



Justice Resource UPDATE

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS Innovation • Partnerships • Safer Neighborhoods

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Medal of Valor Recipients Honored

On December 12, 2007, President George W. Bush and Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey awarded five distinguished public safety officers the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor during a ceremony in the Oval Office of the White House.

The Medal of Valor is the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer honoring heroic action performed above and beyond the call of duty. The five honorees are from the Nation's law enforcement, firefighting, and emergency services.

"In a line of work where courageous acts can be part of one's daily duties, these extraordinary men set themselves apart through deeds of incredible self-sacrifice," said Attorney General Mukasey. "The honor we confer upon these brave individuals with the Medal of Valor reflects the gratitude of an entire Nation."

The recipients of the 2005–2006 Medal of Valor are Kevin Howland of Citrus Heights, California; David Loving of Mechanicsville, Virginia; Todd Myers of Simsbury, Connecticut; Brian Rothell of Richmond, Virginia; and Kirk Van Orsdel of Hemet, California. (Mr. Rothell was not able to attend and is not in the photo on the left.)

The Medal of Valor, authorized by the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, is awarded by the President of the United States to public safety officers cited by the Attorney General. Public safety officers are nominated by the chief executives of their employing agencies and recommended by the Medal of Valor Review Board.

Additional information about the award, the design and image of the Medal of Valor, the board members, and the nomination process can be found on the Office of Justice Programs Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov.



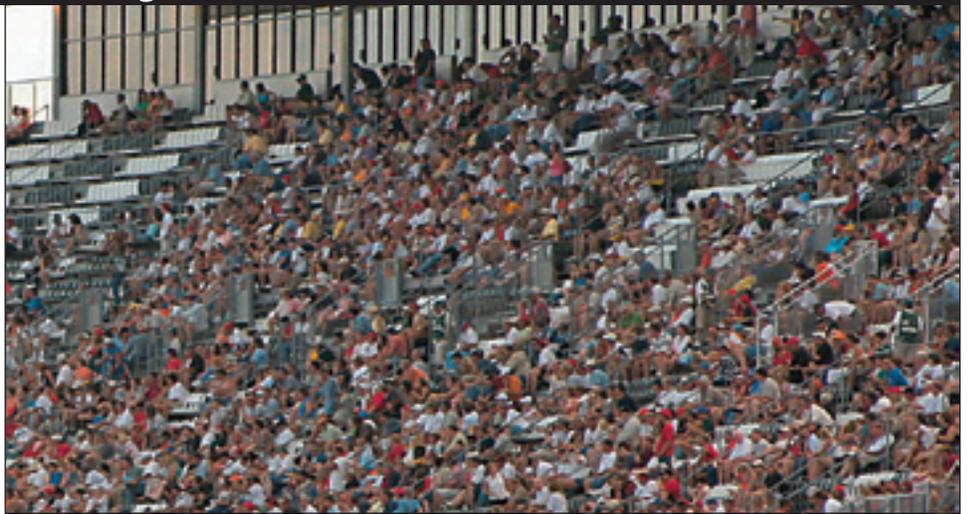
COPS publishes security guidelines for major special events

In the pre-9/11 environment, law enforcement's involvement in planning for the safety and security of public events focused on crowd control, disorderly conduct, vandalism, traffic management, and, in some cases, escorts and protection for VIPs. Law enforcement also had to plan for the political demonstrations that sometimes occurred outside at the locations of public events. After 9/11, these issues are still important, but law enforcement also must address new challenges, including possible acts of terrorism and natural disasters.

To help law enforcement agencies respond to these challenges, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has published *Planning and Managing Security for Major Special Events: Guidelines for Law Enforcement* and a companion CD-ROM that contains a training curriculum.

The guidelines note that law enforcement must consider several factors that ensure public safety and at the same time allow the event to be enjoyable and well attended. First, agencies should establish effective, but temporary, organizational arrangements, management structures, and methods of communication. Communication is especially critical because a well-coordinated communications system will enable the various entities to talk to each other. The system, however, must be accompanied by a communications plan that keeps everyone in the loop, from the preplanning stage through the postevent activities.

Training specific to event security is also critical. Law enforcement personnel must be prepared to handle a broad array of situations, ranging from a violent protest to an ordinary incident such as drunkenness, in addition to the many details involved when providing security at an event. They also must consider how security measures, including street closings or searches, would affect the event, yet respect individuals' constitutional rights such as freedom of speech or freedom of assembly. Finally, while ensuring the safety of the public event, agencies must ensure



that the rest of their jurisdiction is not short-changed by law enforcement services.

