

## Office of Chief of Police



Chief of Police Maurice A. Robinson

June 28, 2021

Mayor Cory Mason  
City of Racine Common Council  
730 S Washington Ave  
Racine, WI 53403

RE: Committee Appearance Request to Apply for the 2022 Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant

Dear Mayor Mason & Members of the Common Council:

I respectfully request to appear before the Finance and Personnel Committee to seek approval to apply for the 2022 Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant (#00383) from the Federal Bureau of Justice.

This is a two-year grant with the purpose of replacing expired bulletproof vests for the Racine Police Department and will reimburse 50% of the cost of vests in 2022.

The grant is in the amount of \$57,600.00 with a required city match of \$57,600 which will be funded by the Racine Police Department General Fund.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maurice A. Robinson  
Chief of Police

MAR/cad



## **Grant Control Number Request**

**Today's Date:** 05/18/21

**Requestor:** Chief Maurice A. Robinson via Mary L Horn

**Requesting Dept:** Police Department

**Action Requested:** Permission to Apply and Accept

**Funding Agency:** Bureau of Justice

**Type of Agency:** Federal

**Project Duration:** Two Years

**Amount:** \$57,600

**Required City Match:** \$57,600

**How Will Match be Funded:** Racine Police General Fund

**Grant Title:** 2022 Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant

**Grant Funds Will Be Used For:** Replacing expired bulletproof vest for Racine Police Department

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**Grant Control Number Assigned: 00383**

## **Body Armor Grant**

IACP reports that more than 3,100 officers have survived potentially fatal and or disabling injuries because they were wearing body armor since 1987.

According to the BJA- in fiscal year 2012- body armor was directly attributable to saving the lives of 33 law enforcement officers and corrections officers in 20 different states.

Atlanta GA- June 6, 2016 – Atlanta officer shot in abdomen and the projectile was stopped by body armor he was wearing.

May 5, 2016 –Milwaukee WI- Police say a robbery suspect shot a Milwaukee police officer during a chase and was later fatally shot by other officers.

Milwaukee Police Chief Ed Flynn said that officers were dispatched for a report of a robbery at an auto parts store Thursday night, May 5, 2016. They arrived and saw a masked man leaving the store and a foot chase followed. During the chase, the suspect fired at the officers, striking one in the chest. The chief says that officer was saved by his body armor. The chase continued, and the suspect fired again. Flynn says two officers returned fire, striking the man. He was pronounced dead at the scene

Appleton WI May 28, 2016 - shoplifter stopped by Appleton Officer, the man and the officer became involved in a struggle over the officers handgun, the man wrestled the gun away (even as a good Samaritan intervened to help the officer). The man then shot the officer in the hip, the bystander in the chest and then committed suicide by shooting himself in the head.

Officers in Racine face the same dangers...every day. Body armor is a required piece of equipment for officer safety - just like a seatbelt.

Body armor is worn on a daily basis 8+ hours per day, on patrol, to court and other responsibilities for the life of the vest-normally five years – weight, comfort and fit are very important. (clothing or reading glasses).

This grant has required a "mandatory wear policy" for several years now. All officers working assignments in uniform and responding to calls for service must wear body armor.

Bureau of Justice Assistance

2017 - 16 vests

2018 - 9 vests

Estimated cost of \$594.70 ea. 25 total vests

\$14,867.75 total

50% funding from BJA - \$7,433.75 city funding required

Point Blank AX II ballistics, hi-lite carrier and soft trauma pad.

NIJ Level II vest-(Higher Velocity 9mm, .357 Magnum). This armor protects against .357 Magnum jacketed soft-point bullets with nominal masses of 10.2 g (158 gr.) impacting at a velocity of 425 m/s (1,395 ft/s) or less and against 9mm full-jacketed bullets with nominal velocities of 358 m/s (1,175 ft/s). It also protects against most other factory loads in caliber .357 Magnum and 9mm as well as the Level I and IIA threats. Level II body armor is heavier and more bulky than either Levels I or IIA. It is worn full time by officers seeking protection against higher velocity .357 Magnum and 9mm ammunition.



