United States Department of Justice
Annual Report to Congress on Implementation of Public Law 106-107
Enclosure 2

To comply with the requirements of The Federal Financial Assistance
Management Improvement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-107, "the Act"), the
United States Department of Justice (DOJ) hereby submits this annual report.
This report is intended to outline the DOJ specific efforts and progress in
implementing Public Law 106-107 thus far.

Participation in the Government-wide Streamlining and Grants.gov Efforts

The DOJ has designated numerous individuals to participate in both the P.L.
106-107 and the E-Grants initiatives. These individuals actively participate in the
three designated interagency work groups (Pre-Award, Post-Award, and Audit
Oversight) responsible for the streamlining and simplification process, as well as
several sub-groups and specially formed teams. The efforts and
accomplishments of these work groups are discussed in more depth in the
government-wide portion of this report (Enclosure 1).

Participation in the Pre-Award work group includes DOJ representation on both
the Discretionary and Mandatory subgroups. Under the Post-Award working
group, representatives from the DOJ sit on the Cost Principles and Reporting
subgroups. Involvement in the Reporting subgroup includes serving as the
Chairperson of the Financial Reports working group. DOJ staff also participate in
the Audit Oversight work group and its Sub-recipient Monitoring and Oversight
subgroup.

In addition to the three designated work groups, the DOJ has devoted staff to
several other specially formed teams. One such team was the Office of
Management and Budget's (OMB) Universal Identifier Task Force group that
analyzed the use of the Dun and Bradstreet numbering system as a means to
track the award and expenditure of Federal dollars throughout the grant life cycle.
This team also developed the OMB Policy outlining requirements for Federal
agencies during the implementation of the mandated numbering system.
Another team the DOJ has worked on is the Business Partner Network (BPN)
Data Analysis Team. This team has compared and analyzed the data elements
from the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) to those of the revised SF 424
application in order to recommend changes or additions to the CCR that will
make this registry useful for Grants.gov. At the request of OMB, DOJ staff
members have attended meetings of the Integrated Acquisition Environment
Team to provide input on grant policies to the General Services Administration
(GSA) and CCR to be used in their development of system requirements.

The DOJ has been a very active participant in the Grants.gov efforts. Monetary
support for the E-Grants initiative includes the commitment of $1.82 million for

fiscal years 2002-2004. In addition to monetary support, Justice representatives attend all E-grants Stakeholder and Inter-Agency Electronic Grants Committee (IAEGC) meetings and participate in focus group sessions. During the Spring of 2003, DOJ and several of its applicants participated in the Grants.gov APPLY Pilot. Additionally, the DOJ has had success in preliminary integration of Grants.gov with the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Grants Management System (GMS).

Internal Efforts to Create an Environment Conducive to Grants Streamlining and Simplification

General Approach

In anticipation of the changes ahead, the OJP Assistant Attorney General (AAG) issued a memorandum mandating that all funding announcements posted after January 31, 2003 be made through the electronic GMS. The DOJ has successfully achieved the goal stated in last year's report that all program offices would be processing applications through the electronic GMS in 2003.   In an effort to facilitate outreach within the agency, the OJP Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) established the Corporate User Group (CUG). The CUG, comprised of representatives from all program and support offices, meets bi-weekly to discuss current initiatives being undertaken to support E-Government. Also, the OJP OCIO has developed a monthly newsletter called the *OJP Technology News*, designed to keep OJP staff up to speed on all of the technology initiatives underway within the agency. The OJP Comptroller, the designated P.L. 106-107 policy official for the DOJ, briefs the OJP Leadership Team on all current and future initiatives of the grants streamlining and simplification process. The DOJ keeps grant recipients informed of any new requirements through its Regional Financial Management Seminars.

Preparing for the Recent and Coming Changes Affecting the Pre-Award Process

Electronic Synopsis

The DOJ's grant-making components have participated in the Grants.gov FIND pilot. The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) office has posted all COPS Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) on the Grants.gov FIND pilot. OJP discretionary grants that are appropriate for wide distribution are being synopsized on the Grants.gov FIND pilot. Potential grant applicants are being directed to the FIND site and are encouraged to register for e-mail notifications of funding opportunities.

Announcement Template

During the development phase of the standard announcement template, the DOJ program offices reviewed and provided input on the proposed format. The CUG has discussed the template and its future use. Adoption of the announcement template will be implemented for all announcements published after October 1, 2003. Guidance on the required use of the DUNS number has been provided to all program offices, as well as suggested language for immediate use in all future funding announcements.

The Grants.gov Portal and Electronic Applications

The OJP has participated in the Grants.gov APPLY pilot involving core data programs. Four applicants submitted applications using the portal. Both OJP and COPS have begun the preliminary implementation phase with the Grants.gov portal. It is expected that Grants.gov APPLY will be operational by October 1, 2003, and OJP will migrate to this system during FY 2004. The COPS office is currently modifying their business process to wholly adopt the SF-424 or the need to collect a COPS-specific data set (non-core) for use in the APPLY portion of Grants.gov. The GMS system in OJP will be modified so that receipt of grant applications from Grants.gov will be automated and will include the additional data fields such as the DUNS number.

The DOJ has also participated on the Business Partner Network (BPN) Data Analysis Team. This team has compared and analyzed the data elements from the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) to those of the revised SF 424 application in order to recommend changes or additions to the CCR that will make this registry useful for Grants.gov.

Other

- The OJP was awarded the E-Gov 2003 Explorer Award at the E-Gov 2003 Conference and Exposition in Washington D.C. for its Grants Management System for innovation in E-Government. Currently, the GMS processes 15,000 applications and 6,000 awards, totaling over $6 billion.

- The DOJ currently provides grantees with the ability to submit Progress Reports and, for one program office, sub-grant information on-line. Other program offices are developing requirements to receive sub-grant information online.

- By the end of fiscal year 2003, grant recipients will have the ability to submit financial reports electronically. This electronic report will compliment the financial report recently developed by the Post-Award work group.

- Current initiatives include expanding the OJP's GMS to provide complete end-to-end support for all phases of the grants life cycle. This expansion

includes adding award notification and acceptance, peer review, grant monitoring, grant adjustment notices, and close-out capabilities.

- The DOJ continues to make progress towards the use of ASAP.gov for payments. This includes developing an interface from our accounting system to ASAP as well as participating in User Acceptance Testing (UAT) of ASAP.gov.

- The DOJ components have redesigned their websites to ensure that useful, concise, and consistent information is always easy to locate. These enhancements have improved usability, functionality and customer satisfaction.