Another important factor is that agencies must think about planning for the security of major special events from a community policing perspective that involves problem solving and partnership building. Local law enforcement agencies that practice community policing will have in place open communication and partnerships with community organizations and citizens for identifying possible problems and creating a climate of safety long before a major public event occurs.

A training program for safety at public events

This CD-ROM contains lesson plans, slides, and reference materials for a 14-module training program that will guide State and local law enforcement administrators in planning and managing security for major special events in their communities. The CD-ROM includes the publication *Planning and Managing Security for Major Special Events: Guidelines for Law Enforcement*.

Planning and Managing Security for Major Special Events: Guidelines for Law Enforcement, Training Curriculum and Materials CD-ROM

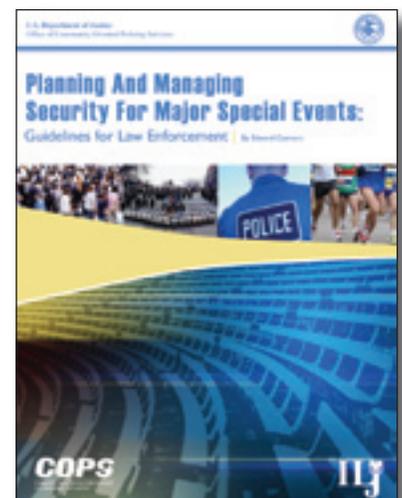
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=442>

Safety and security at major public events

In response to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, the COPS Office and the Institute for Law and Justice submitted a report to Congress on best practices developed by law enforcement for securing special public events of national or regional importance. This report is the first comprehensive source of information covering all aspects of pre-event planning, security needs during an event, and postevent activities.

Planning And Managing Security For Major Special Events: Guidelines for Law Enforcement, 128 pages

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=441>



Grants expand ICAC task forces to all 50 States

In September 2007, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) awarded more than \$3 million to 13 State and local law enforcement agencies to support the development of task forces to combat Internet crimes against children. As a result of these new grants, which were made under the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force program, all 50 States will have an ICAC task force, creating a seamless network of 59 task forces nationwide. New ICAC grantees include law enforcement agencies in Alaska, California, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, and West Virginia. In fiscal year 2007, OJJDP awarded approximately \$17 million to fund ICAC task forces, including the new task forces.

In fiscal year 2007 alone, ICAC investigations led to more than 2,350 arrests and nearly 10,500 forensic examinations. Nationwide, from October 1, 2006, to August 31, 2007, ICAC task forces received more than 18,000 complaints of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation, which includes the possession, distribution, and creation of child pornography as well as attempts by individuals to lure children and travel to meet them for sexual encounters. Investigations initiated from complaints led to more than 4,700 case referrals to non-ICAC law enforcement agencies and training for more than 25,000 law enforcement officers and prosecutors.



NamUs will help identify missing and unidentified persons

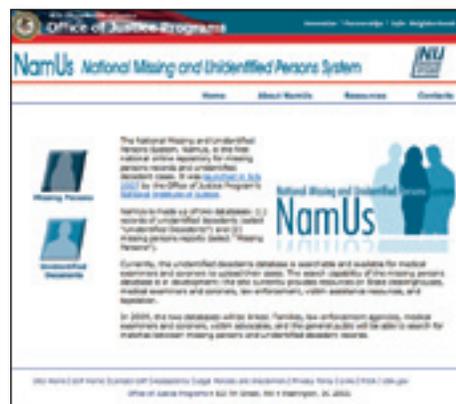
Tens of thousands of people vanish under suspicious circumstances each year, and as many as 100,000 persons are missing in the United States each day. At the same time, medical examiners and coroners' offices struggle to identify the human remains that law enforcement officers bring them.

The field is a step closer to being able to match descriptions of missing persons with descriptions of unidentified human remains more easily and quickly since July 2007, when the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) launched a major effort called the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).

NamUs consists of two databases: (1) records of unidentified decedents and (2) reports of missing persons. Medical examiners and coroners are now entering data about human remains in the unidentified decedents database. To ensure the integrity of the database, only medical examiners and coroners can enter data. Anyone (including the general public) can search the database, although access to different levels of information varies. The missing persons database is in development.

