



# Criminal Justice Planning Agency

## 2023 CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

### WHO ARE WE?

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) was established in 1980 under the Office of the Governor through Executive Order No. 16, which created the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System. On November 20, 1998, pursuant to Public Law 11-47, CJPA's

Councils and authorities were created by law.

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency was established as the staff of the Supervisory Council, to function in a manner consistent with the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth and tasked to comply with the Federal Omnibus Crime Control and Safety Street Act of 1968, as amended, and other related Federal Laws.

The Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System, also known as the CJPA Supervisory Council, serves as the "Supervisory Body" for the administration of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant programs for the CNMI and as a mechanism for cooperative action among the various law enforcement and criminal justice agencies and related community programs in the CNMI.

### GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency is committed to providing service to the public and community programs by securing federal funds for critical criminal justice needs under the direction of the Governor, Supervisory Council, and Youth Advisory Council. CJPA currently functions in a manner to achieve these two broad goals:

1. To successfully administer federal programs relating to the CNMI criminal justice system by preparing and developing annual state plan applications for federal funds to benefit the CNMI criminal justice system and monitoring and evaluating criminal justice programs and projects funded under CJPA-administered programs.
2. To advise and assist the Governor in developing policies, plans, programs, and budgets for improving the coordination, administration, and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in the Commonwealth.
3. To encourage comprehensive justice planning efforts.
4. To monitor, evaluate, and coordinate programs and projects, funded in whole or in part by the Commonwealth Government, aimed at reducing crime and juvenile delinquency and improving the administration of justice.
5. To apply for, contract, receive, and expend for its purposes any appropriations or grants from the Commonwealth, the Federal Government, or any other source, public or private, in accordance with the appropriate process.
6. To collect from any Commonwealth department, agency, instrumentality, office, or other entity information data, reports, statistics, or other material necessary to carry out the Council's or Agency's functions.

### 2020 SUPERVISORY COUNCIL

**Chairman Hon. Alexandro C. Castro**  
Chief Justice, CNMI Supreme Court

**Vice-Chairman: Hon. Edward Manibusan**  
Attorney General, CNMI

**Clement R. Bermudes**  
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

**Hon. Robert Naraja**  
Presiding Judge, CNMI Superior Court

**Douglas Hartig**  
Public Defender, CNMI

**Anthony Torres**  
Commissioner, Department of Corrections

**Lucinda Selepeo**  
Acting Chair, Board of Parole

**Donna M. Flores**  
Interim Commissioner of Education,  
CNMI Public School System

**Felix R. Nogis**  
Executive Director, Carolinian Affairs Office

**Ignacio Aquiningoc**  
Chairman, CJPA Youth Advisory Council

Vacant: Rota Representative

**Hon. Valentino Taisacan**  
Mayor of the Northern Islands

**Maisie B. Tenorio**  
Women Representative

**Patrick Tenorio**  
Citizen Member

**Jim Arenovski**  
Citizen Member

### YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairman Ignacio P. Aquiningoc  
Rep. John Paul Sablan  
John S. Blanco  
John Gilbert Saludez  
Crystal C. Deleon Guerrero  
Shirley L. Norita  
Sylvio Ada  
TaAnn Kabua-Demapan  
Kathleen Keiko Yamagata  
Tina Crisostimo  
Calvani Deleon Guerrero  
Joseph Kevin Villagomez, MA  
Robert L. Coldeen III  
Mariah Barcinas  
Rownel Jody V. Coloma  
Franco M. Santos  
Leeani Villagomez  
Luis V. Deleon Guerrero  
Delbert Pua





# PROGRAMS

## GRANTS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency currently administers the following grants:



### Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to states and units of local government. The funding may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, and training for law enforcement programs, prosecution and court programs, prevention and education programs, corrections and community corrections programs, and drug treatment and enforcement programs, to name a few.



### Violence Against Women Act (VAWA):

The Violence Against Women Act is designed to improve criminal justice responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to increase the availability of services for victims of these crimes. The funding may be used for personnel, supplies, and training.

### Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program (SASP):

The SASP Formula Grant Program funds states and territories to support rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations that provide core services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault.



### Victims of Crime Act (VOCA):

The Victims of Crime Act Program supports direct services to crime victims (i.e. persons who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime).



### Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP):

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant supports the state, local, and tribal efforts to reduce and prevent delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children from violence and abuse. The funds may be used for personnel, supplies, and training.



### Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF):

The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program has provided funding to assist eligible states, local units of government, and tribes in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT): The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program was recently awarded to our office for 2023. The program aims to provide residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment to detained and incarcerated adult and juvenile populations housed within the CNMI's lone, collocated correctional facility.

