

FBI Analysis

by Grad Student User

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The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) ⁷is an agency formed for providing domestic ⁸intelligence and security services for the United States of America. It is the major Federal law enforcement agency that operates under the Jurisdiction of the United States Department of Justice. The FBI agency started as ⁵a force of Special Agents created in 1908 by Attorney General Charles Bonaparte during the era of President Theodore Roosevelt. The two had a shared conviction that expertise and efficiency, with no political connections, would serve the government best. However, this idea became valid when Theodore got into the presidency in 1901, and ⁵he appointed Bonaparte as the Attorney General. In 1908, they applied progressive philosophy by establishing a corps of Special Agents. These former secret service men and detectives are believed to be the forerunners of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In contemporary America, the FBI agency serves ⁷under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Justice. The FBI is also a well-known member of the United States Intelligence Community (Cordner, 2014). It offers investigative reports to both the director of general intelligence and the Attorney General. The FBI majorly serves by conducting U.S counterintelligence, counter-terrorism, and carrying out criminal investigations.

As evident, the FBI functions services are identical in regard to nation's security. The FBI is majorly a domestic agency; it maintains about 55 field offices in different cities in the context of the United States. It operates approximately 400 resident agencies in minor cities as well as areas across ¹⁴the United States. According to Pyrooz et al., (2016), "the United States has enjoyed the longest sustained decline in crime since the FBI began compiling crime statistics in the early 1930s." The agency remains to be standalone in enriching the nation's security bound to its mission statement "to protect as defend the United States against terrorism, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and foreign intelligence threats." It also aims to

² THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

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¹⁰ give leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, local, and international agencies and partners” (Department of Justice, 2018). It also serves to perform these obligations ¹ in a means that is responsive to the requirements of the public and is attached to the Constitution of the United States.

The FBI major priorities include protecting the civil rights, to combat public corruption at all levels, to upgrade technology to accomplish the FBI mission, address white-collar crime, address corruption and combat violent crime (Cordner, 2014). In addition to this, the FBI focuses on safeguarding the United States from threatening aspects of cyber-based attacks as well as high technology crimes. The core functions of the FBI agency include; to carry out professional and detailed investigations as well as ⁶ authorized intelligence collection to identify and counter the threat posed by domestic and international terrorists (Department of Justice, 2018). Additionally, ¹ the FBI functions by investigating violations of laws of the United States, locate and apprehend fugitives for violations and carrying out professional investigations to disrupt, identify, as well as dismantle current and the forthcoming criminal practices whose event are found to be harmful to the united states of America. The agency is also mandated to collect, investigate, and possibly assess the information in conjunction with intelligence planned by criminals.

The most recent budget request ¹³ of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is much interesting, and it connotes that the agency is fully dedicated to enhancing security measures within the United States. In the Financial Year ⁴ 2019 budget request, the FBI proposes a sum of \$8.92 billion to the direct authority to facilitate the FBI’s national security, criminal law enforcement as well as justice services missions (Department of Justice, 2018). Arguably, the FBI’s 2019 budget ⁴ request includes a total of \$8.87 billion for both salaries and expenses. This ¹¹ is believed to meet all the 34,600 positions (including special agents, intelligence analysts, as

well as professional staff) and \$51.9 million for construction. In addition to this, the FBI budget was established before the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 by making use of the prior year enacted level as a starting point. The FBI top authority believes that this FY budget request possibly sustains preceding year personnel as well as operational expenditures. This budget also incorporates a cancellation of \$148 million from the Criminal Justice Information Services automation fund available supplement balances. In comparison with the FY 2018 enacted budget, the FY 2019 budget request level offers an overall decrease of \$476 million, encompassing \$158 million decreases to the salaries and expenses account, and a \$318 million decrease in the FBI's construction account funding for core projects.

One of the FBI's major sources of revenue is the federal government. As outlined earlier, the ultimate function of the FCBI is to protect the United States from all threats and challenges posed by criminals. Thus, the federal government is mandated to provide adequate financial support for the agency to effectively serve the nation while ensuring the wellness of its population (Ewing et al., 2015). In this concern, the federal government through the Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS) defines the full cost of the FBI as the cost of resources consumed through the segment that leads to the output as well as supporting reposing services. In this regard, the government provides financial support for all services correlating with the FBI's mission statement (Lankford, 2016). Early this year, the federal government pledged \$1billion in funding to support the new FBI project to replace the current FBI headquarters.

