

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Title I of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), is title I of Pub. L. 105-119, Nov. 26, 1997, 111 Stat. 2440. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), is Pub. L. 93-415, Sept. 7, 1974, 88 Stat. 1109. Title IV of the Act is classified generally to subchapter IV (§5771 et seq.) of chapter 72 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5601 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (b)(4)(B). Pub. L. 112-206 substituted “\$4,000,000” for “\$2,000,000”.

§ 17613. Purpose of ICAC task forces

The ICAC Task Force Program, and each State or local ICAC task force that is part of the national program of task forces, shall be dedicated toward—

(1) increasing the investigative capabilities of State and local law enforcement officers in the detection, investigation, and apprehension of Internet crimes against children offenses or offenders, including technology-facilitated child exploitation offenses;

(2) conducting proactive and reactive Internet crimes against children investigations;

(3) providing training and technical assistance to ICAC task forces and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in the areas of investigations, forensics, prosecution, community outreach, and capacity-building, using recognized experts to assist in the development and delivery of training programs;

(4) increasing the number of Internet crimes against children offenses being investigated and prosecuted in both Federal and State courts;

(5) creating a multiagency task force response to Internet crimes against children offenses within each State;

(6) participating in the Department of Justice’s Project Safe Childhood initiative, the purpose of which is to combat technology-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes against children;

(7) enhancing nationwide responses to Internet crimes against children offenses, including assisting other ICAC task forces, as well as other Federal, State, and local agencies with Internet crimes against children investigations and prosecutions;

(8) developing and delivering Internet crimes against children public awareness and prevention programs; and

(9) participating in such other activities, both proactive and reactive, that will enhance investigations and prosecutions of Internet crimes against children.

(Pub. L. 110-401, title I, §103, Oct. 13, 2008, 122 Stat. 4234.)

§ 17614. Duties and functions of task forces

Each State or local ICAC task force that is part of the national program of task forces shall—

(1) consist of State and local investigators, prosecutors, forensic specialists, and education specialists who are dedicated to addressing the goals of such task force;

(2) work consistently toward achieving the purposes described in section 17613 of this title;

(3) engage in proactive investigations, forensic examinations, and effective prosecutions of Internet crimes against children;

(4) provide forensic, preventive, and investigative assistance to parents, educators, prosecutors, law enforcement, and others concerned with Internet crimes against children;

(5) develop multijurisdictional, multiagency responses and partnerships to Internet crimes against children offenses through ongoing informational, administrative, and technological support to other State and local law enforcement agencies, as a means for such agencies to acquire the necessary knowledge, personnel, and specialized equipment to investigate and prosecute such offenses;

(6) participate in nationally coordinated investigations in any case in which the Attorney General determines such participation to be necessary, as permitted by the available resources of such task force;

(7) establish or adopt investigative and prosecution standards, consistent with established norms, to which such task force shall comply;

(8) investigate, and seek prosecution on, tips related to Internet crimes against children, including tips from Operation Fairplay, the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established in section 17615 of this title, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children’s CyberTipline, ICAC task forces, and other Federal, State, and local agencies, with priority being given to investigative leads that indicate the possibility of identifying or rescuing child victims, including investigative leads that indicate a likelihood of seriousness of offense or dangerousness to the community;

(9) develop procedures for handling seized evidence;

(10) maintain—

(A) such reports and records as are required under this subchapter; and

(B) such other reports and records as determined by the Attorney General; and

(11) seek to comply with national standards regarding the investigation and prosecution of Internet crimes against children, as set forth by the Attorney General, to the extent such standards are consistent with the law of the State where the task force is located.

(Pub. L. 110-401, title I, §104, Oct. 13, 2008, 122 Stat. 4235.)

§ 17615. National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System**(a) In general**

The Attorney General shall establish, consistent with all existing Federal laws relating to the protection of privacy, a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System. The system shall not be used to search for or obtain any

information that does not involve the use of the Internet to facilitate child exploitation.

(b) Intent of Congress

It is the purpose and intent of Congress that the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established in subsection (a) is intended to continue and build upon Operation Fairplay developed by the Wyoming Attorney General's office, which has established a secure, dynamic undercover infrastructure that has facilitated online law enforcement investigations of child exploitation, information sharing, and the capacity to collect and aggregate data on the extent of the problems of child exploitation.

(c) Purpose of system

The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established under subsection (a) shall be dedicated to assisting and supporting credentialed law enforcement agencies authorized to investigate child exploitation in accordance with Federal, State, local, and tribal laws, including by providing assistance and support to—

- (1) Federal agencies investigating and prosecuting child exploitation;
- (2) the ICAC Task Force Program established under section 17612 of this title;
- (3) State, local, and tribal agencies investigating and prosecuting child exploitation; and
- (4) foreign or international law enforcement agencies, subject to approval by the Attorney General.

(d) Cyber safe deconfliction and information sharing

The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established under subsection (a)—

- (1) shall be housed and maintained within the Department of Justice or a credentialed law enforcement agency;
- (2) shall be made available for a nominal charge to support credentialed law enforcement agencies in accordance with subsection (c); and
- (3) shall—
 - (A) allow Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies and ICAC task forces investigating and prosecuting child exploitation to contribute and access data for use in resolving case conflicts;
 - (B) provide, directly or in partnership with a credentialed law enforcement agency, a dynamic undercover infrastructure to facilitate online law enforcement investigations of child exploitation;
 - (C) facilitate the development of essential software and network capability for law enforcement participants; and
 - (D) provide software or direct hosting and support for online investigations of child exploitation activities, or, in the alternative, provide users with a secure connection to an alternative system that provides such capabilities, provided that the system is hosted within a governmental agency or a credentialed law enforcement agency.

