

Cutting the Federal Budget Could have Broad Impact on Georgia Police and Sheriffs

With Congress in deficit reduction mode, large crime fighting grants that Georgia depends on could be on the chopping block. [The National Criminal Justice Association](#) is following the proposals, and one plan with dramatic implications comes from the [Heritage Foundation](#), a conservative think tank in Washington, D.C. This prominent group recommends eliminating “all Justice Department grants except those from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Institute of Justice, thereby empowering states to finance their own justice programs” for an annual savings of \$7.3 billion.”

If the [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) is eliminated, for example, Georgia could lose close to \$14 million in federal grants annually, including \$4.7 million that goes directly to police and sheriff departments across the state. And that’s just one program in jeopardy

Here’s a list of some of the other nationwide safety, youth development and education programs the Heritage Foundation wants to cut. The list and the language is from Heritage.org:

- \$298million Eliminate state grants for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities.
- \$7.3 billion Eliminate all Justice Department grants except those from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Institute of Justice, thereby empowering states to finance their own justice programs.
- \$30 million Eliminate the duplicative Office of National Drug Control Policy.
- \$26 million Reduce funding for the Justice

Department's Civil Rights Division by 20 percent because of its policy against race-neutral enforcement of the law.

- \$4 million Eliminate the State Justice Institute.
- \$4.3 billion Eliminate failed federal job training programs.
- \$2 billion Eliminate the ineffective Job Corps.
- \$86 million Eliminate National Science Foundation spending on elementary and secondary education.
- \$2.3 billion Eliminate Federal Communications Commission funding for school Internet service.