

EAD in connection with their re-registration for the new period of TPS, the Service, through this notice, is extending the validity of applicable EADs to December 5, 2000.

#### **Who Is Eligible To Receive an Automatic Extension of Employment Authorization?**

To be eligible for an automatic extension of employment authorization, an individual must be a national of Nicaragua (or an alien having no nationality who last habitually resided in Nicaragua) who previously applied for and received an EAD under the initial January 5, 1999 designation of Nicaragua for TPS. This automatic extension is limited to EADs bearing an expiration date of July 5, 2000 and the notation:

- “A-12” or “C-19” on the face of the card under “Category” for EADs issued on Form I-766; or,
- “274A.12(A)(12)” or “274A.12(C)(19)” on the face of the card under “Provision of Law” for EADs issued on Form I-688B.

#### **Does a Qualified Individual Have To Apply to the Service for the Automatic Extension to December 5, 2000 of His or Her TPS-Related EAD?**

No, the extension of the validity of the previously issued EADs to December 5, 2000 is automatic and there is no fee. However, as discussed below, qualified individuals are encouraged to retain a copy of this **Federal Register** notice for purposes of the employment verification process. Also, qualified individuals must re-register by July 5, 2000 in order to be eligible for a new EAD that is valid until July 5, 2001.

#### **What Documents Can a Qualified Individual Show to His or Her Employer as Proof of Employment Authorization and Identity When Completing the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9)?**

For completion of the Form I-9 at the time of hire or re-verification, qualified individuals who have received an extension of employment authorization by virtue of this **Federal Register** notice can present to their employer their TPS-related EAD as proof of valid employment authorization and identity until December 5, 2000. To minimize confusion over this extension at the time of hire or re-verification, qualified individuals may also present to their employer a copy of this **Federal Register** notice regarding the extension of employment authorization to December 5, 2000. In the alternative to presenting a TPS-related EAD, any legally acceptable document or combination of

documents listed in List A, List B, or List C of the Form I-9 may be presented as proof of identity and employment eligibility; it is the choice of the employee.

#### **How can Employers Determine Which EADs That Have Been Automatically Extended Through December 5, 2000 are Acceptable for Completion of the Form I-9?**

For the purposes of verifying identity and employment eligibility or re-verifying employment eligibility on the Form I-9 until December 5, 2000, employers of TPS Nicaraguan nationals (or aliens having no nationality who last habitually resided in Nicaragua) whose employment authorization has been automatically extended by this notice must accept an EAD that contains an expiration date of July 5, 2000 and that bears the notation:

- “A-12” or “C-19” on the face of the card under “Category” for EADs issued on Form I-766; or,
- “274A.12(A)(12)” or “274A.12(C)(19)” on the face of the card under “Provision of Law” for EADs issued on Form I-688B.

New EADs or extension stickers showing the December 5, 2000 expiration date will not be issued. Employers should not request proof of Nicaraguan citizenship. Employers presented with an EAD that has been extended by this **Federal Register** notice and that appears to be genuine and to relate to the employee should accept the document as a valid List A document and should not ask for additional I-19 documentation. This action by the Service through this **Federal Register** notice does not affect the right of an employee to present any legally acceptable document as proof of identity and eligibility for employment. Employers are reminded that the laws prohibiting unfair immigration-related employment practices remain in full force. Employers may call the Service's Office of Business Liaison Employer Hotline at 1-800-357-2099 to speak to a Service representative about this Notice. Employers can also call the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) Employer Hotline at 1-800-255-8155. Employees or applicants can call the OSC Employee Hotline at 1-800-255-7688 about the automatic extension. Does this notice affect any other portion of the May 11, 2000 **Federal Register** notice extending TPS designation for Nicaragua until July 5, 2001?

No. All other TPS requirements contained in the May 11, 2000, **Federal**

**Register** notice at 65 FR 30440 are accurate and remain in effect.

Dated: May 25, 2000.

**Doris Meissner,**

*Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

### **Bureau of Justice Statistics**

[OJP(BJS)-1272]

#### **Profiles of Criminal Justice Systems in Selected Countries**

**AGENCY:** Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this notice is to announce a solicitation for the preparation of criminal justice system profiles for five countries in Latin America, to be added to BJS's *World Factbook of Criminal Justice Systems*.

**DATES:** Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. EST on July 24, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Proposals should be mailed to Lea S. Gifford, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20531; Phone: (202) 307-0765 [This is not a toll-free number].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lea S. Gifford, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20531; Phone: (202) 307-0765 [This is not a toll-free number].

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Statutory Authority**

The grant awarded through this solicitation will be funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics consistent with its mandate under 42 U.S.C. 3732(c).

##### **Program Goals**

The purpose of this award is to support the development of descriptive criminal justice system profiles of individual countries written in English, designed to facilitate comparisons between the United States and the other Latin American countries profiled. These profiles will serve as a resource for program and policy development in Latin America, for researchers engaged in cross-country analysis, and for those examining the relationship between differing systems of justice and cross-national crime.