# BJA Fact Sheet

FS 000396 • UPDATED MAY 2014

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE • OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

DENISE E. O'DONNELL, DIRECTOR

## Bulletproof Vest Partnership Initiative

By Joseph Husted, BJA Policy Advisor, and  
Linda Hammond-Deckard, BJA Policy Advisor

### Program Overview

Enacted in 1998 by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act (Public Law 105-181) and reauthorized by the Bulletproof Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-517), the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program is a U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide critical resources to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the sole purpose of purchasing bullet-resistant body armor for sworn law enforcement officers. Administered by the Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) since 1999, BVP has awarded \$375 million to over 13,000 jurisdictions throughout the nation to assist them in purchasing more than 1.1 million bulletproof vests.<sup>1</sup>

Through the BVP Program, states, units of local government, and tribal governments are reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the cost of each unit of eligible body armor purchased for law enforcement officers.<sup>2</sup> Under current legislation, jurisdictions with fewer than 100,000 residents receive priority funding, up to 50 percent of the amount they request. Any remaining funds are distributed on a pro rata basis to jurisdictions with more than 100,000 residents. In order to qualify for this reimbursement, body armor must comply with the most current National Institute of Justice (NIJ) body armor standards, as of the date the body armor was ordered. Information pertaining to the current NIJ standards is available online at the following web page: [www.ojp.gov/nij/topics/technology/body-armor](http://www.ojp.gov/nij/topics/technology/body-armor).

The period for submitting applications for BVP funds normally begins during the first quarter of the calendar year.

<sup>1</sup> Office of Justice Programs, retrieved July 29, 2013 from [www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi](http://www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi).

<sup>2</sup> The term *law enforcement officer* refers to any officer, agent, or employee of a state, unit of local government, or federally recognized Indian tribe authorized by law or by a government agency to prevent, detect, or investigate any violation of criminal law, or to supervise criminal offenders. This encompasses full-time, part-time, and auxiliary personnel, whether paid or volunteer, and includes police officers, sheriffs' deputies, correctional officers, parole and probation officers, and pre-trial services officers.

<sup>3</sup> National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center, retrieved July 29, 2013 from [www.justnet.org/body\\_armor/index.html](http://www.justnet.org/body_armor/index.html).

<sup>4</sup> IACP/DuPont™ Kevlar® Survivors' Club®, retrieved July 29, 2013 from [www2.dupont.com/Kevlar/en\\_US/uses\\_apps/protection\\_vests/survivors\\_club.html](http://www2.dupont.com/Kevlar/en_US/uses_apps/protection_vests/survivors_club.html).

<sup>5</sup> Office of Justice Programs, retrieved July 29, 2013 from [www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi](http://www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi).

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

For 30 years, bullet-resistant body armor has protected law enforcement officers from ballistic and non-ballistic incidents.<sup>3</sup> As recorded by the IACP/DuPont™ Kevlar® Survivors' Club®, more than 3,000 officers have survived potentially fatal and/or disabling injuries because they were wearing body armor.<sup>4</sup> Based on data collected and recorded by Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) staff, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 33 law enforcement and corrections officers in 20 different states—an increase of 13.7 percent over FY 2011.<sup>5</sup>

As a partner with law enforcement agencies across the United States, BJA

*continued on p. 2*

### KEY POINTS

- The Bulletproof Vest Partnership initiative provides critical resources to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the sole purpose of purchasing body armor for sworn law enforcement officers.
- BVP reimburses jurisdictions for up to 50 percent of the cost of each unit of eligible body armor purchased for law enforcement officers.
- All purchased body armor must comply with the most current National Institute of Justice's body armor standards, available at [www.ojp.gov/nij/topics/technology/body-armor](http://www.ojp.gov/nij/topics/technology/body-armor).
- Applications for BVP funds must be submitted during the annual open application period.

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#### MESSAGE (cont.)

takes the issue of officer safety very seriously. The consistent wearing of body armor is similar to the use of seatbelts and should be given the same priority by every jurisdiction. *Body armor, like seatbelts, saves lives.* Beginning in FY 2011, in order to receive BVP funds, every law enforcement agency must have a written mandatory body armor wear policy. A focus on safety should be maintained at all levels within the organization and be reinforced through supervision, training, and policy. We all must strive to reduce preventable injuries and deaths.

We at BJA are honored to administer this program as a way to serve our public safety officers and keep them safe, just as they protect each of us every day.