(e) Collection and reporting of data

(1) In general

The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established under subsection (a) shall ensure the following:

(A) Real-time reporting

All child exploitation cases involving local child victims that are reasonably detectable using available software and data are, immediately upon their detection, made available to participating law enforcement agencies.

(B) High-priority suspects

Every 30 days, at minimum, the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System shall—

- (i) identify high-priority suspects, as such suspects are determined by indicators of seriousness of offense or dangerousness to the community or a potential local victim; and
- (ii) report all such identified high-priority suspects to participating law enforcement agencies.

(C) Annual reports

Any statistical data indicating the overall magnitude of child pornography trafficking and child exploitation in the United States and internationally is made available and included in the National Strategy, as is required under section 17611(c)(16) of this title.

(2) Rule of construction

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the ability of participating law enforcement agencies to disseminate investigative leads or statistical information in accordance with State and local laws.

(f) Mandatory requirements of network

The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System established under subsection (a) shall develop, deploy, and maintain an integrated technology and training program that provides—

- (1) a secure, online system for Federal law enforcement agencies, ICAC task forces, and other State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies for use in resolving case conflicts, as provided in subsection (d);
- (2) a secure system enabling online communication and collaboration by Federal law enforcement agencies, ICAC task forces, and other State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies regarding ongoing investigations, investigatory techniques, best practices, and any other relevant news and professional information;
- (3) a secure online data storage and analysis system for use by Federal law enforcement agencies, ICAC task forces, and other State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies;
- (4) secure connections or interaction with State and local law enforcement computer networks, consistent with reasonable and established security protocols and guidelines;
- (5) guidelines for use of the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System by Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies and ICAC task forces; and

(6) training and technical assistance on the use of the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System by Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies and ICAC task forces.

(g) National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System Steering Committee

The Attorney General shall establish a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System Steering Committee to provide guidance to the Network relating to the program under subsection (f), and to assist in the development of strategic plans for the System. The Steering Committee shall consist of 10 members with expertise in child exploitation prevention and interdiction prosecution, investigation, or prevention, including—

- (1) 3 representatives elected by the local directors of the ICAC task forces, such representatives shall represent different geographic regions of the country;
- (2) 1 representative of the Department of Justice Office of Information Services;
- (3) 1 representative from Operation Fairplay, currently hosted at the Wyoming Office of the Attorney General;
- (4) 1 representative from the law enforcement agency having primary responsibility for hosting and maintaining the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data System;
- (5) 1 representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images National Initiative or Regional Computer Forensic Lab program;
- (6) 1 representative of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Cyber Crimes Center;
- (7) 1 representative of the United States Postal Inspection Service; and
- (8) 1 representative of the Department of Justice.

(h) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2016, \$2,000,000 to carry out the provisions of this section.

(Pub. L. 110-401, title I, §105, Oct. 13, 2008, 122 Stat. 4236; Pub. L. 112-206, §8, Dec. 7, 2012, 126 Stat. 1493.)

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (e)(1)(B)(i). Pub. L. 112-206 struck out “the volume of suspected criminal activity or other” before “indicators of seriousness”.

§ 17616. ICAC grant program

(a) Establishment

(1) In general

The Attorney General is authorized to award grants to State and local ICAC task forces to assist in carrying out the duties and functions described under section 17614 of this title.

(2) Formula grants

(A) Development of formula

At least 75 percent of the total funds appropriated to carry out this section shall be available to award or otherwise distribute grants pursuant to a funding formula established by the Attorney General in accord-

ance with the requirements in subparagraph (B).

(B) Formula requirements

Any formula established by the Attorney General under subparagraph (A) shall—

- (i) ensure that each State or local ICAC task force shall, at a minimum, receive an amount equal to 0.5 percent of the funds available to award or otherwise distribute grants under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) take into consideration the following factors:

(I) The population of each State, as determined by the most recent decennial census performed by the Bureau of the Census.

(II) The number of investigative leads within the applicant's jurisdiction generated by Operation Fairplay, the ICAC Data Network, the CyberTipline, and other sources.

(III) The number of criminal cases related to Internet crimes against children referred to a task force for Federal, State, or local prosecution.

(IV) The number of successful prosecutions of child exploitation cases by a task force.

(V) The amount of training, technical assistance, and public education or outreach by a task force related to the prevention, investigation, or prosecution of child exploitation offenses.

(VI) Such other criteria as the Attorney General determines demonstrate the level of need for additional resources by a task force.

(3) Distribution of remaining funds based on need

(A) In general

Any funds remaining from the total funds appropriated to carry out this section after funds have been made available to award or otherwise distribute formula grants under paragraph (2)(A) shall be distributed to State and local ICAC task forces based upon need, as set forth by criteria established by the Attorney General. Such criteria shall include the factors under paragraph (2)(B)(ii).

(B) Matching requirement

A State or local ICAC task force shall contribute matching non-Federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of the amount of funds received by the State or local ICAC task force under subparagraph (A). A State or local ICAC task force that is not able or willing to contribute matching funds in accordance with this subparagraph shall not be eligible for funds under subparagraph (A).

(C) Waiver

The Attorney General may waive, in whole or in part, the matching requirement under subparagraph (B) if the State or local ICAC task force demonstrates good cause or financial hardship.

(b) Application

(1) In general

Each State or local ICAC task force seeking a grant under this section shall submit an ap-