



**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

**Keeping Our Country Safe:  
Protect Vulnerable Populations  
(Amount in \$000s)**

Component/Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
<b>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</b>			
<b>Civil Rights Division (CRT)</b>			
Federal Response to Gender-based Violence & Discrimination	83	54	\$12,706
<b>Subtotal, Civil Rights Division</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>\$12,706</b>
<b>Criminal Division (CRM)</b>			
Support for International Human Rights and Task Force Alpha	57	36	\$10,000
<b>Subtotal, Criminal Division</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD)</b>			
Animal Welfare Enforcement	5	5	\$1,583
<b>Subtotal, Criminal Division</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$1,583</b>
<b>Subtotal, Federal Programs</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>\$24,289</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>			
<b>Office of Justice Program</b>			
Missing and Exploited Children	0	0	\$130,000
Sexual Assault Kit Initiative	0	0	100,000
Victims of Child Abuse	0	0	50,000
Juvenile Indigent Defense	0	0	40,000
Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Collaboration	0	0	30,000
Children Exposed to Violence	0	0	30,000
Prevention of Trafficking in Girls	0	0	10,000
Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel	0	0	6,000
National Missing and Unidentified Persons System	0	0	5,000
<b>Subtotal, Office of Justice Programs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$401,000</b>
<b>Office on Violence Against Women</b>			
Sexual Assault Services Program	0	0	\$100,000
Transitional Housing	0	0	95,000
Legal Assistance to Victims	0	0	95,000

**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

<b>Component/Initiative</b>	<b>Positions</b>	<b>Agents/ Attorneys</b>	<b>\$000s</b>
Improving Criminal Justice Response	0	0	80,000
Rural Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance	0	0	51,500
Culturally-Specific Services Program	0	0	35,000
Access to Sexual Assault Nurse Exams	0	0	20,000
Underserved Populations	0	0	10,000
LGBT Specific Services	0	0	8,000
Financial Assistance to Victims of Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Domestic Violence	0	0	8,000
Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building Program	0	0	5,000
Research on Violence Against Women	0	0	3,500
National Service Line for Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse	0	0	3,000
<b>Subtotal, Office on Violence Against Women</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$514,000</b>
<b>Subtotal, Grants</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$915,000</b>
<b>Total Program Enhancements</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>\$939,289</b>

The fundamental promise of America is met only when the most vulnerable in its midst are able to enjoy the full blessings of justice. For this reason, the Department has made a strategic Objective of its FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan, *Protecting Vulnerable Communities*. The FY 2024 President’s Budget furthers the Department’s support to this commitment by requesting **\$939.3 million** and **145 positions (95 attorneys)** to protect the most vulnerable by enforcing human smuggling laws, combating child exploitation, combatting gender-based discrimination and harassment, and protecting victims of violence and abuse.

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS**

**Civil Rights Division (CRT): \$12.7 million and 83 positions (54 attorneys)**

**Federal Response to Gender-based Violence & Discrimination**

The CRT has decades of expertise in investigating and litigating cases that involve gender-based violence, discrimination, and harassment across multiple civil rights statutes. In March 2022, the President signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2022 (“VAWA 2022”), which expanded the CRT’s jurisdiction over crimes involving sexual violence and enhanced the tools available to CRT. With additional resources, the CRT will expand its capacity to investigate and litigate gender-based discrimination and harassment claims in core aspects of everyday life, such as housing, employment, and education and expand criminal enforcement actions against human traffickers and law enforcement officials who engage in gender-based violence, discrimination, and harassment. *Current services for this initiative are \$10.3 million and 62 positions (38 attorneys).*

**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

**Criminal Division (CRM): \$10.0 million and 57 positions (36 attorneys)**

**Support for International Human Rights and Task Force Alpha**

The requested resources would enhance the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section's work in the enforcement of U.S. immigration laws, especially human smuggling laws, and of the War Crimes Act, such as the Department's response to Russia's unprovoked attack in Ukraine. These resources also support Joint Task Force Alpha, a human smuggling and trafficking task force that targets the most pernicious smugglers and associated networks operating in the Northern Triangle and Mexico impacting the southwest U.S. border. *Current services are \$11.9 million and 41 positions (24 attorneys).*

**Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD): \$1.6 million and five positions (five attorneys)**

**Animal Welfare Enforcement**

The requested resources will advance public safety, hold those who harm vulnerable animals accountable, and help ensure the humane treatment of abused dogs and other animals. Violations of Federal animal welfare statutes are serious matters which often intersect with other law enforcement priorities. Some animal welfare offenses, such as dogfighting, may be committed by highly organized interstate criminal enterprises, which attract an array of other illegal activities, including drug trafficking, gun running and gang violence that threaten public safety. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