### GRANT SUB-GRANTEE'S

- CNMI Judiciary
- Division of Youth Services
- Division of Customs
- Office of the Attorney General
- Department of Public Safety
- NMI Crime Stoppers
- Family Court
- Karidat
- Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
- Superior Court
- CNMI Drug Court
- Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Department of Corrections



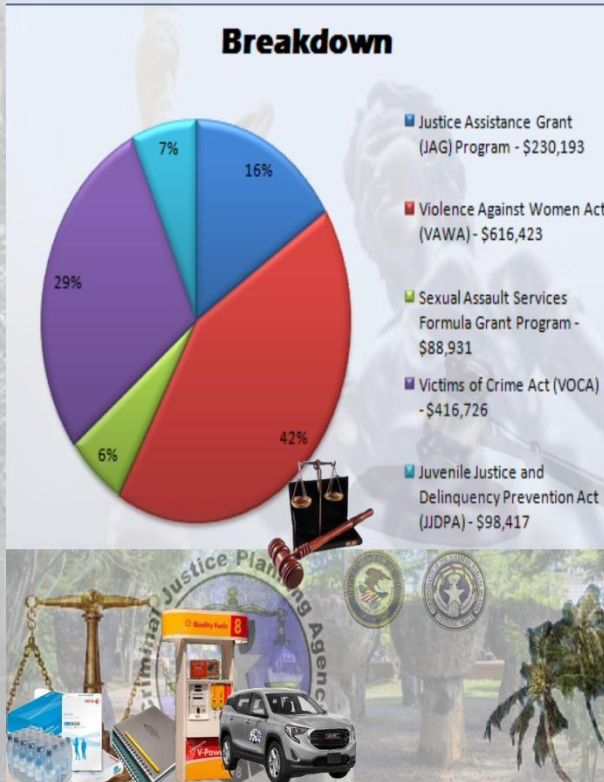


# FINANCES



## WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM

## WHAT OUR MAIN EXPENSES ARE



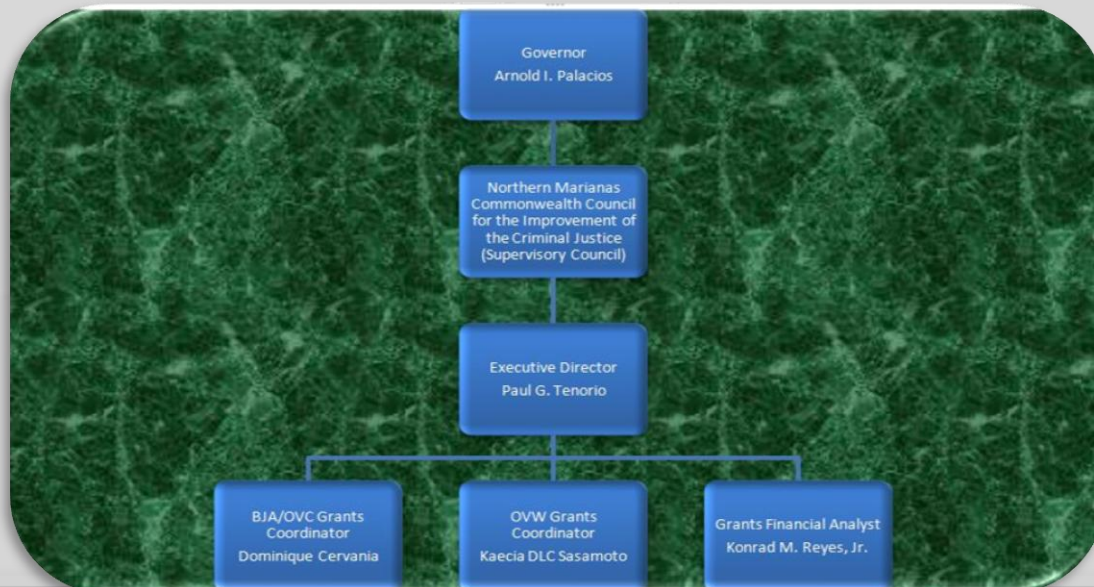
**PERSONNEL**  
**\$423,097**

**OPERATIONS**  
**\$20,116**



**UTILITIES**  
**\$4,229**

## CJPA ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# OUTLOOK

## CHALLENGES

- **Funding:** CJPA is funded through local appropriations and federal grants. Additional funding is still needed to build capacity and improve our daily operations. Additional funding would also
- **Capacity:** CJPA currently has four staff. Some of the staff handle more than one grant. The need for additional staff will help our agency apply for more grants and be more effective in providing support for our sub-grantees.

### Agency Highlights

**Training:** CJPA, in collaboration with the Office of Justice Programs Territories Financial Support Center, provided training for our sub-grantees. Through this training, our sub-grantees were trained in areas such as developing budget worksheets, Allowance and unallowable costs, property and equipment, supplanting, and preventing fraud, waste, and abuse.

**Relocation:** The CJPA Office moved into our newly-renovated Building 1314, which featured an array of improvements from modern office aesthetics to a state-of-the-art security camera system.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- **Collaboration:** CJPA will continue collaborating with various government agencies, private entities, and federal agencies. We can find innovative ways to support our sub-grantees and community through collaboration.
- **Support:** CJPA will streamline and improve its processes and procedures to better support our sub-grantees and stakeholders. This year, we were able to get a grant award for the 2023 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) grant that will aid the CNMI's Department of Corrections in providing residential substance use disorder (SUD) treatment to detained and incarcerated adult and juvenile populations housed within the CNMI's lone, collocated correctional facility.

## CONTACT



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Criminal Justice Planning Agency  
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