



Response to Questions on the FY 2010 County's Line of Business & Schools Program Review Processes Fall 2008

Request By: Chairman Connolly

Question: Please provide a summary of how the Fairfax County State Criminal Alien Assistance Program works and the amount of funding the Office of the Sheriff has received through this program.

Response: The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) in conjunction with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security (DHS). SCAAP provides federal payments to states and localities that incurred correctional officer salary costs for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens with at least one felony or two misdemeanor convictions for violations of state or local law, and incarcerated for at least four consecutive days during the reporting period. Localities must apply for funds, and awards are based on the criteria stated above, the level of federal appropriation each year and the number of individual localities applying for reimbursement.

Due to the complicated documentation required for the SCAAP grant, beginning in January 2000, the County contracted with an outside consultant to work on behalf of the Office of Sheriff to procure this grant funding. Prior to using an outside consultant, the County received only a minimal amount of grant funding. For its part, the consultant is paid 22 percent of the grant award, as specified by the contract.

Fairfax County has received an award each year since FY 2001, but BJA has been inconsistent in the timing of payments. In FY 2003, payment was received for expenses incurred for two years and the FY 2005 payment was received late in FY 2004. It should be noted that the recently announced award was not included in the FY 2009 Adopted Budget Plan.

Fairfax SCAAP Awards

Fiscal Year	Amount Received/Pending
2001	\$ 2,075,460
2002	\$ 1,911,519
2003	\$ 2,660,889
2004	\$ 1,056,854
2005	\$ -
2006	\$ 725,311
2007	\$ 1,230,716
2008	\$ 1,372,583
2009	\$ 1,029,372 (recently announced)