

FROM THE
NATIONAL
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National Conference on Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime

October 7-9, 1991
Reno, Nevada

A Summary of the Proceedings
January 1992

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National Conference on Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime

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STATE OF NEVADA
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

IN COOPERATION WITH THE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
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October 7-9, 1991
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**U.S. Department of Justice
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PREFACE

The National Criminal Justice Association is a Washington, D.C.-based interest group representing states on crime and public safety matters. The NCJA's principal purposes are to influence the development and implementation of national policy in the criminal justice field and to aid the states in formulating solutions to their criminal justice problems. Additionally, under a cooperative agreement with the National Governors' Association (NGA), the NCJA serves as the staff arm of the NGA Committee on Justice and Public Safety.

Gang violence and juvenile crime are growing major concerns of the nation's governors, criminal justice professionals, and law enforcement officials. In response to these concerns, the NCJA, the NGA, and the U. S. Department of Justice organized the first national conference addressing youth gangs and violent juvenile crime.

The conference was held Oct. 7-9, 1991, in Reno, Nev. Most of the conference was conducted in a plenary session format. Three smaller workshops on law enforcement, legislative, and community strategies to prevent gang violence were held on Oct. 9.

The proceedings contains highlights of the numerous conference speeches and panel presentations and discussions, as well as appendices that include the conference agenda; a list of the names and addresses of conference participants; and biographies of conference speakers and presenters. An executive summary also is included in the proceedings.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The National Conference on Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime and the publication of this summary of proceedings were made possible by the diligent efforts of many colleagues of the Office of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to each of whom I am grateful for their special contributions.

The OJJDP particularly is grateful to Nevada Gov. Bob Miller and his staff, who were generous hosts and dedicated participants during the three-day conference. The OJJDP also acknowledges Assistant U. S. Attorney General Jimmy Gurule and our colleagues Charles B. DeWitt, director of the National Institute of Justice, and Gerald B. Regier, director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance for their interest and support of the conference.

A special thanks goes to Gwen A. Holden, executive vice president of the National Criminal Justice Association, and Nolan E. Jones, director of the National Governors' Association's Committee on Justice and Public Safety, and their staffs, without whose work the conference would not have been possible.

Robert R. Sweet, Jr.
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Criminal Justice Association, the National Governors' Association, and the U. S. Department of Justice sponsored a three-day National Conference on Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime, Oct. 7-9, 1991, in Reno, Nev. The conference brought together federal, state, and local criminal justice policymakers, law enforcement officials, prosecutors, judges, social service agents, and other interested individuals to share their experiences and concerns about dealing with the problem of gangs and violence among youths. Nearly 300 individuals from more than 40 states participated in the conference.

The conference was held in response to the growing concern about youth gangs and violent juvenile crime and to address the lack of information on what constitutes a gang and what role gang activity plays in violent crime and drug-related incidents. Conference discussions centered on the history and demographics of gang violence, defining gang activity, and creating community, law enforcement, and legislative strategies to address juvenile violence.

Participants agreed that parents, families, and communities must seize the responsibility for the care and well-being of today's youth to curb the rising youth violence and gang-related crime plaguing many American cities and neighborhoods. During conference plenary sessions, participants discussed the critical role of the family in preventing violence among juveniles, the difficulties in defining the gang problem, and the reasons why youths join gangs. Many participants agreed that youths often join gangs to satisfy a variety of basic needs not being met at home, including a feeling of belonging, security, structure, discipline, and camaraderie.

Several presenters said that gangs frequently serve as the only "family" structure available to many of their members and often provide stability, protection, reinforcement, and financial support absent in many youths' lives.

Some participants noted the reluctance of some communities to identify youth violence as gang-related and said that the lack of a clear definition of gang activity makes the scope of the problem difficult to assess.

Several conference attendees said that the socioeconomic needs of youths and their families, particularly minorities and the underprivileged, must be met before law enforcement and delinquency prevention programs will be effective in curbing violent juvenile crime. Others noted the need to promoting family stability, supervision, encouragement, discipline, and positive role models.

Law enforcement programs, some participants suggested, should bridge the gap between the police and the communities. Among the approaches encouraged were conducting foot patrols and locating police posts in close proximity to housing developments.

Some presenters stressed the importance of prosecuting violent youths and imposing strict penalties for criminal acts. "Vertical prosecution," the practice of assigning one prosecutor to handle a case from the initial hearing to the disposition, also was suggested.

Above all, participants agreed that there is no one answer to the problem of youth violence and that all aspects of society--families, communities, police, legislators, social workers, businesses, and the judicial system--must join in a public/private partnership to create effective programs to reduce violence among youths.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, Oct. 7, 1991

Opening Remarks

Speakers: Bob Miller, Governor of Nevada
Gus Nunez, Vice Mayor of Reno
Jimmy Gurule, Assistant U. S. Attorney General

Nevada Gov. Bob Miller opened the conference by welcoming the more than 250 participants on behalf of the conference cosponsors, the State of Nevada, the National Governors' Association (NGA), the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), and the U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP). Miller, thanking the attendees for their participation, noted the importance of conducting this conference on the issue of gang violence, a growing concern in many areas across the country.

Reno Vice Mayor Gus Nunez also welcomed the participants, stressing the importance of the future of today's youths.

"Our youth is our future," Nunez said. "It never gets to be old."

