

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Views and News

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity, and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Arizona



April 2010

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BJA awards Phoenix PD \$1.7 million for HIKE, border-crime initiatives

The Bureau of Justice Assistance is awarding a Byrne competitive grant of \$1,725,349 to the Phoenix Police Department to combat violent crime. Operation Home Defense will engage community-based programs that include Weed and Seed, Community Prosecution, Crime Free Multi-Housing, and a new faith-based collaboration. OHD goals are: 1) hire prosecutors and analysts to assist with border-related violent crime; 2) provide specialized equipment for the Phoenix Police Department's Home Invasion Kidnapping Enforcement (HIKE) unit; and 3) improve response to home invasions and kidnappings. Phoenix has established the following objectives: 1) prosecuting federal firearms-related violent crimes and federal offenses associated with border-related offenses; 2) equipping an expanded HIKE unit for enforcement of border-related crimes; 3) adding analysts to the HIKE unit to combat border-related crimes; 4) expanding community training. OHD coordination will include continuation of existing partnerships with local and federal law enforcement agencies concerned with border security.

PSN grants open

ACJC is accepting applications online for FY11 PSN Initiative projects. Approved purpose areas are: Gun Intelligence Support; Forensic Firearms Testing/NIBIN; Community Outreach/Gang Prevention and Education.

Entities eligible to apply include non-federal law enforcement agencies, non-federal prosecution agencies, state and local units of government, non-profit organizations and faith-based organizations.

The application and notice are posted on the ACJC web site, www.azcjc.gov. Applications must be completed and received through the web site no later than May 14, 2010 at 3 p.m. Please note: **late applications will not be accepted.**

ACJC budget cuts

ACJC took more hits to our budget during the seventh special legislative session. To date, all program areas have seen reductions: Victim Services, Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Control; Fill the Gap funding to prosecution and indigent defense; DUI Abatement and crime lab assistance. To date, the cuts total more than \$24 million with more cuts possible in FY11. We continue to work with stakeholders on this issue. A list of cuts can be found on the [ACJC web site](http://www.azcjc.gov).

2010 Peace Officers Memorial events

The annual Arizona Peace Officers Memorial events are scheduled for the first week in May. Beginning on May 1, the Silverado Golf Club in Scottsdale will host a charity golf tournament to raise funds for the memorial. On Sunday, May 2, participants in the ninth annual 5K Run/Walk will meet at Wesley Bolin Memorial Park at 1700 W. Washington in Phoenix at 6:30 a.m. for registration and check-in. To register or volunteer for these events, contact Laura Fisher, event director, at 602-399-2740. Proceeds from these events will benefit the Arizona Peace Officers Memorial service to take place at Wesley Bolin Memorial Park at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 3.

New SAC report

Every two years, ACJC administers the Arizona Youth Survey (AYS) to thousands of 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students in Arizona. The anonymous survey collects information about youth, including their experiences with handguns. The 2008 AYS data revealed an increase in youth gun carrying from 6.0 percent in 2004 to 7.5 percent in 2008. Selected individual, school, and community factors were also shown to be related to the prevalence of youth carrying handguns. Visit the ACJC web site to access the fact sheet titled "[AYS Youth Carrying Handguns](#)" for a more in-depth look at this topic.