NIJ plans to have enough information in the two databases by 2009 so they can be linked. Eventually, searches of the system will result in matches that will help law enforcement, medical examiners and coroners, victim advocates, and the general public bring closure to cases involving missing persons.

The NamUs Web site (www.namus.gov) provides resources on State clearinghouses of missing persons, locations of medical examiners and coroners, and legislation.



OJP schedules CART training for 2008

Child Abduction Response Teams (CARTs) respond quickly to incidents of missing and abducted children. The teams include regional law enforcement investigators, forensic experts, AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) Alert coordinators, search and rescue professionals, policy-makers, crime intelligence analysts, victim service providers, and other interagency resources. CARTs can be used for all missing children's cases and can be deployed as part of an AMBER Alert, or when a child is abducted or missing but the abduction/disappearance does not meet the AMBER Alert criteria. CARTs can also be used to recover runaway children if they are younger than 18 years old and are in danger.

Established by members of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Orlando Regional Operations Center in early 2005, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) launched the national CART Initiative in November 2005. The national initiative is funded through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP); presently, there are 95 teams throughout the country. Each region develops its CART program to best suit its demographic and geographic needs. The regional CART training calls for a review of agencies' existing policies and practices and how interagency and regional cooperation on missing and abducted children's cases can be improved. OJJDP held nine CART trainings in 2007. At present, five CART trainings are scheduled for 2008.

More information about the trainings is available at <http://www.amber-net.org/>.



Motor vehicle title system announced

The Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Major Theft Unit have partnered with other organizations in law enforcement and consumer protection to make the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) a reality, with all 50 States participating.

NMVTIS provides an electronic means to verify and exchange titling, brand, and theft data among motor vehicle administrators, law enforcement officials, prospective purchasers, and insurance carriers. It allows State titling agencies to verify the validity of ownership documents before they issue new titles and also checks to see if vehicles are reported stolen; if so, the States will not issue the new titles.

Before NMVTIS, a thief could steal a car, take it over the State line, and obtain a valid title by presenting fraudulent ownership documents. Alternatively, a thief could steal a car, switch the vehicle identification number plate with a plate from a junked car, and obtain a valid title for the stolen car. These activities were possible because States had no immediate, reliable way to validate the information on the ownership documents before issuing the new title. These techniques, which exploit the fact that State title information systems are not connected to one another, pave the way for major crimes that can have an impact on a State, a region, or the Nation.

Visit the NMVTIS Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/nmvtis.html> to learn more.



SMART Office hosts national tribal symposium on sex offender management and accountability

On November 30, 2007, the Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) Office hosted the first National Tribal Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability. More than 400 tribal leaders, criminal justice professionals, and social service professionals from around the country attended the meeting, held at Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico.

The SMART Office is responsible for administering, in all registry jurisdictions, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) provisions of title 1 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Walsh Act). The Department of Justice published the interim rules regarding retroactive application of the Walsh Act in the Federal Registry on February 28, 2007; the public comment period ended April 30, 2007. On May 17, 2007, the proposed National Guidelines for Sex Offender Registration and Notification were released, with the public comment period ending on August 1, 2007. The SMART Office received more than 200 comments on issues including the retroactive application of SORNA, juvenile sex offender registration, listing of sex offender information on the public registry, and implementing SORNA in Indian Country. The SMART Office is now preparing the final edition of the national guidelines.

All registration jurisdictions must implement the minimum SORNA standards by July 27, 2009. SORNA allows jurisdictions to request up to two 1-year extensions of the deadline. Jurisdictions that need technical assistance or have general questions about SORNA can send an e-mail to the SMART Office at GetsSMART@usdoj.gov. Additional information about the SMART Office or SORNA can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/smart>.

New emergency responder technologies showcased at critical incident conference

The Office of Justice Programs, in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense, held its ninth annual Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference and Exposition on November 6–8, 2007, in San Francisco, California.

The conference attracted 1,500 attendees, featured 150 exhibits, and brought together key leaders and decisionmakers. It offered responders, business and industry, academia, and Federal, State, tribal, and local stakeholders a unique forum in which to network, exchange ideas, and collaboratively address their needs for critical incident technology and preparedness and to find solutions to meet those needs.

