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## **LOCAL COURTHOUSE SAFETY ACT OF 2013 (S. 445/ H.R. 953)**

### **FACT SHEET**

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- Amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to permit the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance to train employees of state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies how to respond to violent encounters.
- Amends the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 to include courthouse security as a factor in the national assistance program when funding state courts and related national and non-profit organizations.
- Allows state and local courts and related national and non-profit organizations to use Institute grants to improve courthouse safety and security.
- Requires the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance, should (s)he provide a training program specifically designed to train participants on courthouse security issues, to give preference for admission into such program to employees of jurisdictions that have magnetometers available for use at their courthouses.
- Administrator of General Services is directed to ensure that those state and local courthouses with inadequate security equipment have the opportunity to request surplus security equipment. Priority for receiving equipment is given to courthouses that have no security equipment to begin with.