



December 2022 | Vol. 33, No. 3

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## Grantee Spotlight: Puerto Rico Judicial Branch Electronic Court



During the pandemic, the [Puerto Rico Office of Courts Administration](#) (OCA) created an email account through which self-represented litigants (SRLs) seeking an emergency restraining order, a temporary detention or an involuntary admission order related to the Mental Health Code could file their petition to the Municipal Court. SRLs could download, complete, and submit the applicable form through the designated email account. SRLs were given the option of attending the hearing through video conference... [Read more](#)

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## In the News

### SJI Awards FY 2023 First Quarter Grants

The SJI Board of Directors met on December 5, 2022, to make decisions on quarterly [grant applications](#), and approved a total of 12 new grants. Three (3) [Strategic Initiatives Grants](#) were awarded: 1) the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) to support court self-assessment tools, demonstration sites, and broad dissemination for the [Enhanced Juvenile Justice Guidelines](#); 2) [Rulo Strategies](#), [National Association of Counties](#) (NACo), and [Praxis Consulting](#) for the [Courts and County Collaboration](#): Phase II; and 3) the [National Courts and Sciences Institute](#) to prepare and certify state court judges as resources on criminal, civil, and equitable cases involving data science and artificial intelligence... [Read more](#)

IAALS Releases New Allied Legal Professionals Landscape Report and Online Knowledge Center in an Effort to Increase Legal Options for the Public

IAALS, the [Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System at the University of Denver](#), just announced that it released its new [Allied Legal Professionals landscape report](#), along with an accompanying [online Knowledge Center](#). With generous support from the Sturm Family Foundation, this project seeks to help standardize a new tier of legal professionals nationally, with the goal of increasing the options for accessible and affordable legal help for the public... [Read more](#)

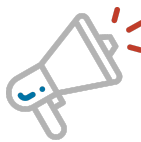
## Judicial Task Force Releases Final Report on State Courts' Response to Mental Illness

Funded by [State Justice Insititute](#), the Judicial Task Force releases the [final report](#) from the [National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness](#).

Continued collaboration between the courts, government agencies, mental health providers and others is critical to affect the systemic change needed to improve how courts respond to individuals with serious mental illness. That was the message echoed during Tuesday's release of the final report from the National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness. The virtual event drew about 900 participants, including court officials, behavioral health professionals, and members of the news media... [Read more](#)

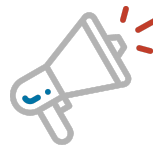
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## Announcements



### **New Monthly Virtual Meetings and Listserv for Court Grant Managers!**

Whether you're a seasoned expert or brand new to finding, managing, and/or reporting on grants for your court, SJI is pleased to announce a new resource to build on its [Funding Opportunities Toolkit](#) and related technical assistance. Beginning on January 17th, 2023, we will bring together court grant managers and court-affiliated grant writers for a **monthly 1-hour meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm EST**. Participation is restricted to court-based grants staff and court-affiliated grant writers. To request to participate, please send an email to: [fundingtoolkit@sjj.gov](mailto:fundingtoolkit@sjj.gov)



[The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) and the [Centers for](#)

[Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) are collaborating on a project aimed at developing educational resources for justice professionals about harm reduction strategies to reduce overdose deaths. This project is supported by BJA's [Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program](#). If you are a justice professional (e.g., law enforcement, prosecution, defense, court, jails, community supervision) and are interested in participating in a focus group to share your experiences, please submit your contact information via [this link](#) by December 19th, 2022.



The FY 2023 1st Quarter SJI Board meeting was held on December 5, 2022, at the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. The Board was joined by Maite Oronoz Rodríguez, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico.



Upcoming Webinar! *What Courts Need to Know About Youth Suicide Prevention* will be hosted by NCSC on December 14th, 2022, at 3:00PM EST. Suicide is now the second leading cause of death for young people aged 10-24. Everyone, including the courts, has a role in preventing suicide. Learn concrete strategies for courts to activate suicide prevention and to hear about resources including 988, the new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and the Mobile Response and Stabilization Services. Register [here](#).

If you are interested in sharing court related news or announcements in the SJI newsletter, please send all content to [contact@sjj.gov](mailto:contact@sjj.gov) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.



The next deadline to submit a grant application to SJI is **Feb 1, 2023**.

Learn more about [SJI grants](#) and [apply](#) today!



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