Three major expenditures of the FBI budget allocations include; counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and cyber threats. Lankford, (2016), asserts that "America's "national gun culture" stands out as another double-edged feature that makes the country unique." This

provides a room for detailed FBI involvement in addressing such related risks through proper budgeting and enforcement. All these expenses are highly integral to the FBI's mission.

Arguably, addressing ³terrorist attacks remains to be the FBI's top priority and a leading aspect in the United States. In more concentric terms, the FCBI is determined to address terrorism by dealing with those who are inspired by terrorist propaganda, those whose are interested in forming affairs with foreign terrorist organizations by leaking information concerning security operations, and dealing with individuals who are commissioned by the terrorist groups to commit certain crimes. In this setting, the FBI's primary intent is to relentlessly campaign against all foreign threats that can harm that the United States and it interests. The FBI aims to collect data and confront all the challenges, basing its strength on ¹²federal, state, local as well as international partnerships. In the FY 2019, the FCBI request is comprised of 86 positions and \$8.4 million to addressing the rising demand for physical surveillance support. This includes funds for acquiring all the essential tools in detecting, disrupting as well as deterring all plans of terrorism while collecting intelligence on those susceptible to doing harm to the nation.

The other expenditure is counterintelligence. Currently, the U.S encounters growing threats from the hostile foreign intelligence agencies. As evident, the foreign intelligence officers have been found to seek access to nations ³and military secrets, commercial trade secrets, intellectual property and research and development, and insider information. The FY 2019 the FBI budget includes 92 positions in conjunction with \$20 million to address all the issues related to foreign intelligence threats.

In addition to that, the cyber threat is core expenditure for the FBI agent. In this context, the FBI analysts, agents, and computer professionals are dedicated to using technical competencies and investigative approaches to fight the extent of cyber threats fully. In the FY

2019 budget request, the FBI seeks to enhance 37 positions with \$44.5 million to fund all these efforts.

In reflection to this, the FBI agency expenditures are likely to impact the federal government as its main source of revenue. As mentioned above, the FBI requires \$8.92 billion to support its expenditures in the Fiscal Year 2019. This value is literally higher, and it will subject the federal government into financial tensions. It will increase the aggregate federal government spending. Arguably, the government will be required to increase federal tax rates as its prime source of revenue. The federal government will also be required to offer additional donations to complement the FBI's shocking budget in the effort to uncover its planned projects. From another point of view, the FBI proposed request might subject the government into foreign debts by borrowing some cash to meet the budget approvals (Pyrooz et al., 2016). More on this, the budget request might force the federal government to ration its expenditures in the sectors in the effort to support the FBI agency core functions. The key players involved include the federal government, state governments, local governments, international communities, and partners.

With the influence of the political and public policies, the FY 2019 request may be subject to change. Though the FBI plans to offer highly dignified service to the United States, political bodies might see it as a threat to the wellness of the economy, and hence make it hard to fund the agency. In this concern, political entities may pressurize the FBI budget cuts for acute funding. This might also demand a change in the FBI fiscal policies.

The FBI agency must complement its practices with financial analysis alternatives. It should seek additional donations from well-wishers (Pyrooz et al., 2016). This agency can also get some revenue from borrowing, getting loans from banks, and leasing and lending property. It

is also recommendable for the FBI to venture deep in business investments which will facilitate retaining profits. The agency can also get revenue from fines from the convicted criminals.

In summation, it is apparent that the Federal Bureau of Investigations is a sensitive and important agency not only to the United States but also to the entire world. The agency is highly committed to addressing issues threatening the wellness of the United States. This is by adhering to risks associated with terrorism, cyber threats, and corruption among others. It is therefore good for the Federal government to complement the FBI practices with adequate financial support to enhance core functions. By so doing, the FBI will be able to address all the evident security threats.

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