Nunez said that the City of Reno began taking a proactive response to the rising number of gang members in the city a few years ago. The Reno Police Department has computerized gang-related intelligence and now shares intelligence with law enforcement agencies in California, Nunez explained. The vice mayor also noted that the Reno Police Department targets youths on the fringe of joining gangs. Police officials meet with these youths' parents and attempt to divert the youths into athletic programs. In addition, the Reno Police Department has implemented the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program in every city elementary school.

Assistant U. S. Attorney General Jimmy Gurule, who heads the OJP and is a former prosecutor in Los Angeles, Calif., said that gangs' involvement in drug trafficking has enhanced gang violence and that the number of gang-related homicides is expected to be higher in 1991 than in 1990. Reducing street gang violence is one the top 10 priorities of the OJP and the justice department, he said. To address the problem, the OJP is conducting field studies on gangs, developing a comprehensive strategy for preventing and prosecuting gang violence, and participating in a public/private partnership with the New York University and the Ford Foundation to develop and test strategies focused on reducing high-risk youths' involvement in crime and gangs. Gurule said the justice department's "Weed and Seed" program calls for coordination among law enforcement and social service agencies and between the public and private sector to make a concerted attack on the crime problem at the community level.

Gurule said it is essential that gang activity be deglamorized and that youths be motivated to channel their energies into productive initiatives such as sports and volunteerism. The Bush administration is committed to ending gang violence, Gurule stated in closing.

Keynote Address

Speaker: Bob Miller, Governor of Nevada

In his keynote address, Miller again thanked the participants for lending their expertise to the first conference ever on the mounting gang problem and said he hoped it would serve as a basis for action. Miller discussed the ever-widening scope of gang violence in the context of recent shootings and the growing violence on school grounds in cities around the country from Los Angeles to Washington, D. C. The governor noted several examples of incidents wherein teenagers were shot during petty arguments, name calling, or games of Russian roulette. Miller cited several statistics indicating a sharp increase in violence among youths, including an eight percent increase in the number of juveniles held for personal offenses between 1987 and 1988 and a Uniform Crime Report that showed that one-third of all individuals charged with violent crimes were under the age of 20. He added that Los Angeles and other large cities are not unique in their gang problems, but that Las Vegas, other Nevada cities, and even smaller communities have had increases in gang violence.

"It is naive to think that the size of the community can affect the kind of gang problem it might have," Miller said. "The gang problem has the potential to invade every element of our society and to ruin the future we want to leave for our children."

Miller noted that incidents of gang violence have become so common that they have been "buried" in the newspapers. The governor discussed several cases involving teens who had joined gang for acceptance among their peers or for economic gains. Teachers have become fearful of their young students, Miller said. According to a 1988-1989 Bureau of Justice Statistics survey, 15 percent of students said their were gangs in their schools and 16 percent said a student had threatened or attacked a teacher in the previous six months, Miller said.

Miller said that drug trafficking and the mass media have encouraged youths to emulated gang members for financial gain.

Children "are being bombarded with media messages of conspicuous consumption and materialistic wealth," Miller said.

The governor said that many gang members are children who see the gang as a family where they can seek protection, security, and an outlet of their frustrations that stem from their poverty.

The increase in violence has interrupted the education process, Miller noted, and schools cannot and should not be expected to deal with such violence. And while there must be a strong reaction from the law enforcement sector, Miller said, we must remember that we are dealing with children.

The governor reminded the audience that the vast majority of teens grow out of adolescence to become productive adults and that the nation's youths should be commended for their "strength, energy, and courage."

The focus of the conference, Miller said, are those youths that do not have such successes, but instead become involved in gangs and violent acts.

"These are the youths that strike fear in our hearts and cause us to search long and hard for solutions," Miller said.

The governor outlined a few goals of the conference, including finding out what is a gang, why youths want to join gangs, and how communities can prevent them from becoming gang members. Conference participants, Miller said, would learn how to identify a gang, discuss the history and demographics of gangs, and examine effective ways to deal with such groups.

Miller said the president and the nation's governors want to free schools of drugs and crime by the year 2000. He listed the governors' objectives as having every school implement a policy on the use, possession, and sale of drugs and alcohol; having parents, businesses, and community organizations work together to ensure that schools are safe havens; and having every school develop a comprehensive drug and alcohol education program for students from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Miller said a firm investment in today's youths at the state, community, neighborhood, and individual levels is crucial to guarantee the success of anti-gang programs.

"We can't stand by and let violent gang activity threaten our way of life," Miller said.

In closing, the governor encouraged the conference participants to ask questions and to advance ideas.

Public Policy Observations

Moderator: Bob Miller, Governor of Nevada

Panelists: Robert J. Del Tufo, Attorney General of New Jersey

Bobby L. Rush, Chicago Alderman

Gladys McCoy, Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, Multnomah County, Ore.

The panelists discussed the need for a comprehensive approach to addressing the problems of juvenile crime and poverty that would include the police, social service agencies, schools, private industry, and community groups.

New Jersey Attorney General Robert J. Del Tufo said that to address the substantial increase in violence among New Jersey's youths, the state has increased DARE programs in schools, made a commitment to deal with bias crimes, sought incarceration for the most serious offenders, created more inpatient and outpatient drug treatment programs, and sought dispositional alternatives for less serious offenders. Other programs have focused on drug abuse prevention, job programs for youths, neighborhood revitalization, and schools designated as safe havens for children and youths.

Chicago Alderman Bobby J. Rush said much of the violence that occurs among black males can be attributed to their feelings of alienation from the "American dream." Citing homicide statistics, Rush said black males are more likely than whites to be the victims of homicides and suicides, and are more likely than whites to be killed in fights with their friends. Rush added that with 34 million Americans living below the poverty level, economic problems must be addressed in order to solve crime problems. Rush has called for mandatory conflict resolution classes to be started in grade schools and work study plans to

be implemented in high schools. A cul de sac program also has been implemented to curb drug trafficking on neighborhood streets in Chicago, Rush said.