**GRANTS**

**Office of Justice Programs (OJP): Total \$401.0 million (+\$174.5 million)**

**Missing and Exploited Children: Total \$130.0 million (+\$25.0 million)**

Funding will provide infrastructure for national efforts to prevent and respond to the abduction and exploitation of America's children. The Missing and Exploited Children program supports the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), and the AMBER Alert Program. The requested increase will enhance the national response to the growing number of tips regarding potential cases of child pornography and child exploitation offenses. This funding will support additional NCMEC efforts to respond to the increase of tips and leads to the CyberTipline and increase funding for the ICAC Task Forces and related ICAC training and technical assistance. *Current services for this initiative are \$105.0 million.*

**Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI): Total \$100.0 million (+\$45.0 million)**

This program supports community efforts to identify critical needs in the areas of sexual assault prevention, investigation, prosecution, and victims' services and to implement strategies to address these needs. These strategies typically include plans for expediting the analysis of untested evidence kits. Approximately 50 percent of all DNA profiles uploaded from SAKI cases result in Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) hits, helping agencies prosecute these offenses. To date, there have been over 15,784 CODIS hits, with 2,252 CODIS hits to persons committing serial sex offenses and 8,298 CODIS hits to persons committing other serial violent offenses. This enhancement will allow the OJP to increase awards to jurisdictions to address high volumes of sexual assault kits and subsequent investigations and prosecutions. *Current services for this initiative are \$55.0 million.*

**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

**Victims of Child Abuse: Total \$50.0 million (+\$9.0 million)**

The request provides training and technical assistance to build strong multidisciplinary teams of highly qualified professionals involved in the prevention, intervention, prosecution, and investigation systems that respond to and help heal victims of child abuse. It also supports the development of Children's Advocacy Centers, multidisciplinary teams, and state chapters to strengthen the criminal justice system's response to child abuse and neglect. *Current services for this initiative are \$41.0 million.*

**Juvenile Indigent Defense: Total \$40.0 million (+\$37.5 million)**

This program provides funding and other resources to help States, localities, and Tribes develop effective, well-resourced model juvenile defense delivery systems with standards of practice and policies for effective management. The Program also provides cost effective and innovative training for the Juvenile Defense Bar, including court-appointed counsel and in particularly in rural, remote, and underserved areas. *Current services for this initiative are \$2.5 million.*

**Children Exposed to Violence: Total \$30.0 million (+\$20.0 million)**

Within the Delinquency Prevention Program, this program provides communities the level of support necessary to develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach to help children exposed to violence. Children are exposed to violence every day in their homes, schools, and communities. Such exposure can cause them significant physical, mental, and emotional harm with long-term effects that can last well into adulthood. Funding is used to develop coordinated and comprehensive community-based approaches, such as implementing evidence-based prevention, intervention, and accountability efforts, to assist children and their families who are exposed to violence. *Current services for this initiative are \$10.0 million.*

**Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Collaboration Initiative: Total \$30.0 million (+\$30.0 million)**

Dual status youth are those who come into contact with both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems, which includes foster care and other child protective services. The requested funding will support the development of trauma-informed programs at different points in the juvenile justice system to provide needed services to these youth. The funds will also support the necessary collaboration efforts to ensure that the two systems are working together to streamline processes, develop comprehensive treatment plans while ensuring public safety, and engage families to build towards healing and self-sufficiency. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

**Prevention of Trafficking in Girls: Total \$10.0 million (+\$5.0 million)**

Within the Delinquency Prevention Program, funding will provide communities the level of support necessary to develop a comprehensive and coordinated approach to help prevent the trafficking of girls. This program will help develop or enhance prevention and early intervention services for girls who are at risk or are victims of sex trafficking. *Current services for this initiative are \$5.0 million.*

**Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel: Total \$6.0 million (+\$1.5 million)**

This program seeks to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse, neglect, and related cases by providing judicial, legal, and social service professionals with training and technical assistance. The requested increase will support continued training curriculum development and

**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

additional training opportunities for judicial, legal, and social services professionals. *Current services for this initiative are \$4.5 million.*

**National Missing and Unidentified Persons System: Total \$5.0 million (+\$1.5 million)**

The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System is a national centralized clearinghouse and resource center that supports efforts to locate and identify missing persons and unidentified human remains. Funding will support improving access to information, combining online case repositories with case management, forensic analyses, investigative support, analytical resources, and technical assistance. *Current services for this initiative are \$3.5 million.*

**Office on Violence Against Women (OVW): Total \$514.0 million (+\$196.5 million)**

**Sexual Assault Services Program: Total \$100.0 million (+\$21.5 million)**

With additional funding, the OVW will be able to significantly increase the size of awards to states and territories, which are based on population, enabling rape crisis centers to serve tens of thousands more victims each year. The request will support rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations as well as tribal programs, that provide services, crisis intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault. *Current services for this initiative are \$78.5 million.*

**Transitional Housing Program: Total \$95.0 million (+\$45.0 million)**

In addition to funding housing units, the Transitional Housing Program supports victims with security deposits, rental assistance, and utility payments. Grantees also provide supportive services, such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services, as well as childcare, employment services, and transportation assistance. Historically, demand from victims far outpaces available resources. *Current services for this initiative are \$50.0 million.*

