that target the prescription drug, heroin, and methamphetamine epidemics;
- Continued oversight and coordination of the National Blue Alert Network is key. This network promotes rapid sharing of information with law enforcement, media and the public about violent offenders who have killed or seriously injured, or pose an imminent threat to law enforcement, and when an officer is missing in connection with their official duties;
- Advancing the work of the national Officer Safety and Wellness (OSW) Group. This group unites representatives from law enforcement, Federal agencies, and the research community to focus on a critical aspect of public safety. Semi-annual meetings of the OSW Group emphasize critical officer safety issues, leading to reports which highlight the latest research and best practices in various safety and wellness topics;
- Promoting improved public safety outcomes by infusing community policing core principles in all grant programs, and acting on evidence that they advance public safety;
- Supporting innovative programs that respond directly to the emerging needs of State, local, and tribal law enforcement for research-based guidance on the most effective ways to prevent and address crime and disorder within their communities;
- Providing responsive, cost-effective customer service delivery to grantees to ensure success in implementing community-policing strategies within their communities.

FY 2025 Program Changes:

COPS Hiring:

The FY 2025 President's Budget request includes a total of \$370.0 million for the CHP appropriation, which is a net increase of \$46 million from FY 2025 current services. In addition to bolstering funding to hire additional officers, this enhancement will be used to advance the mission of two tribal grant programs:

- **COPS Hiring Grants (CHP) (\$45.0 million)** -- This enhancement supports the President's Safer America Plan goal to support 100,000 new police officers.
- Tribal Access Program (TAP) (\$2.0 million) The FY 2025 President's Budget requests an enhancement of \$2.0 million, which would provide a 50% increase in funding for TAP for a total of \$6.0 million. This program provides Tribes with access to national crime information systems for both criminal and civil purposes. TAP allows Tribes to better serve and protect their citizens by ensuring the exchange of critical data across systems provided by the FBI's Criminal Justice Information

Services division, and other national crime information systems.

- Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP) (\$3.0 million) The FY 2025 President's Budget requests an enhancement of \$3.0 million, which would provide a total of \$37.0 million to TRGP to expand the implementation of community policing and to meet the most serious needs of law enforcement in tribal nations. The TRGP funding can be used for newly hired or rehired career law enforcement officers and village public safety officers as well as to procure basic equipment and training to assist in initiating or enhancing tribal community policing efforts.
- Regional Information Sharing System (RISS)(-\$4.0 million): This proposed decreases will allow the Administration to direct funding to priority enhancements and critical base funding needs, while maintain the funding levels established under the Inflation Reduction Act.

Preparing for Active Shooter Situations (PASS) Police ACT:

The FY 2025 President's Budget requests an increase of \$1.0 million. The overarching goal of PASS is to increase the survivability of active shooter and other hostile events through evidence-based multi-disciplinary training for law enforcement officers and other public safety-first responders that focuses on response integration, improvements to critical decision making, and the execution of appropriate judgment during critical events. Current services for this program are \$12.0 million.

STOP School Violence:

The FY 2025 President's Budget requests an increase of \$2.0 million for this program that provides funding directly to States, units of local government, Indian Tribes, and public agencies (school districts, public boards of education, and law enforcement departments) to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the grantees' jurisdictions through evidence-based school safety programs and technology. Current services for this program are \$53.0 million.

One-time Discretionary Project Decreases:

The FY 2025 request includes a decrease of \$177.9 million for one-time congressional projects that were included in the FY 2023 Enacted.

Mandatory Funding:

Safer America Plan:

The Budget provides \$2.2 billion in mandatory funding in 2025 to supplement the COPS Hiring Program as part of the President's Safer America Plan. This will provide communities the resources needed to keep streets safe, including by helping them hire and train additional police officers for accountable community policing and dedicating funds for small law enforcement agencies. This proposal supports the President's Safer America Plan goal to support 100,000 new police officers through the COPS Hiring Program.

Violent Crime Reduction and Prevention:

The Administration is committed to doing everything it can to make communities safer, including efforts to advance effective, accountable policing. As part of this commitment, in a separate section of the Department's budget, funding has been included for the **Violent Crime Reduction and Prevention** initiative which will serve to further bolster crimefighting efforts throughout the Nation. This request would provide \$120.5 million in the first year and a total of \$602.5 million over five years for a new COPS program. This program would provide grants to police departments to hire 4,700 detectives over five years to solve homicides, non-fatal shootings, and other violent crimes to drive down the high rate of unsolved violent crimes and the lengthy delays that undermine public trust and public safety.