Gladys McCoy, chair of the Board of County Commissioners in Multnomah County, Ore., gave participants an overview of what took place at a Portland housing development when residents made changes to reduce crime and improve the neighborhood after gang violence had turned the housing project into a "war zone." According to McCoy, county officials addressed the residents' basic needs of housing, health care, education, employment, transportation, and recreational activities.

"We focused on the entire environment," McCoy said. "Healthy families make healthy communities, and gangs don't operate well in healthy communities."

McCoy stressed the importance of community policing, foot patrols, and working with gang members to make them part of the solution instead of the problem. Role models for children must be created within their families and project collaboration must take place between the public and private sectors, she said.

After the presentations, participants expressed the importance of parenting, discipline, and the community's acceptance of responsibility for youths' behavior and its involvement in responding to that behavior.

History and Demographics

Moderator: Jack D. Foster, Secretary of the Kentucky Department of Education

**Presenters: Alfred Blumstein, Dean, School of Urban & Public Affairs, Carnegie Mellon University
Jeffrey A. Fagan, Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University**

Alfred Blumstein, dean of Carnegie Mellon University's School of Urban and Public Affairs, discussed the demographics of youth violence and the policy implications of the problem. He said the most important factors related to criminal activity are gender, age, and race. Gender has the greatest effect on crime, Blumstein said, with a greater number of males in prison at a rate of 19 to 1, and that gender composition will not change much in the future. Age and race factors, however, are changing quickly, Blumstein added.

Because most robberies are committed by persons in their late teens and most murders are committed by individuals in their early 20s, Blumstein said, public policymakers can expect an increase in crime in the future as the population in these age groups increases.

In the next decade, he said, crimes increasingly will be committed by non-whites living below the poverty line and from single-parent households. Blumstein noted that programs should stress prevention, not enforcement.

"Cranking up the sanctions won't abate the drug problem," Blumstein said. "We need to get at the drug problem from the demand side."

Blumstein suggested that crime prevention programs should involve communities and stress better child socialization, with schools taking a larger role in the process.

In his presentation, Jeffrey A. Fagan, of Rutgers University's School of Criminal Justice, addressed several questions about today's youth gangs: Who are today's gang members? What motivates them? Are gang activities any different or any more violent than those of several decades ago? Is the increased use and sale of drugs promoting gang activity?

Fagan said the old image of leather-clad street gangs has given way to more organized, more violent groups motivated by money, not turf or honor. Many gangs, he said, are extremely violent and have members ranging in age from their teens to their early 30s. Today's gangs are difficult to distinguish from other youth groups because children traditionally commit crimes in groups.

Motivations for gang involvement vary from member to member, Fagan said, and also differ from the motivations of gang members 20 years ago. Many of today's youths join gangs for security, solidarity, or money. Some gang members interviewed by Fagan said they joined gangs to meet girls, he said.

Fagan said some youths become involved in gangs because they feel "mismatched" with the high-tech jobs available in the innercity. Minority youths also report feeling isolated and at a disadvantage in school, Fagan said. While drug trafficking is popular among some gangs, Fagan stressed that many gangs are not drug-oriented and focus their enterprises on other crimes, such as auto theft and gun sales.

"I don't think drugs are driving the gang scene," Fagan said, adding that some gang members feel it is "uncool" or foolish to use or sell drugs, when larger profits can be made more quickly in other illegal activity. To effectively deal with the rise in gangs and youth violence, Fagan said, policymakers must address the problems of poverty, weapons, rage, and decaying neighborhoods.

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 1991

Plenary Session

Speaker: Elizabeth J. Lederer, Assistant District Attorney, New York County, N. Y.

Elizabeth Lederer, prosecutor of the highly publicized case of a rape of a jogger in New York City's Central Park, outlined facts of the case that illuminate the potential motivations of the youths involved. Lederer focused on the lack of remorse displayed by the youths during her prosecution of the case, and the youths' involvement in such random group violence, labeled "wilding," as a recreational activity.

Lederer, who spent two years prosecuting the case, attempted to shed light on the characters of the 30 youths involved in the 1989 incident and recounted the details of the one-hour rampage through the park, including the rape and beating of a female jogger and the injury of several other individuals. Most of the youths involved did not know each other before the incident, Lederer said; rather, the youths were gathered randomly by a few instigators, and joined either for entertainment or for fear of reprisal if they refused, as is typical of most groups engaged in what has become known as "wilding."

Lederer said that the 10 defendants were black and Hispanic boys between the ages of 13 and 18 who did not have criminal records but who were truants and had disciplinary problems at school. Lederer cautioned, however, that the violence could not be justified or explained easily by the youths' backgrounds and upbringing.

The youths' biographical information did not readily distinguish them from other children, she said. They came from fairly well-kept homes and did not appear to be deprived of material needs and wants. In response to audience questions, Lederer indicated that investigators knew of only one of the involved youths having been subject to sexual abuse. She added that there was no evidence of drugs or alcohol being involved in the incident.

Lederer also said that during interviews with the police, the youths gave detailed, matter-of-fact descriptions of the incident, showing no sign of remorse for their actions and little understanding of the enormity of what they had done. The youths told the investigating officers that they went on the "wilding" rampage for "something to do, to have fun," Lederer said.

By participating in the rampage, "the kids must have gotten some sense of satisfaction or power that they weren't getting elsewhere in life," she commented.

