



*CONSORTIUM OF FORENSIC SCIENCE  
ORGANIZATIONS (CFSO)*

*FLASH BRIEF*

*SPECIAL EDITION NOVEMBER 2020*

The mission of the CFSO is to speak with a single voice in matters of forensic science of mutual interest to its member organizations, to influence public policy at a national level, and to make a compelling case to increase federal resources for publicly funded forensic service providers. The primary focus of the CFSO is local, county, state, and federal policymakers, as well as the United States Congress.

**APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020 (FY21)**

The Senate and House have both reported out their appropriations bills. These numbers will be used to conference a final agreement on the FY21 budget. At this time, however, there is concern that an agreement cannot be made on these two bills between the House and Senate prior to the expiration of the December 11th continuing resolution. The CFSO will monitor this and report to you on the status of the budget as it moves through the process. Please note the actual text of the numbers and language are below in side by side charts.

While you will note that the difference between the House and Senate budget numbers are not dramatically different, there are numerous policy differences in these bills that may result in a variety of changes to the way grants and funds are distributed to the forensic science and law enforcement community. In general, the House bill provides numerous certifications that need to be met by law enforcement prior to receiving their funding. The Senate, on the other hand, provides more funding to address such matters as use of force. Some of the high-level language regarding matters specific to forensic science are, for example, the following:

**NIBIN**-the use of NIBIN, and access to it by all state and local law enforcement, is supported in the House and Senate.

**Rapid DNA**-the House is supportive of Rapid DNA technology and concerned with the lack of use at an early stage for sexual assault investigations to prevent rape kit backlogs.

**DNA Grants**-the House has also directed DOJ to ensure that the spending of Debbie Smith funds align with the authorized purposes.

**DOJ grants**-the Senate is concerned with set-asides and oversight of DOJ grants and has put in place numerous reports to be provided to congress.

**SAKI**-the Senate wants the SAKI grants to be more community based and has directed DOJ to report back to Congress with a plan of how to do so.

**NIST**-the Senate has included language supporting Officer of the Court training on forensics from NIST.

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**FORENSIC SCIENCE FY21 BUDGET**

PROGRAM	REQUEST	FY20	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL
DOJ					
Byrne JAG	\$411,700,00	\$547,200,000	\$525,000,000	\$481,000,000	
OJP: National Center on Forensics	0	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$4,000,000	
STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE					
Drug Field Testing and Training Initiative	0	0	\$2,000,000		
Collaborative mental health and anti-recidivism initiative	0	0	\$1,500,000		
Competitive grant for training students in computer forensics and digital investigation	0	0	\$2,000,000		
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science	\$10,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$30,500,000	\$35,000,000	
DNA Initiative	\$15,000,000	\$132,000,000	\$142,000,000	\$141,000,000	
Debbie Smith: DNA Analysis Backlog	\$97,000,000	\$102,000,000	\$108,000,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$110,000,000	
Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants	\$4,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$8,000,000	
Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,000,000	
Other State and	0	\$17,000,000	\$19,000,000	\$19,000,000	

<sup>1</sup> \*4% for DNA Training and Education for Law Enforcement PL 108-405 sec 303

PROGRAM	REQUEST	FY20	HOUSE	SENATE	FINAL
Local Forensic Activities					
Sexual Assault Response Reform (community based)	\$47,500,000	\$48,000,000	\$49,000,000	\$48,000,000	
NIST					
Forensic Science Research	0		\$22,500,000		
OSAC	0	\$3,150,000	\$3,150,000	\$3,150,000	
Forensic Technical Evaluations	0	\$1,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,000,000	

