



Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Assistance



August 30, 2017

The Honorable Maureen O'Connor  
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio  
65 South Front Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3431

Dear Chief Justice O'Connor:

Thank you for submitting a letter of interest to participate in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI). The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), in partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew) and our technical assistance providers, carefully reviewed your letter of interest and conducted a detailed assessment of your state's readiness to engage in JRI.

We are pleased to inform you that both BJA and Pew have independently approved Ohio as a JRI state and it will receive intensive targeted technical assistance. As a JRI site, Ohio must identify the participants in your justice reinvestment working group, agree to milestones for a data collection and analysis strategy, and develop a plan for your announcement or kickoff of JRI. These steps will be critical to your ability to successfully launch the JRI process.

As a JRI state, you will receive intensive targeted technical assistance from the Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG Justice Center). The CSG Justice Center will assist with the data collection and analysis, engagement of criminal justice stakeholders, and formulation of research-based policy options. You will also be asked to report periodically on your progress in reaching established milestones, as well as reporting on performance and outcomes after you adopt and implement justice reinvestment policy options.

Marshall Clement, director of State Initiatives, will serve as your point of contact at the CSG Justice Center. Mr. Clement can be reached at [mclement@csg.org](mailto:mclement@csg.org) or 541-255-1599. He will be in touch shortly to discuss next steps. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us at any time to discuss your thoughts or questions about the progress or direction of the work.

Congratulations again on your acceptance into the JRI. We wish you all the best as you pursue this important work to protect public safety, hold individuals accountable, and control corrections costs.

Sincerely,

Tracey Trautman  
Acting Director  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Bureau of Justice Assistance

Sincerely,

Adam Gelb  
Director  
Public Safety Performance Project  
The Pew Charitable Trusts

cc: Marshall Clement, CSG Justice Center  
Chelsea Thomson, The Urban Institute