Lederer said that as a result of prosecuting the case, she has concluded that addressing youth violence requires action beyond the scope of law enforcement. Programs need to be developed, particularly for younger children, to occupy youths and aid in their social development, she said.

Following her address, audience participants asked Lederer about the youths' emotions about the incident. In answering those questions, Lederer explained that the youths did not appear motivated by anger and seemed to lack a sense of the value of life, which she attributed to the youths' exposure to violence and murder in their communities.

One member of the audience commented that the youths may have felt remorse but refused to show it during questioning to save face among their friends. Lederer responded that the youths were questioned privately, only in the presence of their parents, and therefore had no motivation to save face. "The press made these kids celebrated heroes in the community; other kids tried to claim that they were part of [the incident]. In our interviews, the kids were not with other kids but with their parents."

Plenary Panel

A Discussion of Youths in Trouble

Moderator: Joan C. Weiss, Executive Director, Justice Research and Statistics Association

**Panelists: David Huizinga, Professor, Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado;
Terence P. Thornberry, Professor, School of Criminal Justice, State University of New York at Albany**

**Reactors: J. Price Foster, Professor, University of Louisville
Darnell Hawkins, Professor, University of Illinois
Gayle Hobbs, Regional Administrator, Missouri Division of Youth Services**

This panel discussed factors correlated with a high risk of youth involvement in crime and violence. To help frame the session, Joan Weiss, executive director of the Justice Research and Statistics Association, highlighted two central issues of youth violence. First, she cited an Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority report that found that one-third of surveyed students had brought a weapon to school at least once. According to Weiss, this proportion held across urban, suburban, and rural boundaries. Second, Weiss noted that most youth crime has been attributable to small groups of repeat offenders.

David Huizinga, of the University of Colorado's Institute of Behavioral Science, and Terence Thornberry, of the State University of New York's School of Criminal Justice, cited prevention programs as the key to addressing youth crime and violence and said that better research would be needed to learn what types of prevention activities could work most effectively.

As summarized by Weiss, three central reactions to the presentations were that there is an overemphasis on criminal justice solutions, an overemphasis on risk factors rather than causes of crime, and political influence on research.

According to Huizinga, a researcher for an Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention-sponsored longitudinal study tracking youths' long-term patterns of behavior in Denver, Colo., such research is needed to discern the causes of youth delinquency. Those causes clearly have not been uncovered by research to date, Huizinga said, as evidenced by the general lack of success among prevention efforts.

Huizinga noted the Denver study and two other OJJDP-sponsored longitudinal studies currently underway in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Rochester, N. Y. According to Huizinga, the Denver study has indicated that the younger a youth is when initiated into delinquency, the more serious that youth's delinquency is likely to be.

Most delinquent youths are "multiple-problem" youths, Huizinga explained. For example, delinquency seems to increase likelihood of drug use, which often fuels mental health problems that in turn lead to increased delinquency, he said. In addition, delinquent youths in the study were more involved in early sex and teen pregnancy than other youths.

As delinquent youths get older, they are more likely to get arrested, according to Huizinga. However, only 38 percent of youths who reported committing street offenses were arrested, and the most serious offenders were not apprehended, he said.

Huizinga cited a need for good evaluation to determine what prevention programs work. However, he said, research to date has indicated that jobs programs are not effective in addressing delinquency. Huizinga argued that programs must be proactive, because there are enough potentially delinquent youths available to replace those taken off the street by law enforcement efforts.

Thornberry described the selection of samples and the measures of delinquency used in the OJJDP studies. According to Thornberry, the Denver study selected youths at ages seven, nine, 11, 13, and 15, of whom males and females each comprised 50 percent; the Pittsburgh study chose only males in the first, fourth, and fifth grades; and the Rochester study chose seventh- and eighth-graders, of whom 75 percent were males. Delinquent youths were over-represented in the samples to ensure that there would be enough to track, he said. Delinquency was measured according to youths' self-reporting, with some censoring to filter out adolescents' tendency to exaggerate.

The studies found that youths who became involved in gangs rarely stayed involved for even as long as a year, according to Thornberry. However, involvement in gangs was correlated to higher levels of street criminality, and involvement in drug sales was drastically higher among long-term gang members. Two possible explanations for the increase in delinquency among gang members, Thornberry said, are the character of the youths who become involved in gangs and the influence of delinquent peers.

J. Price Foster, of the University of Louisville, said that there is a need to train police to make better decisions and use alternatives to arrest whenever possible. He also said that Huizinga's comments on the failure of jobs programs should be put in the context of the programs' varying success among different communities and individuals.

According to Foster, crime prevention research in Louisville has looked at crime in the context of the community. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CePTED), a local crime prevention program, has shown that the condition of the community influences residents' behavior and that government can be more effective in preventing crime by helping communities understand their needs instead of telling communities what actions to take.

Overall, the key to crime prevention is improving the mental health of America, according to Foster. To that end, research in Louisville has shown that personal decisions and actions are more effective than organizational programs or large scale planning, he said.

Darnell Hawkins, of the University of Illinois, portrayed approaches to youth gangs and violence in the context of cycles of attention to problems that vary with the currents of political expediency. In 1964, Hawkins suggested, a conference such as this would have focused on poverty and minorities. However, although programs work with the same information about societal problems, he said, programs now concentrate on drugs, gangs, and guns.