## LANGUAGE

SUBJECT	House Appropriations	Senate Appropriations
DOJ		
DNA	<p><b>DNA Initiative.</b> —The Committee continues its strong support for DNA backlog and crime lab improvements by recommending \$142,000,000 to strengthen and improve Federal and State DNA collection and analysis systems that can be used to accelerate the prosecution of the guilty while simultaneously protecting the innocent from wrongful prosecution. Within funds provided, \$108,000,000 is for Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Reduction grants, \$9,000,000 is for Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing grants, and \$6,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants. The Committee expects that OJP will make funding for DNA analysis and capacity enhancement a priority in order to meet the purposes of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program. The Committee directs the Department to submit to the Committee, as part of the Department’s spending plan for State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, a plan with respect to funds appropriated for DNA-</p>	

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	<p>related and forensic programs, including the alignment of appropriated funds with the authorized purposes of the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program.</p>	
	<p><b><i>DNA Sample Collections from immigration detainees.</i></b> —The Committee is concerned about the potential adverse impact of the final rule issued by DOJ on March 6, 2020, entitled, DNA Sample Collection from Immigration Detainees (Docket Number OAG 164; AG Order No. 4646 2020) and directs the Attorney General to provide the following information to the Committee not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act: the fiscal and administrative costs of expanding DNA collection requirements to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); the FBI’s role in the collection, use, and retention of DNA samples and profiles on the basis of this policy, and the estimated impact of this policy on the backlog in FBI DNA sample testing; information regarding the storage and security of DNA kits received from DHS; any DOJ policies and protocols governing how DNA profiles are used and shared; and whether familial searches are permitted by any Federal agency or any State entity with access to the profiles.</p>	
	<p><b><i>RAPID DNA.</i></b> —The Committee understands that under certain conditions, Rapid DNA technology can help law enforcement agencies quickly compare DNA samples against profiles in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) and determine possible connections between a suspect and known criminal activity or facilitate exoneration of innocent suspects. The Committee encourages DOJ to consider supporting broad deployment of Rapid DNA technology that meets FBI quality assurance standards to help local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies meet their mission requirements, improve the efficacy and efficiency of investigations, and protect and bring justice to the innocent.</p>	

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	<p><b>Rapid DNA Initiative.</b> —The Committee recognizes the growing importance of Rapid DNA technology in federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement operations. The Committee supports broad deployment of Rapid DNA technology that meets FBI quality assurance standards to help local, state and federal law enforcement agencies meet their mission requirements, improve the efficacy and efficiency of investigations, and protect and bring justice to the innocent. The Committee acknowledges that deployment of Rapid DNA has been shown to be a critical law enforcement tool for combatting human trafficking, suppressing gang activity, supporting drug interdiction and counter-drug activities, and disrupting transnational criminal organization activities. It has also helped improve disaster response and victim identification. The Committee has repeatedly expressed concern with the nationwide backlog of sexual assault kits and believes that in some jurisdictions the unfortunate and long-standing backlog of sexual assault kits could be addressed with rapid DNA technology. The Committee further believes that Rapid DNA technology should be deployed early in sexual assault investigations to prevent backlogs from forming in the first place. The Committee therefore directs the Department to ensure that recipients of all existing grant programs that help Federal, state, local and tribal agencies build capacity for DNA analysis, address the sexual assault kit backlog, enhance investigative methods, and adopt innovative criminal justice strategies are made aware that Rapid DNA implementation and sustainment are permissible uses of grant funds. The Committee directs the Department to provide a report to the Committee no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act that describes how Rapid DNA technology is being deployed to prevent violence against women, support illicit opioid interdiction, improve criminal investigations, prevent human trafficking, combat transnational</p>	

