

Testimony of

**Mannone A. Butler**

Executive Director

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**Proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget**

**Committee on the Judiciary**

**The Honorable Charles Allen, Chairman**

**Council of the District of Columbia**

Thursday, March 29, 2018

John A. Wilson Building

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20004

Chairman Allen, I am Mannone Butler, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). I am pleased to appear before you today to discuss the agency’s proposed fiscal year 2019 budget. I am joined by Kristy Love, CJCC’s Deputy Executive Director, and Leroy Clay, CJCC’s Agency Fiscal Officer.

CJCC, an independent agency which serves as a forum for the District’s local and federal justice system partners to improve public safety and the administration of justice in the District of Columbia, has three overarching strategic goals: (1) prevent and reduce violent crime; (2) limit criminal and juvenile justice exposure; and (3) improve the quality and availability of timely information and data. These goals are addressed through the agency’s Justice Information Sharing System (JUSTIS) efforts, Statistical Analysis Center’s (SAC) research and analysis, facilitation of criminal and juvenile justice interagency initiatives and training and technical assistance.

**FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET**

CJCC’s approved budget for fiscal year 2018 is $3,487,191 which supports a staff of 19 full-time employees and 1 part-time employee. Of the total budget, the local fund accounts for $1,237,782 (3.3 FTEs and Operating Costs); the federal payment accounts for $2,000,000 (14.9 FTEs, a part-time position, Program and Operating Costs); and intra-District funds account for $85,000 (.7 FTE). Earlier this month, the fiscal year 2018 federal payment was increased by $100,000, which will support JUSTIS interagency data exchange initiatives.

**FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL**

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2019 is $3,173,827.

Local Funding

The local fund represents $1,018,430 of the proposed budget and will support 3.3 FTEs, contractual services for JUSTIS operations, the Police-Community Survey mandated by the NEAR Act, and a personnel services adjustment (which will cover the 2% COLA authorized for FY 2019). Additional local funding is requested to complete the JUSTIS infrastructure upgrade, support development of the Justice Statistical Analysis Tool (JSAT), and cover the personnel expenditures for a public information specialist.

* JUSTIS is the District’s integrated justice information system, and it offers two functionalities—the Information Portal and the System-to-System Exchange. The Information Portal is a necessary tool that enables criminal justice agencies to view information from multiple sources without logging into multiple systems. The System-to-System Exchange allows users to receive data feeds from other criminal justice agencies, in near real time, and integrate that data into their own case management systems. In fiscal year 2018, CJCC received $370,000 to upgrade the software required for the system-to-system functionality and to comply with the new Microsoft licensing model. In fiscal year 2019, $150,000 is sought to: (a) complete the JUSTIS System-to-System Module upgrade ($85,000); and (b) cover the Microsoft Premier Services contract ($65,000) which supports the entire Microsoft infrastructure upon which JUSTIS operates, including the search engine.
* CJCC’s SAC is charged with and committed to conducting independent research and analysis of the District’s criminal and juvenile justice systems while applying the highest level of scientific rigor and objectivity in order to improve the administration of justice and enhance policy decision-making in the District. The number of requests that the SAC receives to conduct system-wide research continues to increase. Similarly, CJCC partner agencies have also been asked to conduct analysis that requires them to seek data from other agencies. To support the increasing need for timely, system-wide analysis, the CJCC embarked upon the development of JSAT which will facilitate the seamless and efficient interchange of information necessary to conduct regular system-wide analysis that will ultimately inform data-driven policies and practices. Over the past two years, CJCC received federal grant funding to, among other things, develop the prototype for the JSAT web platform that will enable authorized users to conduct data analysis and create visualizations to display the results of the analysis, and procure a legal consultant to develop the requisite agreements. Once fully implemented, JSAT will include an enterprise system for justice system researchers to access and develop customized queries and reports generated from system data. JSAT will also include a public facing portal that will enable the general public to view aggregate data from multiple criminal justice agencies. In FY 2018, CJCC will complete Phase I development of JSAT (development of the Minimum Viable Product of the interagency/enterprise functionality along with a baseline public facing portal) leveraging the federal resources. In FY 2019, CJCC is requesting $400,000 to cover Phase II development, which will involve a full rollout of the enterprise functionality and public facing portal for justice system-wide data and analysis.
* During fiscal year 2017, CJCC members supported the agency’s procurement of a communication consultant to, among other things, manage media and public information inquiries. CJCC engaged a consultant to support the agency’s communication strategies. In fiscal year 2018, OCP advised the agency that some of the services needed were inherently governmental. As a result, CJCC sought and received authorization to establish a part-time Public Affairs Specialist position. CJCC seeks $85,000 for FY 2019 to cover this part-time position.

Federal Payment

The proposed fiscal year 2019 federal payment is $1,900,000, which would support 15 full-time employees and non-personal costs associated with implementing CJCC’s JUSTIS, SAC, policy, and technical assistance priorities.

Intradistrict

Lastly, the proposed fiscal year 2019 budget includes an intra-district request for $105,397. These funds would support the juvenile justice compliance monitoring functions housed within the CJCC ($89,397) and the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) funded warrants exchange project ($16,000).

Chairman Allen, this concludes my testimony. Thank you for your ongoing leadership in and support of CJCC. I appreciate the opportunity to testify today about the agency’s operations and budget. I am prepared to respond to any questions you may have.