The only continuity society has seen in the last 50 to 60 years has been the criminal justice response to crime and violence, according to Hawkins. Public policy has vacillated on social services to address the roots of crime, he said. Because it's unpopular to stress poverty, racism, and inequality, policies and programs do not get at the core issues of how criminality is affected by socioeconomic status, he stated.

Hawkins also questioned Huizinga's remarks about job programs, saying that some studies have shown that the programs do work.

Gayle Hobbs, regional administrator of the Missouri Division of Youth Services, also stressed the importance of socioeconomic factors and their effect on families and neighborhoods. She said it is more important for government to focus on social factors such as education, health, and economic opportunity that affect youth criminality than on active gang members, because gang membership is fluid.

Juvenile justice systems fall short in addressing youth crime, Hobbs said, because they seek youths' compliance for societal safety, but are lax on much needed treatment and mental health services. Our culture feeds the youth crime problems because it devalues diversity and stresses conformity, she said.

Luncheon Address

Speaker: Jim Brown, President of the Amer-I-Can Program, and a Member of the Professional Football Hall of Fame

Jim Brown's address focused on the development of his Amer-I-Can program, under which he has recruited former gang leaders to encourage current gang members to receive training in life management skills that can help them succeed in legitimate business and personal pursuits. The program centers upon addressing the socioeconomic problems that fuel youth gangs, violence, and drug abuse.

Although he attempts to contact gang members directly, Brown stressed, he is not in favor of gangs or violence. Brown works with gang members to address the unsatisfied human needs that cause youth to turn to "the alternative government on the streets and in prison," he said. "We go out respecting them, not assuming, not preaching to them," said Brown.

The purpose of the Amer-I-Can program curriculum is to teach gang members to change their thinking to have a sense of empowerment, and to know that "playing the system has its rewards," according to Brown. The program seeks to improve participants' abilities to communicate, solve problems, set goals, seek employment, and to address family and money problems.

Brown said he hopes that a test of the program, currently underway in Las Vegas, Nev., will serve as a model for successful implementation across the nation. He thanked Las Vegas Mayor Jan Laverty Jones for her support of the program, and stressed his belief that building coalitions can help ensure the success of programs like Amer-I-Can.

Plenary Session

Identifying and Defining Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime

Moderator: John Calhoun, Executive Director, National Crime Prevention Council

Presenters: Elizabeth T. Buhmann, Research Specialist, Office of the Texas Attorney General
Ronald Chance, Project Director, National Youth Gang Suppression and Intervention Program, University of Chicago

Mujahid Ramadan, Coordinator, Nevada State Drug and Alcohol Programs

Reactors: Jan Lavery Jones, Mayor of Las Vegas

Ron Bell, Executive Director, Mission Hill Community Centers, Boston, Mass.

Fernando I. Soriano, Professor, University of Missouri, and Member of the Youth Gang Drug Prevention Program Advisory Committee, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, for the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

John Calhoun, executive director for the National Crime Prevention Council, described various reasons for the existence of gangs, including turf, money, recognition, and fun. Calhoun stated that in a recent conversation with a gang member he asked, "What is your goal in life, what would you like to be as an adult?" The gang member responded, "My goal is to be an adult, not what to be as an adult."

Solving the problem of gangs and gang violence necessitates community involvement, Calhoun said. "We must remember that we are not just dealing with poverty, but often with 20 blocks of failure that these children are confronted with on a daily basis," he added.

Elizabeth T. Buhmann, research specialist in the Office of the Texas Attorney General, discussed a recent survey on gangs conducted by the attorney general's office. Of the 50 police departments surveyed, 38 departments said they had a gang problem while others denied a gang problem existed. According to Buhmann, some respondents were reluctant to label violent youth groups as gangs or lacked awareness of gang-related activity.

In conducting this survey, members of the Texas attorney general's office discovered that reporting information is a common problem. Information received from such surveys, Buhmann said, will depend on how gangs are defined and what criteria are used to identify gang members. Such information will vary from large cities to small cities, she added.

Buhmann stressed the need to develop a database for identifying and determining gangs and gang activities as well as the need for a multifaceted gang policy.

Ronald Chance, of the National Youth Gang Suppression and Intervention Program at the University of Chicago, discussed his research findings and the problems in addressing gang problems. According to the University of Chicago study, researchers must establish a definition of gangs, gang violence, and gang members.

Researchers also must determine the relationship between gangs and drugs; confront denial of gang activity; and assess problems. According to Chance, assessments will help develop a consensus that will enable policymakers to develop necessary information to address the problem.

"Without the proper assessment, the wrong solution may be determined," Chance said.

Mujahid Ramadan, Nevada's state coordinator of substance abuse programs, stated that "the best time to start raising our children is 10 years before they are born." He briefly discussed the four stages of child development: following the mother, modeling another person, establishing an identity, and adolescence.

Ramadan said youths are influenced by their home life, their peers, television, school, and their religion. The family and religion are losing ground as influences on teens, he said a major problem facing our society.

One of the main areas that must be addressed to solve the gang problem, according to Ramadan, is the passage from childhood to manhood. Without "normal" methods for this passage, gangs become the means for passage. "Gang members are not getting rich, they are getting dead," Ramadan said.

"Gangs won't go away with just law enforcement," he added. "You can't treat the fever, you have to treat the cold."

Jan Laverty Jones, mayor of Las Vegas, briefly discussed her activities with the Mayor's Committee for a Better Community and her decision to help establish Jim Brown's Amer-I-Can program, which some have criticized as "unproven," into the city.

"I've learned from being in the private sector that at times a risk is an opportunity," Jones said. "Jim Brown's program is not a solution, but an element" of the solution to the gang problem.