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	criminal activities, and prevent sexual assault kit backlog creation.	
<b>Cold Case</b>	<p><b><i>Cold Case Investigations.</i></b>—The bill includes not less than \$13,500,000, the same as the fiscal year 2020 enacted level, for the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division, the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Community Relations Service, and in grant assistance, as authorized by the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114 325), to investigate and prosecute previously unresolved civil rights era “cold case” murders suspected of having been racially motivated. The Department of Justice (DOJ) shall include, as part of the annual spending plan required under section 507 of this Act, details on actual and projected spending, by agency and appropriation, to carry out the Emmett Till Act. The Committee directs the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Office for Victims of Crime to continue providing grants for cold case DNA investigations to aid State and local law enforcement agencies in their investigation and prosecution of unsolved civil rights cold cases. In addition, the Attorney General is directed to make full use of his authority to support and carry out the objectives of Public Law 115–426, the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018.</p>	
<b>Sexual Assault</b>		<p><b><i>Sexual Assault Kit Initiative [SAKI].</i></b>—The Committee’s recommendation includes \$48,000,000 to continue a competitive grant program started in fiscal year 2015 as part of the initiative to reduce the backlog of rape kits at law enforcement agencies. OJP shall provide competitively awarded grants with a comprehensive community-based approach to addressing the resolution of cases in the backlog. The Committee directs OJP to provide a report, no later than 90 days after enactment of this act, on its progress in developing a strategy and model to serve as best practices for discovering and testing kits, training law enforcement, and supporting victims</p>

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		throughout the process as required by Public Law 113–235.
		<b>Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act [SAFER].</b> —The SAFER Act was included as title X of the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) and was reauthorized by the SAFER Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–107). The Act authorized the Attorney General to make grants for the purpose of helping State and local law enforcement agencies conduct audits of the rape kit backlog. In 2016, the Department fully implemented the SAFER Act by providing grants for such a purpose under the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence-Inventory, Tracking, and Reporting Program. The Committee directs the continuation of this important program to deliver justice for victims of sexual assault.
<b>Opioid</b>	<b>Byrne JAG.</b> —The Committee encourages the Byrne JAG program to provide additional resources to those communities that are taking part in programs that seek to lower homicide rates through data and performance measurement analysis. The Committee advises that some Byrne JAG funds be directed to provide newer, more efficient forensics testing tools for rural jurisdictions. The Committee requests additional consideration be given to applicants who seek to hire service-connected disabled veterans. The Committee encourages the Department to support the use of these grant funds for the purchase of fentanyl detection equipment. The Committee is concerned about the growing epidemic of prescription drug and heroin abuse and its impact on law enforcement, and notes that funds within this account may be used for the implementation of medication-assisted treatment to help maintain abstinence from all opioids and heroin.	<b>Fentanyl Detection.</b> —The Committee is aware of far too many incidents of first responders experiencing accidental overdoses after coming into contact with fentanyl or fentanyl analogues and understands the role played by fentanyl detection equipment and training on identifying fentanyl, particularly for police officers and other first responders, to keep officers safe by minimizing exposure. As such, the Committee encourages the Department to support the use of grant funds like Byrne-JAG for the purchase of fentanyl detection equipment and training as well as naloxone distribution for law enforcement safety.
		<b>Hemp Testing Technology.</b> —The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334) removed hemp and its derivatives from the

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		<p>Controlled Substances Act (Public Law 91–513, as amended), and authorized the production, consumption, and sale of hemp and hemp-derived products in the United States. The Act requires random testing to ensure hemp meets the definition under the law of having a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol [THC] concentration of less than 0.3 percent. The Committee is aware that DEA has developed field testing kits that can distinguish between hemp and marijuana on-the-spot. The Committee directs the DEA to continue to work to ensure State and local law enforcement have access to this field test technology so they can more efficiently conduct their drug interdiction efforts at the local level. The Committee further directs the DEA to report back to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this act, and not less than every 6 months thereafter, until such time as testing kits are deployed to State and local law enforcement in the field.</p>
	<p><b>DEA.</b>—Up to \$10,000,000 may be used to reimburse States, units of local government, Indian tribal governments, other public entities, and multijurisdictional or regional consortia thereof for expenses incurred to clean up and safely dispose of substances associated with clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, conversion and extractions operations, or laboratories and processing operations for fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances which may present a danger to public health or environment.</p>	<p><b>Expanded Laboratory Capability in Order to Meet Testing Demands.</b>—The Committee remains concerned about the growing unmet capacity needed by DEA field offices for drug testing, particularly when division, district, and resident offices are not located in close proximity to a testing laboratory in the DEA Laboratory System. This issue is particularly problematic for areas of the country that have been hardest hit by increases in synthetic drugs, including fentanyl, as well as rural offices or those divisions that do not have their own laboratories, as agents must drive long distances to reach the nearest laboratory for testing. The Committee provides \$50,000,000 to begin the process of constructing a new laboratory, including other required needs like warehouse space, for the DEA’s New England Division, which has the highest need.</p>
<p><b>NIBN</b></p>	<p><b>National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN).</b>—The Committee is encouraged by the promise of improved crime gun intelligence and information sharing, and expects funding provided in this</p>	<p><b>National Integrated Ballistics Information Network [NIBIN].</b>— The Committee continues to support efforts to expand the use of NIBIN and to ensure all law enforcement agencies have access to NIBIN’s correlation services. The</p>