The conference included general sessions on the National Bombing Prevention Program, preparedness, response to natural disasters, and transportation security. It featured breakout sessions on technologies such as personal protection equipment, school safety and security systems, and cyber forensics. Technology demonstrations were available for conference attendees, as well as hands-on training on "Incident Commander" and "Advanced Use of Force" systems.

More information is available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/topics/criticalincidents/pubs.htm>.



Innovations in rescuing abducted children highlighted at AMBER Alert conference

The fifth National AMBER Alert Conference convened on November 13, 2007, in Denver, Colorado. Attendees participated in workshops on all aspects of AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) Alert plans and heard about best practices for issuing an AMBER Alert, relevant technology, and tools for investigating missing and abducted children's cases. Participants also learned about factors that might motivate child abductors as well as the impact of abductions on victims.

Featured speakers included Elizabeth Smart, who at age 14 was abducted from her home in Salt Lake City, Utah, and was missing for 9 months before being found about 18 miles from her home; Cybele K. Daley, Acting Assistant Attorney General; Troy Eid, U.S. Attorney for the District of Colorado; David Fisher, Chief of the Criminal Investigations Division, Denver Police Department; and Trevor Wetterling, brother of Jacob Wetterling (who was abducted as a child) and coauthor of *What About Me? Coping With the Abduction of a Brother or Sister*.

The AMBER Alert program began in Texas in 1996 when Dallas-Fort Worth broadcasters teamed up with local police to develop an early warning system to help find abducted children. The system was created in memory of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman of Arlington, Texas, who was abducted while riding her bicycle and later found murdered.

AMBER Alerts are emergency messages broadcast when a law enforcement agency determines that a child has been abducted and is in imminent danger. The broadcasts include information about the child and the abductor, including physical descriptions and information about the abductor's vehicle, which could lead to the child's recovery.

More information is available at <http://www.amberalert.gov>.

New tribal grants policy announced

In response to input from tribal leaders, OJP instituted a new tribal grants policy on September 20, 2007, for fiscal year 2008 that includes the following:

- Sending e-mail notices about grant solicitations to all OJP stakeholder listservs, including the tribal listserv.
- Providing links to all tribal grant awards on the Tribal Justice and Safety in Indian Country Web site (<http://www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov>).
- Specifying that tribes are eligible for all OJP grants unless OJP is directed otherwise. If tribes are not eligible for a particular grant, OJP will explain why that is the case.
- Establishing a 60-day application period, barring exigent circumstances, for all tribal-only grant programs.

STAY CONNECTED

The NIJ Conference 2008

The annual NIJ Conference will be held July 21–23, 2008, in Arlington, Virginia. This conference brings together criminal justice scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to share the most recent findings from research and technology. It showcases what works, what doesn't work, and what the research shows as promising. It also emphasizes the benefits that researchers and practitioners can expect when they work together to put evidence-based policies and practices into action.



Visit the NIJ Conference Web site and sign up for conference updates.
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/nij_conference/welcome.html

National Crime Victims' Rights Week

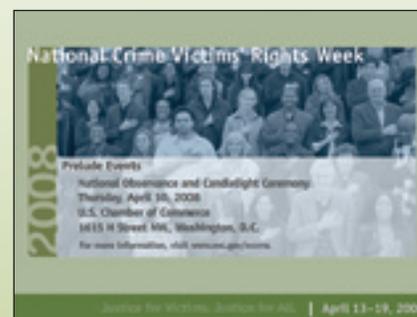
Justice for Victims. Justice for All. APRIL 13–19, 2008

Each April since 1981, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has helped lead communities throughout the country in their observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. Rallies, candlelight vigils, and a host of commemorative activities are held each year to promote victims' rights and to honor crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf.

Leading up to the national commemoration, OVC will hold two prelude events in Washington, D.C.:

**National Observance and
Candlelight Ceremony
April 10, 2008**

**Attorney General's Crime Victim
Service Awards Ceremony
April 11, 2008**



OJJDP bulletin shows continued decline in juvenile arrest rates

Juvenile Arrests 2004 draws on data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Using UCR data provided by local law enforcement agencies throughout the country, the FBI prepares its annual *Crime in the United States* report, which summarizes crimes known to the police and arrests made during the reporting calendar year. This information is used to characterize the extent and nature of juvenile crime that comes to the attention of the justice system. Highlights of the bulletin's findings derived from the UCR data include the following: In 2004, for the 10th consecutive year, the rate of juvenile arrests for Violent Crime Index offenses—murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault—declined. Specifically, between 1994 and 2004, the juvenile arrest rate for Violent Crime Index offenses fell 49 percent. As a result, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate in 2004 was the lowest since at least 1980. The juvenile murder arrest rate fell 77 percent from its peak in 1993 to 2004.