She stated the importance of developing such public/private partnerships and the need for all parts of the community to work toward a common goal.

"The community has to mobilize itself to be part of the process as you work to develop solutions," the mayor said.

Jones said that for gang members the gang often is their only family and until that fact is addressed, the gang problem will continue to grow.

Ron Bell, of the Mission Hill Community Centers, said that youths join gangs because of a lack of family and positive activities, peer pressure, media attention, and attractiveness. He suggested that before- and after-school programs be developed for 10- to 14-year-olds.

In addition, Bell said, more funds are needed for law enforcement, training for parents, early intervention and prevention, and media education. Bell stated that the history of blacks and other races needs to be included in school curriculums to give minority children positive role models. In addition, he said, discipline and respect for children needs to be improved.

Fernando I. Soriano, assistant professor of psychology at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, stated that gangs are difficult to define. He talked in detail about the work being done by the Youth Gang Drug Prevention Program Advisory Committee and encouraged participation in the committee's work and maintaining awareness of the committee.

In closing the session, Calhoun asked whether there needs to be a state-level definition of gangs and gang members. In responding to that question, Buhmann said that yes there needs to be a state-level definition and that states should provide more technical assistance than dollars.

Chance stated that there should be a community-level definition; however, he believes that there should be a definition on all levels and that the federal government may need to standardize the definition.

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 1991

Plenary Session

The Family and the Juvenile Crime Problem

Moderator: Jerome E. McElroy, Executive Director, New York Criminal Justice Agency

Panelists: Dennis R. Watson, Executive Director, National Black Youth Leadership Council

Dr. Eugene Paslov, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education

Alphonse R. Jackson, Executive Director, Dallas, Texas, Housing Authority

Tracy Steele, Special Assistant for Economic Development, Arkansas Governor's Office

Dennis R. Watson, executive director of the National Black Youth Leadership Council, opened the morning session with an inspirational "A to Z" speech about the importance of a positive attitude, success, and achievement. Watson stressed that all children need love, discipline, positive role models, and opportunities to better themselves.

Dr. Eugene Paslov, superintendent of public instruction for the Nevada Department of Education, who was a gang member in Chicago during the 1940s, discussed the importance of reinstituting family values in all family structures, teaching parenting skills, aiding impoverished children, and improving prenatal care for indigent pregnant women. Paslov also advocated closed campuses for high schools, reduced high school populations, dress codes, and links between high schools and social service agencies.

Alphonse Jackson, executive director of the Dallas, Texas Housing Authority, stressed that single-parent families are not necessarily the cause of violent youths. Jackson called for improvement in both public education and public housing to be more responsive to the people they serve. Jackson discussed the Dallas Housing Authority's success in obtaining donations from the private sector to purchase computers and other learning equipment for the youths living in public housing. Jackson also stressed the importance of empowering public housing residents by creating resident councils to manage the developments.

Tracy Steele, of the Arkansas Governor's Office, talked about the state efforts to provide tutoring and recreational facilities for youths and to make gang members part of the solution to the violence problem. He also outlined the state's Youth Apprenticeship Program for high school students who are not college-bound. Steele also discussed the success of the state's first boot camp for offenders, police academy scholarships, and stricter child support laws.

Law Enforcement and Prosecution Strategies Workshop

Moderator: Elizabeth Lederer, Assistant District Attorney, New York County, N. Y.

Presenters: Harold L. Johnson, Police Chief, Mobile, Ala.

Lorne C. Kramer, Police Chief, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Robert Lucherini, Deputy District Attorney, Clark County, Nev.

Darrel W. Stephens, Executive Director, Police Executive Research Forum

Chief Harold L. Johnson of the Mobile, Ala., Police Department opened the discussion by asserting that police, parents, and communities are "playing games" in their current efforts to fight violence among youths and must get serious if successes are to be made. He called upon parents to use "tough love" with children, focusing on discipline and responsibility. Johnson supported community policing. He stressed the importance of education and using school uniforms to help students to focus on their studies instead of their appearance and social status. Johnson urged public officials to take action immediately and not delay initiatives with further studies.

"Otherwise," Johnson said, "there will be a war on streets that will look like Lebanon and it won't quit unless we stop playing games."

Chief Lorne C. Kramer, the Colorado Springs Police Department, said there needs to be a strategy to reach children at a young age before they get involved in gangs or criminal activity. Kramer reviewed several characteristics of gangs discussed in the preceding sessions, such as why youths join gangs, the different kinds of gangs, gangs' impact on cities, and gangs' increasing sophistication. Kramer stressed that there is no law enforcement answer to the gang problem because gangs "are not a law enforcement problem."

"Putting more kids in jail is not the answer to the gang problem any more than putting drug addicts in jail is the answer to the drug problem," Kramer said. "There needs to be a strategy, a well-thought-out, multi-disciplinary strategy involving all aspects of the community, not just law enforcement."

Robert Lucherini, deputy district attorney in Clark County, Nev., discussed the influx of gangs into Las Vegas from California. He encouraged law enforcement officers to learn gang sign language and to read gang graffiti for important information about gangs in their communities. Lucherini said prosecutors in Clark County have had success using "vertical prosecution," a policy of assigning one attorney to handle a case from the pretrial hearing to disposition. Such prosecution, he said, builds confidence and trust among witnesses and victims.

Darrel Stephens, executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, said more research on the gang problem is needed, but authorities also have to make use of information they already have on youth gangs. Stephens said he supports proactive policing that focuses on the neighborhood and encourages officers to create a partnership with the community.