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	<p>bill will aid in interdicting crime guns and preventing gun trafficking through the NIBIN. The Committee continues to support efforts to expand the use of NIBIN and to ensure all law enforcement agencies have access to NIBIN’s correlation services and appreciates the investments being made by state and local partners to collect and share ballistics evidence across geographically separated law enforcement jurisdictions, and encourages ATF to continue to build on these investments. The Committee supports efforts to include both cartridge casings and bullets in the NIBIN program and encourages the Department to promote NIBIN as a critical forensic science tool and to identify opportunities to build partnerships with criminal justice training programs. Finally, the Committee encourages ATF to continue establishing a NIBIN presence on the Southwest border and looks forward to receiving the update on its efforts as described in House Report 115–704.</p>	<p>Committee appreciates the investments being made by State and local partners to collect and share ballistics evidence across geographically separated law enforcement jurisdictions and encourages ATF to continue to build on these investments. The Committee also supports efforts to include both cartridge casings and bullets in the NIBIN program. The Committee encourages the Department to promote NIBIN as a critical forensic science tool and to identify opportunities to build partnerships with criminal justice training programs.</p>
<p><b>National Center on Forensics</b></p>	<p><b><i>NATIONAL CENTER ON FORENSICS.</i></b>—The Committee supports the National Center on Forensics, through which NIJ partners with a State department of forensic science, an accredited university, and a State district attorneys association for the purpose of providing opportunities for medical students to train as deputy medical examiners/coroners in underserved rural areas; provides forensic science and legal training to district attorneys, judges, and law enforcement; and benefits current and future practitioners in the field</p>	<p><b><i>National Center on Forensics.</i></b>—The Committee provides \$4,000,000 for the establishment of a National Center on Forensics at an accredited university of higher education, with medical and law schools affiliated within the same university system, and in partnership with a full-service and independent State department of forensic science with a medical examiner function, that is located in the same State as the partner accredited university. The center is to provide medico-legal learning opportunities for medical students to train as deputy medical examiners/coroners in under- served rural areas; provide forensic science and legal training to district attorneys, judges, and law enforcement; and develop opportunities as appropriate among the designated partners to benefit current and future practitioners in the field.</p>

