



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, December 30, 2011
WWW.OJP.GOV

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WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF

BJA's Officer Safety Program Saves Lives – In the wake of recent violent attacks against law enforcement professionals, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced that since January 1, 2011 nearly 30 law enforcement and corrections officers were saved by protective vests. Of these saves, 16 officers were wearing life-saving vests purchased, in part, with funds awarded through the DOJ's Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program. Administered by DOJ's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the program provides critical resources to state, local and tribal jurisdictions to purchase bullet and stab-resistant body armor for sworn law enforcement and corrections officers. Since 1999, BVP funds have been awarded to more than 13,000 jurisdictions nationwide. In FY 2011, BJA reimbursed jurisdictions across the U.S over \$23 million, for a total of 79,684 bullet-and stab-resistant vests. The BVP awarded more than \$24 million to jurisdictions nationwide for the future purchase of body armor. A full list of BVP awards is available at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bvpbasi/.

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