



Welcome to the first issue of BJA's *Justice Today*, a monthly electronic newsletter from the Bureau of Justice Assistance aimed at keeping you informed about the latest developments in the field, new initiatives, funding, and other opportunities. BJA is committed to providing the field with cutting edge information about what works and resources available to you. If you would like to continue to receive BJA's *Justice Today*, please click on the "Subscribe" button below. Please feel free to forward this to others who may appreciate *Justice Today's* simple yet informative one-page format. We look forward to keeping you informed... Sincerely, Acting Director Jim Burch.

## DID YOU KNOW?

On February 26, 1988, [New York City Police Officer Edward R. Byrne](#) was killed while on detail protecting a witness who had agreed to testify in court against local drug dealers. In honor of Officer Byrne, the U.S. Department of Justice's established the [Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\) Program](#).

## In the Spotlight

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 \(Recovery Act\)](#). The Recovery Act will inject \$787 billion into the U.S. economy, providing jobs and much-needed resources for states and local communities. More than \$4 billion has been allocated for state and local law enforcement and other criminal and juvenile justice agencies. The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) will administer \$2.76 billion of this funding.

For more information about OJP's implementation of the Recovery Act and funding for which you or your organization may be eligible to apply, visit [OJP's Recovery Act page](#). [▶ more](#)

## FEATURED PROGRAM

### JAG Program

The [Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant \(JAG\) Program](#), administered by BJA, lets states and local governments support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime by allowing them to allocate justice funds based on their own local needs and conditions.



[PRINTER-friendly version](#)



[E-MAIL the current issue](#)



[SUBSCRIBE to Justice Today](#)



[BROWSE the archives](#)



[SEND us your feedback](#)

## News You Can Use

### Mortgage Fraud and Home Foreclosures

Reports indicate that mortgage fraud and foreclosures play a key role in the recent proliferation of vacant and abandoned properties, which diminish the value of surrounding homes and attract vandals and criminal activity. For more information on the impact of mortgage fraud and foreclosures on neighborhood crime, [visit here](#).

## Grants & Funding

### Current Funding Opportunities

- [Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative](#)  
**Applications are due April 20, 2009.**
- [Second Chance Act National Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Resource Center](#)  
**Applications are due April 20, 2009.**
- [Adult Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Initiative](#)  
**Applications are due March 31, 2009.**

### General Funding Information

- [BJA is Seeking Peer Reviewers](#)
- [Current and Upcoming Funding Opportunities](#)