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National Bio-forensic Analysis Center		<p><b>National Bio-forensic Analysis Center.</b>—The Committee recognizes the need to maintain operations at the National Bio-forensic Analysis Center [NBFAC] and supports the work performed at NBFAC in furtherance of the FBI’s mission. The Committee supports the bio-forensic analysis and investigations performed at NBFAC and appreciates that the NBFAC currently operates under a cost-sharing memorandum with the Department of Homeland Security [DHS], in order for the FBI to maintain ongoing operations at this facility. The Committee supports \$20,800,000 for the FBI’s role at the NBFAC.</p>
OJP R&D		<p><b>OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS Research, Evaluation and Statistics</b></p> <p>The Committee’s recommendation provides \$81,000,000 for the Research, Evaluation and Statistics account. The recommendation is \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2020 enacted level and \$5,500,000 below the budget request.</p> <p>Funding in this account provides assistance in the areas of research, evaluation, statistics, hate crimes, DNA and forensics, criminal background checks, and gun safety technology, among others.</p>
<u>Grant Funding Policy</u>		<p><b>State and Local Law Enforcement</b></p> <p><b>Grant Funding Set-Asides.</b>—The Committee notes the significant number of reductions in grant funding for various permissible purposes, including training and technical assistance; research, evaluation, and statistics activities; and peer review; with set-asides ranging anywhere from 2 percent to 10 percent of total grant funding provided. The Committee directs the Department to continue providing a comprehensive report concurrently with the spending plan that details the total amount provided for each grant program in this act, the specific reductions taken, the purpose for those reductions, and the final use of those resources, including any transfers that may occur among Office of Justice Programs [OJP], Office on Violence Against Women [OVW], and COPS. The</p>

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		<p>Committee expects that the report will provide a complete analysis of the final amounts externally awarded and the amounts retained internally for other purposes.</p> <p><b>Grant Funds for Rural Areas.</b>—The Committee is concerned about the needs of rural areas, especially those communities with high crime rates. The Committee wants to ensure that the challenges encountered by the residents of these areas are being addressed through the equitable use of grant funding. The Committee reminds the Department to consider the unique needs of rural communities when making grant awards through the numerous programs funded by this bill.</p> <p><b>DOJ Grant Oversight.</b>—The Committee encourages DOJ to review its multi-year grant award processes and protocols to ensure grantees have fully complied with the rules of year-one funding before year-two funding is disbursed in multi-year grant awards. In addition, the Committee supports the Department’s efforts to create a high-risk designation for grantees, so as to increase fiscal responsibility throughout the grant making process. The Committee recommends that the Department promptly complete and publish an internal review of the program, to inform efforts to implement a high-risk grantee designation in other Federal agencies.</p> <p><b>Spending Plans.</b>—The Department shall submit to the Committee as part of its spending plan for State and Local Law Enforcement Activities a plan for the use of all funding administered by the National Institute of Justice [NIJ] and the Bureau of Justice Statistics [BJS], respectively, for approval by the Committee prior to the obligation of any such funds.</p>
		<p><b>Science Advisory Board.</b>—The Committee recognizes the contributions of OJP’s Science Advisory Board [Board] and encourages the re-establishment of the Board. The Board worked to provide extra-agency review of, and recommendations for, OJP’s research, statistics,</p>

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		<p>and grants program. The re-established Board should be comprised of scholars and practitioners in criminology, statistics, and sociology, as well as practitioners in the criminal and juvenile justice fields and should be tasked with ensuring the programs and activities of OJP are scientifically sound and pertinent to policy-makers and practitioners</p>
<p><b>COPS</b></p>		<p><b><i>Strengthening Police-Community Relations.</i></b>—  The Committee continues to recognize and support the important need for lasting collaborative relationships between local police and the public. Strong partnerships between the police and the communities they protect ensure that citizens’ civil rights are protected, foster ongoing open communication, improve officer safety, and reduce crime. The Committee provides \$150,000,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance and Community Oriented Policing Services [COPS] Office grant programs related to police-community relations, an increase of \$63,500,000, or 73.4 percent, above the fiscal year 2020 level. Details on these grant programs, including the Body-Worn Camera Partnership Program, as well as data collection efforts by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, are further described in the grants section of this explanatory statement.</p> <p>An additional \$5,000,000 is provided to the Department for the development and deployment of databases to track excessive use of force and officer misconduct, as required by section 3 of Executive Order 13929 (June 16, 2020). In developing these databases, the Department is directed to consult with State and local law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and advocacy groups, including those that advocate for the preservation of civil liberties and civil rights. The Department is directed to submit a plan for the use of these funds to the Committee for approval as part of the fiscal year 2021 spend plan process and to provide quarterly up- dates following the initial plan submission.</p> <p>The Committee remains supportive of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s [FBI] decision to make the National Incident-Based Reporting</p>

