

**BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
CAPITAL CASE LITIGATION INITIATIVE
PERFORMANCE MEASURE QUESTIONNAIRE**

GRANT ACTIVITY

1. Was there **grant activity** during the reporting period? *There is grant activity when the grantee has obligated, expended, or drawn down grant funds to implement objectives proposed in the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)-approved grant application. If yes, the program becomes operational and should remain so until the grant closes out.*
- A. Yes.
- B. No. (If no, select from the following responses and answer the Semiannual Narrative Questions).

Reason(s) for No Grant Activity During the Reporting Period	Select All That Apply
In procurement.	☐
Project or budget not approved by agency, county, city, or state governing agency.	☐
Seeking subcontractors (Request for Proposal stage only).	☐
Waiting to hire project manager, additional staff, or coordinating staff.	☐
Paying for the program activities using outside funds.	☐
Administrative hold (e.g., court case pending).	☐
Still seeking budget approval from BJA.	☐
Waiting for partners or collaborators to complete agreements.	☐
Other.	☐
If other, please explain:	

CAPITAL PROSECUTION

This section asks about your program's activities in support of enhancing prosecutors' ability to effectively represent the public in state capital cases.

Prosecution Improvement Strategies

2. Select the strategies that, as of the last day of the reporting period, your program is planning to or currently implementing for prosecutors to effectively represent the public in state capital cases?
- A. Specialized training.
- B. Standards and qualifications.
- C. Performance assessments.
- D. Legal reforms.
- E. Assistance to families of murder victims.
- F. Systemically reviews of capital cases where postconviction DNA testing may be appropriate.

Specialized Training

3. Provide the total number of prosecutors available to provide representation in state capital cases as of the last day of the reporting period: _____
 - A. Of these, how many prosecutors attended state capital case training(s): _____
 - B. Provide a list of the primary training topics: _____

Case Outcomes

4. As a result of the BJA grant funds, report the following case outcomes since the beginning of the award:
 - A. Number of state capital cases prosecuted: _____
 - B. Resulted in acquittal: _____
 - C. Resulted in death sentence: _____
 - D. Resulted in life sentence: _____
 - E. Resulted in other sentence: _____
 - F. Cases still pending: _____

CAPITAL DEFENSE REPRESENTATION

This section asks about your program's activities in support of improving the quality of legal representation provided to indigent defendants in state capital cases.

Qualifications

5. As of the last day of the reporting period, does your program have a system for qualifying defense attorneys as determined by compliance with current state capital case requirements?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No. If no, describe the status of the system: _____
6. As of the last day of the reporting period, does your program have a system for identifying, appointing, and monitoring qualified representation for indigent defendants, in state capital cases.
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No. If no, describe the status of the system: _____
7. Provide the number of defense attorneys qualified and available to represent defendants in state capital cases as of the last day of the reporting period: _____

Specialized Training

8. Does your program have a system to sponsor and approve training activities?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No. If no, describe the status of the system: _____
9. How many sponsored and approved training activities were conducted during the reporting period: _____
10. Does your program have a system to monitor the performance and attendance of qualified state capital case defense attorneys at sponsored and approved trainings?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. No. If no, describe the status of the system: _____

REVISED NOVEMBER 2025

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11. How many attorneys completed state capital defense training during the reporting period: ____
- A. Provide a list of the primary training topics: _____

Case Outcomes

12. Since the beginning of the award, how many defendants were charged with an offense subject to capital punishment: ____
- A. Of these, how many were sentenced to death: ____
- B. How many were sentenced to life imprisonment: ____
- C. How many received other sentences: ____
13. Since the beginning of the award, how many defendants have been sentenced to death and are seeking appellate or collateral relief in state court: ____
- A. How many death-sentenced individuals were provided appellate representation: ____
- B. How many death sentences were vacated or reversed: ____
- C. How many new trials were ordered: ____
- D. How many sentences were reduced: ____
- E. How many appeals were denied: ____
- F. How many cases are still pending: ____
- G. Of the pending cases, how many are pending appeal: ____

POSTCONVICTION DNA CASE REVIEW

This section asks about review of cases in which a death sentence was imposed in order to identify cases in which postconviction DNA testing may be appropriate.

14. Since the beginning of the award, has your program reviewed cases for postconviction DNA testing eligibility?
- A. Yes.
- B. No. (If no, proceed to the Semiannual Narrative Questions).
15. Since the beginning of the award, how many cases have been reviewed for postconviction DNA testing: ____
- A. Of those, how many cases have been found appropriate for DNA testing: ____
- B. In how many cases has DNA testing been completed: ____
16. Provide the following results of your program's postconviction DNA case review, since the beginning of the award:
- A. Number of exonerations of innocent defendants: ____
- B. Number of identifications of perpetrators: ____
- C. Number of cases cleared or successfully prosecuted based on DNA results: ____
- D. Number of cases where testing confirmed original conviction: ____
- E. Number of cases with inconclusive DNA results: ____

SEMIANNUAL NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

In this module, you will consider the goals you hope to achieve with your funding. Your goals should align with your approved application and program budget. Once submitted, these goals should remain unchanged throughout the life of the award, unless discussed with your grant manager.

Set **S·M·A·R·T** goals to clarify the scope of your priorities.

- **Specific**
- **Measurable**
- **Achievable**
- **Relevant**
- **Time-bound**

If you have multiple goals, please provide updates on each one separately.

Please answer the following questions every semiannual reporting period (January and July of each year), based on your grant-funded activities. Please ensure your responses are complete, comprehensive, and specific to this award.

1. What were your accomplishments, including any progress made toward achieving your grant-funded program goals during the reporting period? *Your response should outline any actions executed by your agency in the overall implementation of your award, administrative or programmatic. Please ensure your program goals relate back to your approved application and program budget. Generally, you should describe more than one accomplishment.*

2. What challenges did you encounter, if any, within the reporting period that prevented you from reaching your goals or milestones?

3. Is there any assistance that BJA can provide to address any challenges identified in question 2?

- A. Yes. If yes, explain: _____
- B. No.

4. Are you on track to achieve the goals you hope to achieve with your grant funding, both fiscally and programmatically as outlined in your grant application? *(If no, please provide an explanation as to why your agency is not on-track and what your plans are to address the delay.)*

- A. Yes.
- B. No. If no, explain: _____

5. What major activities are planned for the next 6 months? *Your response should address the goals and objectives as outlined in the Program Narrative and provide an update on the planned activities in the next 6 months under each goal.*

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6. Based on your knowledge of the criminal justice field, are there any innovative programs or accomplishments that you would like to share with BJA?

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

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