Commenting on the remarks of the speakers, Lederer noted the difficulties of concentrating on the future of the nation's youth when much of the trouble is now before us.

"It's difficult to deal with [the future] when you are trying to make a case and win a conviction," she said. "School programs won't work if no one goes to school. Kids have to be held accountable for their actions. We need to bridge the gap between the here and now and the future."

Legislative Strategies Workshop

Moderator: Nolan E. Jones, Director, NGA Committee on Justice and Public Safety

Presenters: Robert M. Sader, Chairman, Nevada State Assembly's Judiciary Committee

Adam K. Troy, Executive Administrator, Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Rose M. Ochi, Director, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning, Los Angeles, Calif.

Nolan E. Jones, director of the NGA Committee on Justice and Public Safety, framed the panel's discussion by noting that legislation, as the source of authority and funding for government programs, is an essential part of the solution to youth violence and gang problems. Jones attributed the nation's failure in solving the gang problem to four factors: failure to develop a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, nationwide strategy; implementation of would-be solutions based on guesses rather than rationales; insufficient resources for assessment and definition of the problem; and failure to address the social context leading to youth delinquency and gang activity. Finally, Jones noted a need to define the problems to alleviate disparity between the intent of legislation and administrative action.

Robert M. Sader, chairman of the Nevada State Assembly's Judiciary Committee, said the criminal justice approach to youth gangs and violence has limited value because it fails to address the root causes of those problems. The real solutions are long-term and expensive, and raise difficult philosophical questions regarding how much government should be involved in solving social problems, Sader noted. However, he said, legislatures are often the arena of the "quick fix," and law enforcement solutions are the most likely to get legislative attention.

Adam K. Troy, executive administrator of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, decried a "paralysis of analysis" that often prevents implementation of constructive solutions to root social ills that cause gang and violence problems. The work of the commission, Troy said, was to move past the "prediction of rain to the building of arks."

To create an effective legislative strategy to confront the gang and violence problems, the commission held public hearings for several months across the state to gather public input and empower communities to get involved in forming a solution, Troy said. Youths and gang members were encouraged to relate their views to the commission and become involved in the political process. The cooperation of the private sector was obtained by highlighting the economic implications of the disenfranchisement of minorities and the poor.

Rose M. Ochi, director of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning in Los Angeles, Calif., explained the difficulty she encounters in trying to forward constructive programs to address youth violence. According to Ochi, citizens' fear leads to a general sense that society needs to get tougher, she said. As a result, punitive solutions are enacted rapidly while prevention programs must be proven effective to get legislators' attention. To combat this problem, Ochi emphasizes the importance of both law enforcement and prevention programs when asking legislators for funding. Ochi stressed the importance of joining the law enforcement and gang violence prevention camps and balancing out funding appropriately to create more activities and programs for youths, particularly young black males, in the inner cities.

"The plight of black males is our future and we have to re-examine the course we have taken," Ochi said.

Ochi also stressed the importance of drug treatment programs, both in prisons and the communities, to curb the cycle of recidivism.

Prevention and Intervention Strategies Workshop

Moderator: Ann Jaede, Program Director, Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning, Minnesota Criminal Justice Program

Presenters: Robbie Callaway, Assistant National Director for Government Relations, Boys and Girls Clubs of America

Robert Lewis, Program Manager, Boston Community Schools and Recreation Center

Victor J. Poirier, Manager of Community Affairs, Kansas City, Missouri Light and Power

Natalie Salazar, Executive Director, Community Reclamation Program in Lomita, Calif.

Ann Jaede, program director for the Minnesota Criminal Justice Program's Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning, said that 18,000 simulated murders are witnessed by youths on television and movies every day. She said fewer dollars should be spent on locking people up and more money should be spent on crime prevention. The message has to be "violence is no longer acceptable," Jaede said.

Robbie Callaway, assistant national director for government relations for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, said that while the clubs do not have the answer to the problem of violent youths, they provide part of the answer. Callaway discussed how the clubs serve many children who need a sense of family and community and encourage children to go to school.

Callaway said that to target gang populations one must first get the commitment of the local club. Then the community must assess the gang problem and work with the police department and social service agencies to provide a safe club environment. He stressed the importance of working with youths as individuals and not as gangs or gang members. Youths must be included in the planning process and be provided job training and parenting skills. Youths also can participate in graffiti-removal projects, he said. Members of the community should be encouraged to work with the youths, Callaway added.

Robert Lewis, program manager for the Boston Community Schools and Recreation Center, said the Boston Streetworker program has a network of more than 250 people, including police, parents, and volunteers, who work with gangs on the street where the youths feel at home. According to Lewis, successful programs must be visible in the community and must be acknowledged, trusted, and accepted by the community. The Streetworker program does not offer services, but instead ties into existing community services and helps youths access them.

Victor J. Poirier, manager of community affairs for Kansas City, Mo., Light and Power, underscored the importance of a public/private partnership in prevention and intervention strategies. Poirier said that utility companies are the best places to join forces since the community is their marketplace and therefore have more to lose if the community is failing.

Poirier suggested that utility companies can help apply their resources to their communities in many different ways, such as donating money to local schools for heritage education, providing job programs, developing programs at youth service centers, and encouraging minority business development. Poirier said the key is to get business leaders directly involved.

Natalie Salazar, executive director of the Community Reclamation Program in Lomita, Calif., said that in order to be successful, programs must make a three- to five-year funding commitment and involve the community in developing programs. She suggested holding job workshops for youths. Salazar stressed the importance of understanding the environment program managers are working in and adapting to it. Salazar said that language is an important factor in addressing the problems of minorities and stressed the importance of learning about their origins, lives, and perspectives.