#### KEY POINTS (cont.)

- Beginning in FY 2009, during the payment request process, jurisdictions may request, based on financial hardship, a waiver of the 50 percent match requirement. Jurisdictions that request the waiver must cite the nature of the financial hardship and maintain documentation pertaining to the hardship.
- To receive BVP funds, every law enforcement agency **must** implement a written mandatory body armor wear policy. A *mandatory wear concepts and issues paper* and a *model policy* are available by contacting the BVP Customer Support Center at [vests@usdoj.gov](mailto:vests@usdoj.gov) or toll free at 1-877-758-3787. Only jurisdictions or law enforcement agencies eligible for the BVP Program may receive the *model policy* and *issues paper*.
- More information about the BVP Program is available at [www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi](http://www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi).

#### CONTACT US

Bulletproof Vest Partnership Initiative  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
Office of Justice Programs  
810 Seventh Street NW.  
Washington, DC 20531  
Toll free: 1-877-758-3787  
E-mail: [vests@usdoj.gov](mailto:vests@usdoj.gov)  
Web site: [www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi](http://www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi)

## Application and Funding Process

The entire application-through-payment process for the BVP Program is managed via the online BVP system. To participate in BVP, state, local, and tribal jurisdictions must follow five steps:

- 1. Register as a Jurisdiction:** Jurisdictions that have never participated in BVP can register at any time throughout the year by contacting BVP Customer Support at 1-877-758-3787 or via e-mail at [vests@usdoj.gov](mailto:vests@usdoj.gov). Only jurisdictions are eligible to receive funding through the BVP Program. If an eligible jurisdiction (states, some counties, and larger local municipalities) has more than one law enforcement agency (LEA), each LEA should register in the BVP system and create its own application, and the aggregate application will be submitted by the jurisdiction on behalf of all of its LEAs. Once registered with the BVP Program, jurisdictions are responsible for regularly updating their own critical information.
- 2. Register and Associate a User ID:** BVP users must register for a new BVP account/user ID and associate it with an existing agency before agency details can be viewed. Users can register for the BVP Program at the following web site: <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/bvp/login/userRegistration.jsp>.
- 3. Submit Application:** For information on how to apply for funding, please e-mail [vests@usdoj.gov](mailto:vests@usdoj.gov). When submitting an application, jurisdictions must make sure to identify the total number, type, and projected cost of vests for all eligible, participating law enforcement officers. Applications may be submitted only during the annual, 6-week open application period.  
  
Funding decisions are made within 3 months after the application period closes. Applicants are notified via e-mail regarding approved funding levels. Unlike other payment programs, funds are not disbursed until the vests are received and the jurisdiction submits a request for payment through the BVP system.
- 4. Purchase Vests:** BVP funds may only be used to purchase vests that meet the current NIJ bullet- and stab-resistant body armor standards. Lists of vest models that meet the current NIJ standards are available at the following web pages: [www.justnet.org/body\\_armor/index.html](http://www.justnet.org/body_armor/index.html).

**Special Note:** BVP funds can be used to purchase only one vest per officer during the jurisdiction's stated replacement cycle. BVP funds may be used toward the purchase of tactical-level vests, but if a tactical-level vest is purchased for an officer, it must be the officer's primary vest; a regular-duty vest cannot be purchased for the same officer, during the same replacement cycle, using BVP funds.

- 5. Submit Receipt Information:** Once vests are received, jurisdictions can submit a request for payment through the BVP system at [www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi](http://www.ojp.gov/bvpbasi). Recipients have up to 2 years from the date of the award to submit payment requests. Once the payment request is submitted, BJA reviews the request for accuracy and processes payments on a monthly schedule.

\*FS-000396\*

## MANDATORY WEAR POLICY

Since 2011, the Department of Justice's BVP Program has included an application requirement to ensure that agencies receiving funding for reimbursement of body armor purchases have a written Mandatory Wear Policy for uniformed patrol officers in place. Your agency has applied for BVP funding and certified that a wear policy is in place. The Bureau of Justice Assistance requests that you provide a copy of your agency's Mandatory Wear Policy for vests which were reported.

