



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BROOKE PINTO**  
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING  
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 106  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

April 29, 2026  
Director Jennifer Porter  
Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants  
899 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 4100  
Washington, DC 20002

**Via Email**

Dear Director Porter:

Please find enclosed pre-hearing budget oversight questions from the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety. **Please provide responses to these questions no later than close of business on Monday, May 4, 2026.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ella Hanson, Policy Advisor, at [ehanson@dccouncil.gov](mailto:ehanson@dccouncil.gov), or Eloy LaBrada, Deputy Committee Director, at [erodriguezlabrada@dccouncil.gov](mailto:erodriguezlabrada@dccouncil.gov).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BE PINTO".

Brooke Pinto  
Councilmember, Ward 2  
Chairwoman, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety  
Council of the District of Columbia

cc: Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs

Council Budget Office

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

## I. **Operating Budget**

### *General*

1. ***Please provide a crosswalk of all FTEs that were reclassified to a different activity in the FY 2027 proposed budget.***

OVSJG reclassified two existing positions within the agency that were listed as Victim Service Grant Management Specialist to Justice Grant Management Specialists. In FY26 OVSJG has worked to realign positions to ensure all grantee and agency needs are covered.

2. ***Please provide the position numbers for all positions eliminated in the proposed agency budget for FY 2027.***

None.

- a. Were all eliminated positions vacant? If not, which eliminated positions were filled?

Not applicable.

- b. Are these positions eliminated effective October 1, 2026, or were funds swept in the FY 2026 supplemental budget?

Not applicable.

3. ***Please provide the title, salary, fund source, Activity/Division, and hiring plan for all new FTEs proposed in the proposed FY 2027 budget for the agency.***

The newly added FTE is an interagency position, and it has already been filled.

4. ***Please provide a hiring plan for the following vacant positions:***

- a. Position 39139

- i. The Private Security Camera Coordinator position will be filled by the end of FY26 Q3.

- b. Position 00041110

- i. OVSJG plans to hire the special assistant in Q4 of FY26.

- c. Position 42594

- i. OVSJG is currently interviewing candidates for this role, and it will be filled by the end of Q3 or FY26.

- d. Position 00073531
  - i. OSVJG plans to hire an ACP Program Coordinator by the end of Q3 of FY26.
- e. Position 001 (Agency Fiscal Officer)
  - i. Plan to hire for the Agency Fiscal Officer position in Q4 of FY26.

**5. Regarding Special Purpose Revenue Funds, please provide the Committee with:**

- a. A detailed spending plan for FY 2026 and FY 2027 for unspent funds in:
  - i. SPR 1060356, Crime Victims Assistance Fund

For FY26 funds have been obligated to Children's National Medical Center, MedStar Washington Hospital Center, and Howard University Hospital in the amount of \$2,266,825. There is a balance in the current FY account of \$889,835 which will be reserved for FY 2027 awards. We will not know who the funds will be awarded to or the amount until we have completed the FY 2027 competitive RFA applicant reviews.

- b. Spending from the following SPRs in FY 2026, broken down by division/program, cost center, and account, and noting the programmatic initiative or service supported by the SPR fund dollars:
  - i. SPR 1060356, Crime Victims Assistance Fund (VAF)  
To date in FY26 the following expenditures have been applied to VAF:
    - MedStar Washington Hospital Center FY26 SANE, \$129,862.50
    - Children's National Medical Center, Response to Child and Adolescent Victimization, \$47,380.80

<b>Account Group (Parent Level 1) Description</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Program (Parent Level 2) Description</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Cost Center</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES & GRANTS	7141007	VICTIM SERVICES	800144	80185	\$177,243.30

- c. Where the following SPRs have any restrictions on usage of fund dollars or fund balance (for example, a requirement that the fund maintain a certain balance) not reflected in the establishing statute, please provide a summary of those restrictions:
  - i. SPR 1060356, Crime Victims Assistance Fund  
Restrictions are limited to those reflected in the establishing statute.

**6. *What measures has the agency utilized to reduce top leave code usage?***

In FY26 YTD, OVSJG's top leave code is Scheduled Annual leave. Due to the vicarious trauma and heaviness of staff workload, taking annual leave is encouraged for staff morale and the psychological safety of the team.

