

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN VERTICAL PROSECUTION PROGRAM**  
**Component: 40.20.161**

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Violence Against Women Vertical Prosecution (VV) Program is supported with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors (S\*T\*O\*P) Formula Grant Program funds. The VAWA S\*T\*O\*P Formula Grant Program was authorized in 1994 through Title IV of the Violent Crime Control and Enforcement Act of 1994 and subsequent reauthorizations.

The VV Program is designed to improve the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women through a coordinated multidisciplinary response. This will be achieved through the creation or enhancement of a specialized unit, which focuses on the vertical prosecution of the defendant and services for the victim(s). Vertical prosecution is shown to improve conviction rates, reduce victim trauma and provide more consistent, appropriate sentencing.

The specialized unit shall consist of a highly qualified prosecutor and victim advocate. Recipients may also fund an investigator. Program staff will be required to have a reduced caseload, which will allow them to focus special effort on cases.

**FUNDS AWARDED**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Types of Funding</u>	<u>Total Funding</u>
FY 2014/15	Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) FFY 13	\$ 157,626
	VAWA FFY 14	\$ 2,184,244
FY 2015/16	VAWA FFY 13	\$ 330,364
	VAWA FFY 15	\$ 2,062,167
FY 2016/17	Unknown	

**2014/15 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

<u>1,058</u>	Number of cases vertically prosecuted.
<u>1,759</u>	Number of victims served.
<u>612</u>	Number of cases that resulted in a conviction.

**2015/16 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

Not Available

**2016/17 PERFORMANCE STATISTICS**

Not Applicable