Juvenile Arrests 2004, 12 pages
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/214563.pdf>



OJJDP updates accountability program manual

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recently updated and posted its online guidance manual for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) program. The manual is designed to help States apply for, receive, obligate, and expend JABG funds (by the State and through subgrants to local governments). The goal of the JABG program is to reduce juvenile offending by supporting accountability-based programs that focus on offenders and State and local juvenile justice systems. Accountability means holding offenders responsible for their delinquent behavior by imposing sanctions or other individualized consequences such as restitution, community service, or victim-offender mediation.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program Guidance Manual 2007, 25 pages
http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/jabg/files/2007_jabg_guidance_manual.pdf

Sharing responsibility for public safety

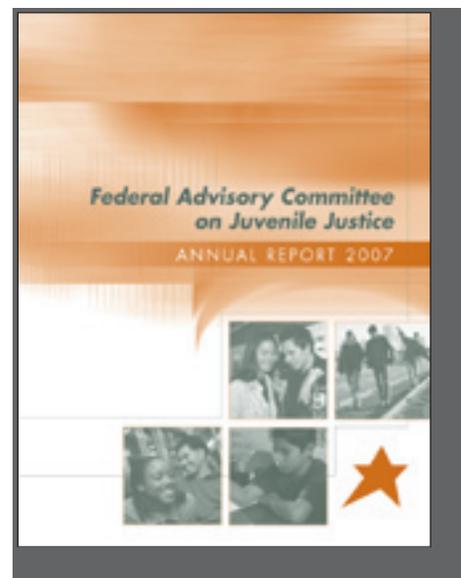
Although police address many public safety problems effectively in the exercise of their normal authority and expertise, they have come to depend on others to aid them by addressing the conditions that underlie crime and disorder. With this help, the police can more effectively prevent and control such problems. This guide examines how the police can motivate private citizens, businesses, or the government to respond to common crime and disorder problems that do not violate basic standards of propriety and legality.

Shifting and Sharing Responsibility for Public Safety Problems, Problem-Oriented Guides for Police, Response Guide Series No. 3, 65 pages
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=191>

Advisory group issues 2007 recommendations

The Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) was established by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, and is supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). FACJJ comprises appointed representatives from the State Advisory Groups (SAGs) of each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the 5 U.S. territories. Its role is to advise the President and Congress on matters related to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, to advise the OJJDP Administrator on the work of OJJDP, and to evaluate the progress of juvenile justice activities and projects. FACJJ's 2007 *Annual Recommendations Report to the President and Congress of the United States* outlines critical concerns and issues that FACJJ members and their State SAGs have identified. It contains 15 recommendations based on the States' primary juvenile justice concerns.

Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice Annual Recommendations Report to the President and Congress of the United States, 40 pages
<http://www.facjj.org/annualreports/ccFACJJ%20Report%20508.pdf>



Applying business management principles to policing

This publication summarizes the key business management principles articulated by Jim Collins in his best-selling book *Good to Great* and applies them to law enforcement. The publication is the result of a 1-day executive session, funded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and hosted by the Police Executive Research Forum, in which leaders from the public sector discussed the relevance of Collins' principles to policing and how their application can move law enforcement agencies and other public-sector organizations to a higher level of effectiveness.

"Good to Great" Policing: Application of Business Management Principles in the Public Sector, 66 pages

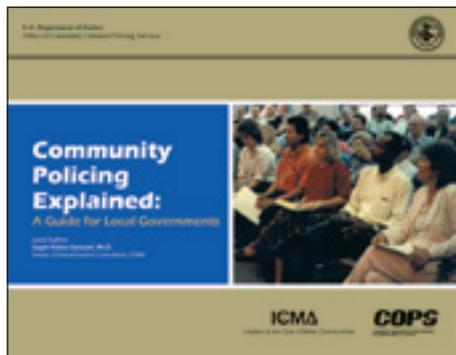
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=427>

What is community policing?