**7. *How much funding was allocated in the approved FY26 budget and how much is allocated for professional development for staff in FY 2027?***

The FY26 approved budget allocated \$15,497 for travel and training and no funds are currently allocated in the FY27 proposed budget.

**8. *What were the agency's main categories of underspending in FY 2024 and FY 2025?***

The agency's main category of underspending in FY24 and FY25 was due to subgrants to grantees.

***Access to Justice***

**9. *How will the \$27,299,000 cut to Access to Justice impact the legal services available to District residents in FY 2027?***

This is a question for the DC Bar Foundation since they have insight into the programs they administer. OVSJG funds other programs through our competitive RFA process that provide legal services to victims of crime and legal services will continue to be one of the program areas in our RFA.

**10. *How will the budget cuts to Access to Justice impact the DC Bar Foundation's ability to operate the DC Resource Bridge?***

We do not have insight into the DC Bar Foundation's DC Resource Bridge operations.

***Justice Grants***

**11. *How will the \$83,000 cut to Justice Grants impact the number and type of justice grants OVSJG will issue in FY 2027?***

The \$83,000 reduction to the Justice Grants (JG) budget is expected to require adjustments to the overall grant portfolio. While the specific impact will depend on final allocation decisions, the reduction may result in a lower total number of JG grants issued and/or a shift in the size, scope, or focus of individual awards. JG may need to prioritize grants categories, limit award amounts, or defer funding for lower-priority proposals to remain within the revised budget.

**12. The proposed budget adds 3 FTEs to manage Justice Grants. Why are these additional FTEs needed given that the overall budget for Justice Grants is being reduced?**

These are not new positions. The JG division was understaffed for over a year due to staff transition and the hiring freeze. This fiscal year, OVSJG has worked to realign the organizational chart to fulfill the staffing gaps in the JG team. Currently, all JG Grant Management Specialist roles are filled to manage the nine federal grants and local portfolio.

**13. In FY 2026, you've issued 32 justice grants and 77 victim services grants. Is this roughly the number of grants you expect to grant in Fy 2027?**

OVSJG has now issued 37 justice grants and 81 victim services grants. The JG division anticipates issuing the same number of awards. JG does intend to fund the Byrne SCIP program which will increase the number of justice grantees in FY27.

***Private Security Camera Program***

**14. How will the \$14,000 cut to the Private Security Camera Program impact the number of grants that will be issued? How many vouchers and rebates are estimated to not be issued in light of these cuts?**

OVSJG will continue to operate the PSCIP with the funds available. The number of vouchers and rebates varies based on the request.

**15. In FY 2024, \$207,000 was spent from the Private Security Camera Program, and in FY 2025, only \$61,000 was spent. In FY 2026, \$707,000 was allocated, and as of March 31st, only \$29,465 has been spent. Does OVSJG anticipate spending \$693,000 from this program in FY 2027?**

As of April 29th, the PSCIP has spent \$41,363.42. With the ongoing expansion of the program, operational needs and hiring for the PSCIP Program Coordinator OVSJG projects spending \$500,000 by the end of the fiscal year.

On March 11, 2025, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a Continuing Resolution that omitted the usual provision that allowed the local government of Washington, D.C., to spend under its local fiscal year (FY25) budget, and reverted the District of Columbia to spending under its previous FY24, which was roughly \$1 billion less. As a result, the District took significant steps to avoid the most severe cuts that would have directly impacted residents, businesses, and visitors. In FY25, the PSCIP implemented a program freeze that suspended the issuance of reimbursement and vouchers for half of the fiscal year. Notifications were sent to participants, an update was posted on the agency's website to inform potential applicants, and all marketing, as well as outreach efforts were

paused. These necessary actions have impacted on the number of participants enrolled during this reporting period.

*Victim Services*

***16. How will the \$5,596,000 and 2 FTEs cut to Victim Services impact the number and type of victim services grants OVSJG will issue in FY 2027?***

The cuts to FTEs were reclassifications and will not negatively affect the performance of the team. We will not know until we receive applications through the competitive RFA process if the type and number of victim services grants will be impacted.