



The City of Santa Clarita is eligible to receive \$26,749 from the U.S. Department of Justice's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the period 2014-2017. JAG allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on local needs and conditions. It provides agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most. Funds may be used for such activities as hiring, maintaining personnel, and providing overtime, training, equipment, and supplies.

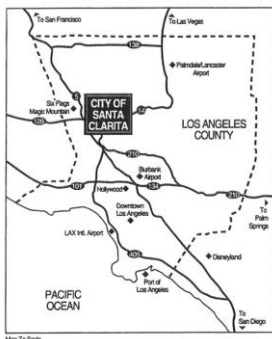
In collaboration with the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff Station, the City is submitting a grant proposal to fund operations and training that will enhance public safety in Santa Clarita. This JAG funding will allow local Sheriff to conduct operations over and above their normal duties and augment community policing and law enforcement efforts in the City of Santa Clarita.

The public is invited to comment on the proposal outlined below by calling Tess Simgen, Administrative Analyst, at (661) 286-4157 or by e-mail at tsimgen@santa-clarita.com by Friday, June 6, 2014.

FY 2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Grant Proposal

CITY OF SANTA CLARITA SANTA CLARITA CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM 2014

The City of Santa Clarita ("City") is located 35 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles and encompasses 63.12 square miles of the approximately 200-square-mile Santa Clarita Valley (SCV).



Incorporated in December 1987, Santa Clarita has grown to be the third largest city in Los Angeles County, the 19th largest city in the State of California, and one of the 150 biggest cities in the United States. Its population has continued to steadily increase over the past ten years as a result of new housing construction and annexations of surrounding areas into the City limits. According to a report by the California State Department of Finance, the City of Santa Clarita has a population of nearly 209,130 as of January 2014, an 89 percent-increase from 1990 when the population was 110,642.

Santa Clarita is a general law city operating under a Council-Manager form of government. The City Council acts as the part-time legislative body of the City and appoints a City Manager to be the Chief Administrative Officer responsible for the day-to-day operations of the City. The City Manager, in turn, appoints Department Directors who are responsible for daily operations of their respective departments and for selecting Division Managers and staff.

The Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff Station provides law enforcement services to the City of Santa Clarita through a contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The City and local law enforcement are committed to keeping public safety a top priority in Santa Clarita and have managed to keep a relatively low crime rate in the area. The Sheriff Department's data indicates that the City's Part

1 crime decreased by three percent over the past year, and by 15.8 percent compared to five years ago (2009).

With Santa Clarita's growing area and population comes an increasing range of responsibility and law enforcement challenges. Quality-of-life concerns that have been identified in the community include property crimes, drugs, gangs, juvenile crimes, second-hand dealers, troubled rental properties, traffic safety, unlawful neighborhood parties, and public nuisance in and around riverbeds, washes, and paseos. The Sheriff Station averages more than 55,000 calls for service and processes 14,000 crime reports annually.

An analysis of crime trends and statistics shows additional challenges. The Santa Clarita Sheriff's Crime Prevention Team continues to closely monitor an increasing population of California state parolees being released early from prison into the Santa Clarita area under the Post-Release Community Supervision Program. Statistics indicate a 61.32 percent recidivism rate for post-release supervised persons (PSP) released into Santa Clarita. The Sheriff is concerned that the increase in crimes may be associated with these releases and the overall criminal justice system accountability of PSPs following arrest and, in many cases, re-arrest.

The Sheriff continues to recognize the critical need for proactive law enforcement and community policing to prevent crime and address problems aggressively before they get out-of-hand and gain a foothold in the community. In order to respond better to the number of calls for service and crime reports and to quickly address public safety issues, crime tips, and community nuisance and concerns, the Sheriff Station's Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) strategically divided Santa Clarita into eight zones in 2011. These zones are managed by designated zone leaders, (i.e., deputies) who are responsible for a detailed review of all crime within their respective zones on a daily basis. This proactive strategy allows zone leaders and crime analysts to instantly identify crime trends and offenders, and maximize the utilization and deployment of resources. To complement the CPU, the Crime Research Center (CRC) allows zone leaders and crime analysts to utilize the latest technology, satellite imagery, and innovative software solutions to research crime in their zones.

Santa Clarita Sheriff intends to continue to approach public safety issues proactively and strategically. This will be accomplished through smart policing programs and strategies, and targeted and intelligence-based crime prevention, intervention, suppression, and saturation efforts. Operations are being proposed for JAG 2014 funding, which aim to reduce Part 1 crimes, particularly property crimes. These activities will be executed on an as-needed basis throughout the grant period, depending on the issues and concerns in the community at any given time. This approach has proven to be successful in Santa Clarita, as it ensures that JAG funds are used where they are absolutely needed and when they will be most impactful in enforcing the law and reducing crimes in the community. Targets for operations will be developed from crime trends and intelligence developed from Station resources, including the Crime Prevention Unit, Crime Research Center, deputies, citizens, and informants.