**Legal Assistance for Victims Program: Total \$95.0 million (+\$40.0 million)**

Civil legal assistance provided by attorneys funded through the Legal Assistance for Victims Program increases the quality, quantity, and efficacy of legal services for domestic violence and sexual assault victims. Research has shown that appropriately trained attorneys have a significant impact on safe outcomes for survivors. Victims who get help from attorneys and community-based advocates may be more likely than victims without that assistance to perceive themselves as having a voice in the justice process. *Current services for this initiative are \$55.0 million.*

**Improving Criminal Justice Response/Arrest: Total \$80.0 million (+\$19.5 million)**

Funding supports coordinated community responses to domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, with an emphasis on the criminal justice system's role in holding offenders accountable for their crimes. Further, with set asides of up to \$4.0 million for a homicide reduction initiative and \$8.0 million to address domestic violence lethality issues relating to firearms, the OVW will invest in research, practice, and training and technical assistance designed to spot risk factors for domestic violence-related homicide and to disarm abusers before they kill. *Current services for this initiative are \$60.5 million.*

**Rural Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance: Total \$51.5 million (+\$1.5 million)**

An estimated one in five people in the United States lives in a rural area. Rural victims of violence may have worse psychosocial and physical health outcomes than their urban

## **U.S. Department of Justice FY 2024 Budget Request**

counterparts. Therefore, the Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program (Rural Program) supports projects uniquely designed to address and prevent domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and child sexual abuse in rural areas. Strategies Rural Program grantees employ—including victim advocacy, medical forensic exams performed by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, transitional housing, and victim-centered prosecution—have been found through research to be effective at reducing domestic violence and child abuse. *Current services for this initiative are \$50.0 million.*

### **Culturally-Specific Services: Total \$35.0 million (+\$24.0 million)**

These funds will support culturally-specific services for victims. Advocates report that survivors are more inclined to seek services from organizations that are familiar with their culture, language, and background. Culturally-specific community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex challenges that victims face when attempting to access services. *Current services for this initiative are \$11.0 million.*

### **Access to Sexual Assault Nurse Exams (SANEs): Total \$20.0 million**

Funding will help address nationwide gaps in the availability and quality of post-sexual assault medical forensic care. Emergency medical care is critical for treating a victim's healthcare needs and collecting forensic evidence after a sexual assault, and such care is best provided by specially trained SANEs and Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs). The availability of SANE and SAFE programs, however, is limited, especially in rural and tribal communities. *There are no current services for this initiative.*

### **Underserved Populations Program: Total \$10.0 million (+\$5.0 million)**

This program supports projects to develop and implement outreach strategies and enhanced services for adult and youth victims of domestic and sexual violence in underserved populations. *Current services are \$5.0 million.*

### **Financial Assistance to Victims of Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Domestic Violence (Financial Assistance Program): Total \$8.0 million (+\$4.0 million)**

These funds will support financial assistance for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, to offset costs incurred as a result of their victimization and assist them in pursuing safety and stability as they recover. *Current services for this initiative are \$4.0 million.*

### **LGBT Specific Services Program: Total \$8.0 million (+\$7.0 million)**

Transgender individuals suffer high levels of violent victimization and are at a much greater risk of dying by suicide than are cisgender individuals. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) individuals, and in particular, lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons of color and transgender persons of all races, may be reluctant to report victimization and seek services for fear of discrimination, and because biases and lack of knowledge compromise the quality and utility of the system's response. These funds will be used to support greater outreach to, and services for, transgender victims of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. *Current services for this initiative are \$1.0 million.*

### **Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building Program: Total \$5.0 million**

This funding would provide capacity building support for community-based organizations to receive training and technical assistance necessary to apply for and successfully implement

**U.S. Department of Justice  
FY 2024 Budget Request**

Federal grant awards. Existing OVW programs provide training and technical assistance to support service provision capacity but do not address the Federal regulations and record-keeping requirements for organizations accustomed to receiving private donations and support from local religious institutions. This will provide enhanced capacity for community-based organizations to apply for grants, administer grant funds, avoid audit findings, and provide ongoing services to their communities. *There are no current services for this request.*

**Research on Violence Against Women: Total \$3.5 million (+\$1.0 million)**

To enhance the evidence-base for VAWA-funded strategies, this program provides the OJP's National Institute of Justice with funding that will invest further in rigorous research on approaches to serving victims and holding offenders accountable. *Current services for this initiative are \$2.5 million.*

**National Service Line for Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse: Total \$3.0 million**

This program funds a new five-year project to launch and maintain a national service line for incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse. Further, it will provide support services to survivors in local, State, tribal, and Federal confinement facilities and offer technical assistance to victim service providers working with incarcerated victims. Sexual abuse is already one of the most underreported violent crimes in the United States, and confinement settings create additional barriers for victims to report or seek help. As a result, many incarcerated survivors receive little to no sexual assault support services. *There are no current services for this request.*