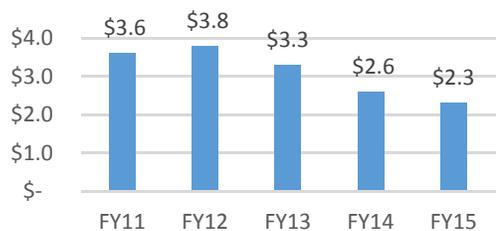


## OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

**Program Name:** Research, Development, and Evaluation Program (NIJ "Base") –  
**Activity:** *Developing Performance Standards and Testing Equipment to Meet the Requirements of Criminal Justice Agencies*

**Funding:** Annual average of \$3.1M  
Between FY 2011 and FY 2015, a total of \$15.6M was awarded.

Annual Obligations for  
*Developing Performance  
Standards and Testing Equipment  
Program* from NIJ "Base" Funds  
(\$ in millions)



### **Program Description**

**Purpose:** To ensure that the unique equipment used by criminal justice agencies is safe and reliable and performs according to established minimum and evidence-based standards.

Examples include body armor, metal detectors, license plate readers, and dash cams.

**Authorizing Legislation:** Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (sections 201 and 202); the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (sections 231-233).

**Administering Agency:** National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

**DOJ Strategic Objective 3.1:** Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with law enforcement agencies, organizations, prosecutors, and defenders through innovative leadership and programs

### **Program Goals:**

NIJ seeks to engage with other federal and private-sector standards development organizations to develop needed standards to:

1. Leverage investments;
2. Reduce the need for federal investment; and
3. Speed the introduction of established standards.

### **Accomplishments:**

- 40% reduction in police officer line of duty fatalities since 1975 due to NIJ's body armor compliance testing program.
- Approximately 150 models of body armor are tested annually, with follow-on inspection of approximately 80 models in the United States and abroad.
- More than 6,000 models of body armor have been tested since 1987.
- NIJ has published 59 performance standards since 1972, many of them -- such as standards for police body armor and the protective ensembles worn by bomb disposal technicians -- were the first of their kind in the world.
- A standard for electronic systems that monitor offenders under supervision in the community is currently being developed and is expected to be released by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. of FY2016.

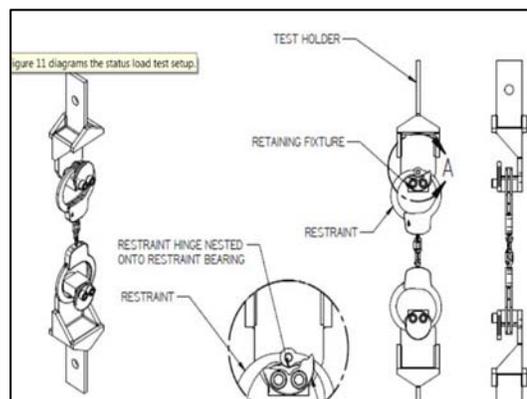


Image from [NIJ Standards for Wrist & Ankle Restraints](#)

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:** N/A

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** N/A

For additional information, please visit [NIJ Technology](#) or [NIJ Creating Standards](#).