

The Impact of Grants on Police Agencies

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This study examines grants and how they will effect budget and grant planning for the next five years. This research covered numerous questions on grants and their impact on municipal police agencies. A selected group of police agencies was targeted for this study. Grants to law enforcement agencies are becoming more and more common, raising questions, both new and old, about the impact of grants on police agencies. Federal, state, and private grants all have their role in the law enforcement community. Grants offer numerous benefits to agencies and the communities that they serve. With the implementation of new programs, partnerships, personnel, and the acquisition of equipment, grants have had a moderate to dramatic impact on how agencies police their communities. The disadvantages of grants, such as cumbersome implementation processes, monitoring, and reporting requirements, are more than offset by the advantages. Grant awards continue to grow in the law enforcement community, and police agencies will continue to turn to this alternate funding as long as governmental cutbacks and the "do more with less" mentality persists.