A joint effort of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and the International City/County Management Association, this guide serves several purposes. It will help communities determine the questions they need to ask about community policing and guide them in how to tailor community policing to their community's needs and resources. Finally, it will help managers and administrators of local governments determine how to measure the effectiveness of their approach to community policing. This guide is available online only.

Community Policing Explained: A Guide for Local Governments, 54 pages

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=430>



Ensuring the success of problem-oriented policing initiatives

The processes of analyzing the nature and extent of problems and developing suitable responses is often considered, but relatively little attention is paid to the process of implementing the responses effectively. This guide deals with the process of implementing problem-oriented policing initiatives and discusses the four key stages of implementation: (1) preimplementation, which addresses the factors to consider before implementation; (2) planning, during which the specific mechanics and systems that will be used to implement the initiative should be considered; (3) implementation, in which responses should be put in place, monitored, and adjusted; and (4) postimplementation, in which the successes and failures of implementation should be considered.

Implementing Responses to Problems, Problem-Oriented Guides for Police, Problem-Solving Tools Series No. 7, 78 pages

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=432>

Report reveals trends in delinquency cases in juvenile courts

Juvenile Court Statistics 2003–2004 describes delinquency cases handled between 1985 and 2004 by U.S. courts with juvenile jurisdiction and status offense cases handled between 1995 and 2004. The data were compiled by the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, which the National Center for Juvenile Justice maintains for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This report serves as a barometer of trends in juvenile crime. The estimates are derived from data provided by nearly 1,900 courts with jurisdiction over 77 percent of the juvenile population in 2004.

Juvenile Court Statistics 2003–2004, 172 pages

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/218587.pdf>

Safeguarding our nation

This CD-ROM is a collection of intelligence-related resources that includes the popular Office of Community Oriented Policing Services publication *Law Enforcement Intelligence: A Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies*. Additional materials include *The National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan*, *Intelligence-Led Policing: The New Intelligence Architecture*, *Fusion Center Guidelines*, *28 CFR, Sharing Intelligence Information* (an FBI brochure), and *Protecting Your Community from Terrorism: Strategies for Local Law Enforcement, Volume 4: The Production and Sharing of Intelligence*.

Law Enforcement Intelligence: A Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies CD-ROM

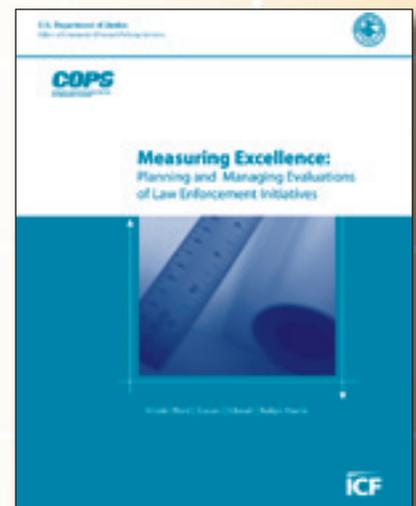
<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=391>

Evaluating law enforcement initiatives

Developed by ICF International with funding from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, this guide provides practical information and advice for conducting evaluations that recognize the unique challenges of police work—evaluations that can withstand rigorous scrutiny and help build community trust and support. This user-friendly resource includes practical exercises and is designed for those in law enforcement who would like to improve their evaluation of local programs.

Measuring Excellence: Planning and Managing Evaluations of Law Enforcement Initiatives, 170 pages

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=431>



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NCJRS: Connecting You to Justice Information

Additional information on the topics and issues featured in *Justice Resource Update* is available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). NCJRS is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to researchers, policymakers, and others worldwide. Access reference and referral services and one of the largest justice-focused libraries and abstract databases. Learn more about the range of services available and about NCJRS's sponsoring agencies at www.ncjrs.gov. Click on "Subscribe/Register" and follow a few easy steps to join thousands of your colleagues who stay informed through *Justice Resource Update*, JUSTINFO (a biweekly electronic newsletter), and periodic e-mail notices on subjects of interest.

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www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs

Community Capacity Development
Office (CCDO)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo

National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc

Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp

Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring,
Apprehending, Registering, and
Tracking (SMART) Office
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/smart

NCJRS Federal Sponsors (Other)

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
www.usdoj.gov/ovw

National Institute of Corrections (NIC)
www.nicic.org

Office of Community Oriented Policing
Services (COPS)
www.cops.usdoj.gov

Office of National Drug Control
Policy (ONDCP)
www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov

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