### MANDATORY WEAR POLICY

[Mandatory Wear Policy File Upload](#)

### CURRENT UPLOADED MANDATORY WEAR POLICY

Upload Date	Upload User	Upload Comments	Action
04/23/2019 02:50:56 PM	396005582		<a href="#">View</a>

### PREVIOUSLY UPLOADED MANDATORY WEAR POLICIES

Upload Date	Upload User ↕	Upload Comments ↕	Action
10/12/2015 01:20:09 PM	396005582	Please find attached the BVP wear policy for the Racine Police Department.	<a href="#">View</a>
04/09/2015 12:58:57 PM	396005582		<a href="#">View</a>



City of Racine Police Department  
**Policy and Procedure**

**Number: 1304**

Subject: <b>Department Issued Body Armor</b>		
Date Issued: <b>11-07-03</b>	Effective Date: <b>05-01-11</b>	Revision Number: <b>2</b>

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Racine Police Department to provide body armor to all of its sworn members. The Racine Police Department will replace issued body armor at the end of its expected service life, according to manufacturer's specifications, or as needed due to damage. The Department strongly recommends all members wear body armor during any police related work outside of the Safety Building.

**DEFINITION:**

**Field Activities** – Tasks that could reasonably be expected to place members in situations where they would be required to act in an enforcement rather than administrative or support capacities. *Uniformed patrol assignments, Department sponsored overtime, special call in assignments and uniformed extra duty assignments constitute field activity.*

**PROCEDURE:**  
**SUPPORT**  
**SERVICES**  
**MANAGER:**

Maintain a current list of sworn department personnel and issue body armor or replace body armor on a rotational basis every five (5) years.

1. Maintain record of date body armor was issued to each sworn member of the department.
2. Maintain a schedule of replacement for body armor past its respective service life.
3. Replace body armor on an as need basis due to damage, etc.
4. Collect old body armor from Department personnel at time of replacement or at the time of the member's retirement. If a member elected to pay an upgrade on their old body armor, it still must be turned in.

**MEMBER:**

1. Maintain issued body armor in a clean and serviceable condition.
2. Members **shall** wear body armor when wearing the standard police uniform on duty and during uniformed extra duty employment.
3. All other members shall keep their body armor in a location that allows for immediate access (in vehicle versus locker room of Safety Building).
  - a. *Investigators and members assigned in plainclothes are required to wear body armor when engaged in Field Activities (arrests, traffic stops, executing search warrants or responding to calls for service).*
  - b. A supervisor may exempt a member engaged in undercover or plain clothes work if the wearing of body armor would compromise the member's work.
  - c. The Chief of Police may determine circumstances where the mandated use of body armor is inappropriate.
4. Surrender issued body armor at the time of its replacement or upon the member's retirement, termination or separation from the Department.
5. Report damage to body armor on Lost or Damaged Department Equipment form (RPD 44) and request repair or replacement in accordance with procedure # 1211 – Repair or Replacement of Department Owned Equipment.
6. Department members who choose to wear personally owned body armor may do so without being considered in violation of this policy, provided:
  - a. Personally owned body armor meets or exceeds current Department standards.
  - b. All other appropriate provisions of this policy are met.

**RELATED**  
**PROCEDURES:**

0110 – Reimbursement for Lost or Damaged Personal Property  
113- Part-Time Outside Employment  
1211 – Repair or Replacement of Department Owned Equipment  
1301 – Standard Police Uniform Specifications



1302 – Plain Clothes Dress Specifications  
Table of Contents

# SUBMIT APPLICATION



Application Profile



Application



NIJ Approved Vests



Submit Application

You have successfully submitted your application for funding for BVP approval.

The approval process may take several weeks from the application closing date. A confirmation email has been sent to Richard.Toeller@cityofracine.org. An email approval advisory will also be sent to Richard.Toeller@cityofracine.org when the program approvals are completed. Additionally, you may check the status of your application by selecting option , 'Application History', in the Jurisdiction's Handbook. Thank you for your continued patience.

For your reference, the summary data for your Application for Funding is listed below.

## SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION

**Jurisdiction:** RACINE CITY

**Application Id:** 21026613

**Status/Submission Date:** Sent for BVP Approval : 05/18/21

## APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Quantity	Extended Cost	Tax, S&H	Total Cost
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Quantity	Extended Cost	Tax, S&H	Total Cost
75	\$56,475.00	\$15.00	\$56,490.00

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<b>Maximum Allowable Funding from BVP:</b>	<b>\$28,245.00</b>
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\* Important: You can click on the 'Print Screen' button below to keep a copy for your records.

**PRINT SCREEN**