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		<p>System [NIBRS] data collection part of the overall Uniform Crime Reporting [UCR] Program. As NIBRS captures detailed crime incident data beyond what the UCR currently tracks, such as arrests and officer-involved shootings, this will further increase law enforcement transparency and accountability. According to the FBI, only 44 percent of the Nation’s law enforcement agencies currently provide UCR data. The FBI is directed to submit a status report to the Committee, within 30 days of enactment of this act, regarding this project and to provide updates every 180 days thereafter.</p>
<p><b>BYRNE</b></p>	<p><b><i>BYRNE JAG LANGUAGE</i></b>  The bill Prohibits any State or unit of local government from receiving any Byrne JAG program funds or COPS program funds, unless the United States Attorney General certifies that the jurisdiction satisfies all of the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintains adequate policies and procedures designed to eliminate racial profiling in law enforcement, and has eliminated any existing practices that permit or encourage racial profiling in law enforcement;</li> <li>2. Requires each law enforcement officer in the State or unit of local government to complete training programs on racial profiling, implicit bias, de-escalation, use of force and a duty to intervene in cases where another law enforcement officer is using excessive force against a civilian, and procedural justice;</li> <li>3. Has in effect a law that prohibits law enforcement officers from using a chokehold or carotid hold, consistent with the requirements as described in section 363 of H.R. 7120, The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, as passed by the House of Representatives on June 25, 2020;</li> </ol>	

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	<p>4. Has in effect a law that prohibits law enforcement officers from using less lethal force, consistent with the requirements as described in section 364 of H.R. 7120;</p> <p>5. Has in effect a law that prohibits law enforcement officers from using deadly force, consistent with the requirements as described in section 364 of H.R. 7120;</p> <p>6. Has in effect a law that prohibits the issuance of a “no- knock warrant” in a drug case, consistent with the requirements as described in section 362 of H.R. 7120;</p> <p>7. Has provided the United States Attorney General a law enforcement practice report that includes information on the race, ethnicity, age, and gender of the officers and employees of the law enforcement agency and of members of the public involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) traffic violation stops;</li> <li>(b) pedestrian stops;</li> <li>(c) frisk and body searches; and</li> <li>(d) instances where officers or employees of the law enforcement agency used deadly force, including detailed information on such instances.</li> </ul> <p>8. Has not entered into or renewed any contractual arrangement, including a collective bargaining agreement with a labor organization, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) would prevent the Attorney General from seeking or enforcing equitable or declaratory relief against a law enforcement agency engaging in a pattern or practice of unconstitutional misconduct, or</li> </ul>	

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	<p>(b) conflicts with any terms or conditions contained in a consent decree.</p> <p>The bill also</p> <p>*Prohibits any State or unit of local government from receiving any Byrne JAG program funds or COPS program funds, unless the United States Attorney General certifies that the jurisdiction (including all members of multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia applying for COPS funds) has in effect a law that makes it a criminal offense for any person acting under color of law to engage in a sexual act with an individual, including an individual who is under arrest, in detention, or otherwise in the actual custody of any law enforcement officer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires ten percent of each applicant’s Byrne JAG formula funds to be spent to develop and implement best practice devices and systems to eliminate racial profiling, including training to prevent racial profiling and to encourage more respectful interaction with the public, the acquisition and use of technology to facilitate the accurate collection and analysis of data, the development and acquisition of feedback systems and technologies that identify officers or units of officers engaged in, or at risk of engaging in, racial profiling or other mis- conduct, and the establishment and maintenance of an administrative complaint procedure or independent auditor program.</li> <li>• Requires five percent of each applicant’s Byrne JAG formula funds to be spent to assist law enforcement agencies of the applicant, including campus public safety departments, gain or maintain accreditation from certified</li> </ul>	