## Background

In the early 1990s, the Bureau of Justice Statistics funded a project entitled the *World Factbook of Criminal Justice Systems*. When the *Factbook* was first compiled, it consisted of articles on 42 countries, each written to a common template by someone fluent in the language of, and having detailed knowledge of, that country. These profiles are available on the BJS website at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/wfcj.htm>. This project was undertaken to improve the availability and comparability of descriptions of the criminal justice systems in various countries. Such descriptions are necessary to enable the appropriate collection and accurate analysis of crime and justice data from these countries, as well as to inform researchers and officials who plan to work with such countries with regard to their criminal justice operations.

## Scope of Work

The objectives of the proposed project are to expand the *World Factbook* template for maximum utility, update the pre-existing profile of the criminal justice system in Costa Rica accordingly, and to create criminal justice system profiles for four additional Latin American countries based on the revised template. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the current template which appears at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/ascii/wfbcjint.txt](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/ascii/wfbcjint.txt) and should carefully read the entire introduction as well as one or two of the profiles.

Phase One of the project will consist of collaborating with BJS and other interested parties in order to revise the template, so that resulting profiles will include all the information that a researcher or visitor would reasonably need to know to accurately analyze and understand crime and justice data. The grantee will then update the profile of Costa Rica according to the revised template. Upon completion of this task to BJS' satisfaction, the grantee will proceed to Phase Two.

Phase Two will consist of preparing new criminal justice system profiles for four Latin American countries (other than Costa Rica).

Preparation of the country profiles will require significant contact with persons at all stages of the criminal justice system within each country. It is strongly suggested, but not required, that the applicant collaborate with a local criminal justice researcher in each profiled country. The grantee is encouraged to propose which four Latin American countries will be profiled;

however BJS will make the final selection by considering the following factors: (1) Representation of the diversity of criminal justice systems in Latin America (Central America, Mexico, South America), (2) recent systemic changes that have policy relevance and merit documentation, (3) availability of reliable contacts and statistical data, and (4) importance as a source of transnational crime.

Statistical material for each country will be the latest available official data from the country. Sources and contacts made for each country will be carefully documented. The profiles should include descriptions of how statistics are collected and maintained in each country and how the public can access them. The profiles should incorporate important information from and/or reference similar country profiles, such as those provided by the CIA and the Library of Congress, and any country-specific sources of crime or criminal justice data.

## Products

The grantee will deliver to BJS Web-ready electronic versions of the template and all five country profiles on diskette in text file format. These files will be posted on the BJS Website and may be used for subsequent publications.

## Application and Award Process

An original and three (3) copies of a full proposal must be submitted with a Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance, Budget Detail Worksheet, OJP Forms 4000/3, and 4061/6. These forms can be obtained online [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/forms.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/forms.htm). In addition, fund recipients are required to comply with regulations designed to protect human subjects and ensure confidentiality of data. In accordance with 28 CFR Part 22, a Privacy Certificate must be submitted to BJS. Furthermore a Screening Sheet for Protection of Human Subjects must be completed prior to the award being issued. Questions regarding Protection of Human Subjects and/or privacy certificate requirements can be directed to the Human Subject Projection Officer (HPSO) at (202) 616-3282 [This is not a toll-free number].

Proposals must include both narrative description and a detailed budget. The narrative shall describe activities as discussed in the previous section. The budget shall contain detailed costs of personnel, travel, equipment, supplies and other expenses. The grant award will be in the form of a cooperative agreement. It is anticipated that the entire project can be completed for less than \$30,000.

## Timing

This award will be made for a period of 12 months. The first phase will be concluded and evaluated within two months. The second phase will commence upon the successful completion of the first phase and will be completed within 12 months of the award date.

## Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be reasonably proficient in the Spanish language. If applicants contemplate preparing each profile themselves, they need to have demonstrated fluency in speaking, reading, and writing both Spanish and English. Applicants should have a background in criminal justice. Knowledge of Latin American organizations and governmental structures, including political events which might influence the criminal justice system, and contacts with individuals in these countries will be extremely beneficial. Familiarity with Latin America through travel, residence, and/or study is highly desirable.

BJS will evaluate proposals based on (1) the credentials of the applicant (how experienced the applicant is in work related to criminal justice in Latin America), (2) the merit of the proposal (how the applicant intends to satisfy the needs described in this announcement), and (3) the competitiveness of the proposed budget.

**Jan M. Chaiken,**

*Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### Bureau of Justice Assistance

[OJP (BJA)—1278]

### Announcement of the Availability of the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program for FY2000

**AGENCY:** Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice.

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** Announcement of the availability of the Bureau of Justice Assistance State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) funding for FY2000.

**DATES:** Applications for payments may be made through a new Internet-based system beginning Thursday, June 1, 2000 and continuing until Monday, July 17, 2000.