



## **JOINT NEWS RELEASE**

### **THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENTS OF JUSTICE, MILITARY AFFAIRS AND CORRECTIONS WELCOME EMPLOYEES OF THE FORMER OFFICE OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE**

For Immediate Release  
July 10, 2013

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MADISON — Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen, Major General Donald P. Dunbar, Adjutant General of the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs and Corrections Secretary Ed Wall welcome employees of the former Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) to their respective agencies. The 2013-2015 biennial budget signed by Governor Walker on June 30, 2013, eliminated the Office of Justice Assistance, thereby transferring its programs to the Department of Justice (DOJ), Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) and the Department of Corrections (DOC).

“I look forward to getting to work with our dedicated colleagues from the Office of Justice Assistance as this transition moves forward,” Attorney General Van Hollen said. “I’m thankful to the Governor and Legislature for their confidence in transferring these programs and responsibilities to Justice. We ‘exist to assist’ at Justice and OJA is now part of that commitment. For many years, these employees have provided an essential function to the people of this state and we are well-positioned to carry that work forward.”

“Wisconsin Emergency Management and the Wisconsin Homeland Security Council have worked closely with OJA over the years in implementing homeland security grants,” said Maj. Gen. Don Dunbar. “We pledge to continue the same focus on building local capabilities and statewide capacity, and to be transparent.”

“I’m glad that DOC can assist with carrying on the Sex Offender Apprehension and Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Task Force and the American Indian Reintegration Program. These programs are excellent resources that promote equality and safety, which benefits Wisconsin citizens,” DOC Secretary Ed Wall said.

Some of the programs going to the DOJ include: the Violence Against Women Act, or VAWA, Grant (to be administered by the Office of Crime Victim Services); Byrne/Justice Assistance Grants, or JAG (to be administered by the Division of Law Enforcement Services); WISCOM/Interoperability (to be administered by the Division of Law Enforcement Services); Wisconsin Justice Information Sharing (to be administered by the Division of Law Enforcement Services); and Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program (to be administered by the Division of Law Enforcement Services). More information about these and other programs is available at <http://oja.state.wi.us/>. About two dozen employees will move to the Risser Justice Center in downtown Madison by the end of this year.

The Homeland Security Grant Program will be transferred to Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM). Four employees will move to WEM to implement the program later this year. Information will be available at <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov>

Programs going to the DOC include: [the American Indian Reintegration Program](#) and the [SAFE Task Force](#).

For future inquiries related to any of these topics, please contact the following Public Information Officers:

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