The proposed operations will include, but not be limited to:

- Gang Enforcement – Saturation and directed patrols to suppress gang activity and address gang-related crime. Deputies will continue to work at the street level, targeting specific gang activities to suppress gang recruitment, curtail gang-related crimes, and send out a strong message that the City

and the Sheriff have zero tolerance for gang activities in Santa Clarita. Deputies will identify individuals who are starting to associate with gangs and provide early intervention services through community partnership programs. With this early identification and intervention, intelligence provided to the District Attorney's Office will aid in bringing gang member enhancements to criminal charges and increase sentences.

- Drug Enforcement – Drug prevention and intervention, along with renewed and focused enforcement efforts, remains on top of the Sheriff's and the City's priorities. Both agencies acknowledge that drugs are not solely a law enforcement problem but rather a community issue that requires a three-pronged approach – enforcement, intervention, and education. The partnership between the City of Santa Clarita, the Sheriff Station, and the William S. Hart Union High School District to combat drugs and prevent teen use of drugs is stronger than ever.

The Sheriff's Juvenile Intervention Team (J-Team), which addresses drug-related crime and its impact on Santa Clarita youth, has been making great strides on the enforcement side. The team works closely with school resource deputies and other units in the Station, and will continue to focus on identifying and disrupting drug trafficking operations that target Santa Clarita youth and residents. In addition, J-Team will continue to work directly with affected families to provide resources on drug intervention and rehabilitation programs and connect them to much-needed services that will help them get on the right path.

- Enforcement Targeting the Pawning/Resale of Stolen Property – The Sheriff will address the pawning or resale of stolen property (oftentimes linked to drug-related activities) via second-hand dealers. This will be done through system database automation, pawn transaction tracking, information distribution, and aggressive enforcement efforts.
- Burglary/Theft Curtailment – Comprehensive operations and saturation patrols will address vehicle and residential burglaries and other theft-related crimes. The Sheriff will also continue its campaign to raise public awareness and advise residents to be aware of their surroundings and always secure their property and valuables, whether in their cars or in their homes.
- T3/Bike/Foot Patrols and Off-Road Enforcement – The use of these unconventional patrol methods will focus on the Santa Clara riverbed, washes, and the City's 29 parks and approximately 90 miles of trails and paseos that are not easily accessed by patrol cars. Public concerns about unlawful or nuisance-type activities, narcotics use, criminal conduct, and suspicious persons are becoming common, and the seclusion of the paseos, trails, and washes creates a unique challenge for deputies. Patrols on paseos, trails, and parks will be conducted more frequently during the summer months when more people frequent these areas.
- Vandalism and Graffiti Enforcement – The Sheriff will continue to work closely with the City's Graffiti Abatement Team to disrupt tagging crews and arrest graffiti vandals. Vandalism and tagging incidents continue to be an issue, with gang-related graffiti increasing nearly 28 percent from 547 tags in 2012 to 698 in 2013.
- Probation/Parole Enforcement – Sheriff Station personnel will assist probation and parole officers with probation and parole searches and warrant enforcement operations. Parole and probation

compliance checks are conducted in a proactive effort to keep residents safe. During the operations, deputies attempt to verify that the offenders' identifying information on file is accurate, that they are properly registered, and are complying with all the terms and conditions of their parole/probation and applicable laws.

- Truancy Sweeps – These operations are targeted to decrease absenteeism among students as well as to address daytime burglaries and other crimes perpetrated by minors.
- Curfew Sweeps – These operations target juveniles who violate the City's curfew ordinance and are clearly loitering with no lawful purpose between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. This is a preemptive approach to curb potential juvenile crimes and issues in the community.
- Surveillance, undercover, and sting operations, as needed.

In addition, part of the JAG 2014 funds will be used for professional development and training. Sheriff Station personnel will attend relevant trainings and conferences that will enhance their knowledge and skills, allow them to learn new and innovative crime prevention and investigative techniques, and provide them with opportunities to network with leaders and professionals in the field.

The City and the Sheriff Station will be very strategic and prudent in using JAG 2014 grant funding, just as they have always done with other JAG programs. This proposal will enhance and augment existing crime prevention efforts in the City, including those funded by other JAG grants and related justice funds. There will be no charges to the grant for costs associated with administering JAG funds as any additional time spent to ensure the implementation and completion of the proposed programs will be covered by the City's General Fund.

The Crime Prevention Unit Sergeant, under the direction of the Station's Operations Lieutenant, will oversee the operations and implement the grant in coordination with the City of Santa Clarita's Administrative Analyst in the Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department. The Sergeant and Deputies will be responsible for collecting data for performance measures from such sources as LARCIS (the Sheriff's Department's database), CalGangs, the Station's Gate Book (jailer's log), list of petitions, booking slips, citations, and crime analyst data. As is typically done, the secretaries or deputies will input information into the Sheriff's databases. Some of the information is automated when a deputy pulls a file number or booking number, after which it is followed up and completed by the secretaries. Information from these sources will be used to determine if any of the operations have mitigated the problem(s) being targeted.

The proposed operations -- in partnership with the City of Santa Clarita, local agencies, and the community -- will help safeguard public safety, curb juvenile offenses, reduce crime in the City, and promote the quality of life in Santa Clarita.