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	<p>law enforcement accreditation organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires five percent of each applicant’s Byrne JAG formula funds to be used to study and implement effective management, training, recruiting, hiring, and oversight standards and programs to promote effective community and problem-solving strategies for law enforcement agencies.</li> <li>• Requires five percent of each applicant’s Byrne JAG formula funds to be used to purchase or lease body-worn cameras for use by State, local, and tribal law enforcement officers; for expenses related to the implementation of a body-worn camera program in order to deter excessive force, improve accountability and transparency of use of force by law enforcement officers, and improve evidence collection; or to implement policies or procedures to be consistent with requirements as described in section 382 of H.R. 7120, as passed by the House of Representatives on June 25, 2020. The recommendation additionally includes \$27,500,000 for the competitive matching grant program for purchases of body-worn cameras for State, local and Tribal law enforcement.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>LE Accreditation and Standards</b></p>	<p><b><i>ACCREDITATION/STANDARDS/TRAINING.— (GENERAL LE)</i></b></p> <p>The Bill directs the Attorney General to take the lead in developing and implementing strong and uniform accreditation standards for Federal, State, Tribal, County, and local law enforcement, based on an analysis of existing accreditation standards and methodology development by law enforcement accreditation organizations nationwide, as well as the May 2015 recommendations of the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.</p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibits Justice Department funds from being made available for any law enforcement agency of any State or unit of local government unless the Attorney General has certified that such agency has begun or completed the process of obtaining accreditation from a certified law enforcement accreditation organization.</li> <li>• Directs the Attorney General to establish a program to improve training for all Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers, including the development of standards that can be applied in hiring and performance assessments, specifically aimed at racial profiling, implicit bias, and procedural justice, as well as the use of force and the duty for officers to intervene when witnessing the use of excessive force against civilians. The recommendation further directs the Attorney General to establish standards for such training to be adopted nationwide.</li> </ul>	
NIST	<p><b>Forensic Sciences.</b>—The Committee provides \$22,500,000 for forensic science research, \$3,700,000 above the fiscal year 2020 level. Within these funds, the Committee provides no less than \$3,150,000 to support the Organization of 22 Scientific Area Committees, and no less than \$1,200,000 to support technical merit evaluations previously funded by transfer from the Department.</p>	<p><b>Forensic Sciences.</b>—The Committee provides no less than the fiscal year 2020 amount for forensic science research. Additionally, the Committee provides \$3,150,000 to support the Organization of Scientific Area Committees and \$1,000,000 to support technical merit evaluations.</p>
		<p><b>Facial Recognition Vendor Test.</b>—The Committee encourages NIST to continue to meet growing demand for the Facial Recognition Vendor Test and to improve the test. The Committee is aware that this test is an important resource for government, commercial, and academic developers to assess the quality of their facial recognition technologies. As more companies and government users invest in this technology, the test will continue to be a critical step for responsible use. The Committee encourages NIST to: expand testing to include a more</p>

SUBJECT	House Appropriations	Senate Appropriations
		<p>diverse combination of demographics and environmental settings in the test data, develop educational material and work on image quality standards for data collection, expand testing to improve enhanced privacy technologies for better template protection, and expand existing testing infrastructure in support of these improvements.</p>
		<p><b><i>Training Officers of the Court.</i></b>—The Committee is aware that there is interest by members of the judiciary in receiving training by NIST in several research areas to help understand the science and concepts underlying the professional analyses of forensic experts. The Committee supports this idea and believes basic training for attorneys, practitioners, and organizations that make up the forensic sciences industrial base is also a worthwhile effort. The Committee directs NIST to prepare a plan for how to implement training for officers of the court, including staffing needs, necessary funding required, and possible topics of instruction and to submit this plan to the Committee no later than 90 days after enactment of this act</p>