



OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Office of Justice Programs Overview

Minnesota Department of Public Safety Local Government Convening
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Rebecca Rabb | Office of Justice Programs Deputy Director
April Bryant | Office of Justice Programs Community and Victim Specialist Director

- Provide leadership and resources to:
 - Reduce crime,
 - Support crime victims,
 - Improve the criminal justice system, and
 - Supports the work of the first-in-the-nation offices for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives and Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls.

OJP Functions and Units

- Crime Victim Reimbursement Program
- Crime Victim Justice Unit
- OJP Community and Victim Specialists
- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Housing Specialist
- ERPO Coordinator
- OJP Training & Communications
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office (MMIR)
- Office for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls (MMBWG)
- Minnesota Statistical Analysis Center (MNSAC)
- Grant Programs: Grant Administration

Crime Victim Reimbursement Program

- Government program that reimburses victims of violent crimes, and their family members, for many of their out-of-pocket expenses
- Covers medical, funeral, counseling, and lost wages
- Eligibility tied to MN crime reporting and cooperation
- Critical financial safety net for victims

Crime Victim Justice Unit

- Crime victim rights compliance office
- Ensures victims understand and exercise their rights
- Resolves complaints and criminal justice system issues
 - Has authority to investigate complaints about “elements of the criminal justice system”(except judges).
 - Can investigate complaints of statutory rights violations and victim mistreatment.
- Bridges victims and justice system

Community and Victim Specialists

- Brings information from community to help make changes or updates to Legislative policy. Ensuring the voice of the community is at the table for victims/survivors
- Support communities and victims after a violent crime or mass incident
- Crisis response- serve as a community liaison for OJP, assist Police Departments statewide to assist and help with crisis situations
- Resourcing- ensuring families/individuals of violent crime have information to navigate the complexities and/or resourcing to help in time of crisis
- Get OJP specific information out into community space
 - Hospitals, schools, prayer vigils, rec centers, boots on the ground/grass roots organizations, 1x1 with family

Domestic/Sexual Violence Survivors Housing Support

- Supports survivors of domestic/sexual violence
- Expands housing stability for survivors
- Builds system capacity
- Expands housing resources
- Supports grantees and providers through training and technical assistance

ERPO Coordinator

- Coordinates Statewide Implementation of the Extreme Risk Protection Order law
- Works with system partners
- Tracks data and trends

Training and Communications

- Coordinate training, technical assistance and special projects which address the needs of crime victim survivors, victim service providers, law enforcement and other criminal justice professionals.
- Direct biennial events including of the Office of Justice Programs Annual Conference on Crime and Victimization, the MN Victim Assistance Academy, assist with National Crime Victim Rights Week, as well as topic specific training and capacity building.
- Collaborate across divisions to develop, implement and support agency and department events including community engagement, outreach, and professional relationships.

- The Minnesota Statistical Analysis Center (MNSAC) serves as the research and evaluation unit for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Minnesota Department of Public Safety.
- The mission of MNSAC is to collect and analyze data relating to crime and the juvenile and criminal justice systems, provide accurate information and analysis on emerging and critical issues to a variety of audiences, and support informed policy decisions. MNSAC additionally supports OJP through research and evaluation consultation and technical assistance.

OJP Grant Programs

- **Crime Victim Services Grants.** OJP awards about \$62 million in grants to about 175 grantees to provide direct services and advocacy for victims of sexual assault, general crime, domestic violence and child abuse, including gun violence survivors and impacted families.
- **Justice and Community Grants.** OJP administers grant programs to prevent and control crime and improve the functioning of the criminal and juvenile justice systems. These grants serve as a catalyst for statewide approaches to reducing and preventing crime, violence and drug abuse through identifying causes, recommending policies and coordinating statewide and community strategies. This includes funding for crime prevention and intervention funding, sex trafficking investigations, violent crime enforcement teams, and federal initiatives.

Minnesota Office for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls

The Office for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls (MMBWG) was established in 2023 to reduce and end systemic neglect and violence faced by Black women and girls in Minnesota. Our goal is to honor the lives of those missing and murdered, elevate their stories, and work tirelessly to prevent future tragedies through education, awareness and transformative action.

- Analyze data concerning cases missing and murdered Black women and girls
- Providing resources and other services to individuals, families and community
- Engage with law enforcement, agencies, victims and other families across the state to build relationships with community (e.g., presentations, community events, attending other community meetings, workgroups)
- Case analysis and documentation
- Reduces systemic gaps that place Black women and girls at risk
- Provide technical assistance and build capacity for prevention strategies statewide.

Minnesota Office for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives

The Office of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) is part of a collaborative response to end the epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous relatives to support families, educate communities, and help shift public systems that have too often failed to protect Indigenous lives.

- Support and guide families through a Law Enforcement Investigation or Trial
- Connect families with services and/or resources
- Raise awareness of cases and the impact of the MMIR epidemic
- Offer training and technical assistance for law enforcement and professionals
- Violence prevention work with youth and adults
- Recommend policies and practices to mitigate the impacts of MMIR
- MMIR Reward Fund
- Toolkits for educators
- Search equipment and logistical guides for community



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Thank You!

Becky Rabb: Rebecca.Rabb@state.mn.us | 651-508-1442 (cell)

April Bryant: April.Bryant@state.mn.us | 651-983-3023 (cell)