Closing Remarks

Convener: Richard C. Rice, Director, Missouri Department of Public Safety

Speaker: Bob Miller, Governor of Nevada

Presenters: Frankie Sue Del Papa, Attorney General of Nevada

Robert W. Sweet, Administrator, Office of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Michael J. Russell, Deputy Director, National Institute of Justice

Richard C. Rice, director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety, convened the meeting noting that the gang issue is "one of the most serious problems facing the country." Rice discussed the rising violence in Chicago and in many small communities in his home state and said the problem cannot be solved by law enforcement alone.

The gang problem "reflects the breakdown of the family," Rice said.

Nevada Gov. Bob Miller noted that the conference had challenged many preconceived notions about violence and gangs and revealed some startling conclusions that caused him to re-examine his thinking on the gang problem. He stressed the importance of reclaiming crime-ridden neighborhoods block by block with a public/private partnership of efforts. He summarized four key strategies discussed during the conference: social intervention, such as clubs and activities, for children before they get involved in violent behavior or gangs; special classes in conflict resolution and other life management skills for children and teenagers; mobilization of community and school efforts to address violence among youths; and continued suppression and incarceration for youths who commit violent crime.

Nevada Attorney General Frankie Sue Del Papa stressed the importance of putting more money into programs to prevent youths from becoming involved in gangs and violent activity. She noted four suggestions made by a research panel on preventing gang violence: providing early intervention for at-risk youths; applying responsible government to support, not substitute for, the family; creating decentralized neighborhood solutions to their own problems; and providing an effective response to violent gang activity.

Del Papa encouraged the conference participants to continue dialogue on the issue of youth violence and to create innovative prevention programs. Del Papa also encouraged participants to include the press in such discussions.

Robert W. Sweet, administrator of the OJJDP, said many innovative programs around the country are improving communities and reducing crime, such as the creation of a "prep school" for youths living in a Chicago public housing development. But continued efforts are essential, he said.

"Until Americans say enough is enough, we will continue to have these conferences and this gang problem," Sweet said. "We must continue to press ahead with whatever we can do....Families must take responsibility for their children. There is no substitute for a strong family, no matter how you define it."

Michael J. Russell, deputy director of the justice department's National Institute of Justice (NIJ), reviewed highlights of several NIJ projects on gangs begun in 1991 and planned projects for 1992.

Six NIJ studies on gangs launched in 1991, Russell said, address anti-gang law enforcement initiatives, model gang prevention programs, gang migrations to different states, control of gangs in prisons, the motivations of gang members; and prosecution strategies. In 1992, the NIJ will consider studying the problems of gangs associated with public housing, Russell said. In closing, Russell encouraged all conference participants to follow up on what they had learned in the sessions and to share with the NIJ and other conference participants their knowledge of problems, concerns, and successes.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Conference Agenda

National Conference on Youth Gangs and Violent Juvenile Crime

Co-sponsored by

National Governors' Association
State of Nevada
National Criminal Justice Association

in cooperation with the

U. S. Department of Justice:
Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
National Institute of Justice
Bureau of Justice Assistance

OCT. 7-9, 1991

BALLY'S RENO RESORT

RENO, NEVADA

Featuring program sessions on:

- **The history and demographics of gangs in the United States**
- **The impact of youth gangs on public safety and the criminal justice system**
- **Identifying and defining youth gang and violent juvenile crime problems**
- **Prevention, enforcement, and correctional strategies for controlling youth gangs and violent juvenile crime**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MONDAY, OCT. 7

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Hall of Fame

PLENARY SESSION

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Bijou Complex

Call to Order and Welcoming Remarks

1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Convener

The Honorable Bob Miller
Governor of Nevada

Welcome

The Honorable Gus Nunez
Vice Mayor of Reno, Nevada

Speaker

The Honorable Jimmy Gurule
Assistant Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Introduction of Speaker

Mr. Gurule

Speaker

Governor Miller

PLENARY PANEL

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"A roundtable discussion of public policy observations on the impact of youth gangs and violent juvenile crime in the U. S."

Moderator

Governor Miller

Panelists

The Honorable Robert J. Del Tufo
Attorney General of New Jersey

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
Alderman, City of Chicago

The Honorable Gladys McCoy, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County Oregon

BREAK

3:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

PLENARY PANEL

3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

"An overview of the history and demographics of gangs and violent crime in the U. S., with a focus on youth gangs and violent juvenile crime."

Moderator

Jack D. Foster, Secretary
Kentucky Department of Education

Presenters

Alfred Blumstein, Dean
School of Urban & Public Affairs
Carnegie Mellon University

Jeffrey A. Fagan, Associate Professor
School of Criminal Justice
Rutgers University

An open question-and-answer period in which audience participation is invited will follow presentations.

RECEPTION

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Adelphi

Sponsored by the Governor's Alliance for a Drug-Free Nevada

TUESDAY, OCT. 8

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Hall of Fame

WORKING BREAKFAST SESSION

8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Grand Salon

Continental breakfast served

Overview of Previous Day's Proceedings

Presenter

Thomas J. Quinn, Executive Director
Delaware Criminal Justice Council

PLENARY SESSION

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Bijou Complex

Convener

Mr. Quinn

Address

9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Speaker

Elizabeth J. Lederer
Assistant District Attorney
New York County, New York

Plenary Panel

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All sessions will be held in Bally's Reno Resort

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

"A discussion of youth in trouble."

Convener

Barbara McDonald, Deputy Director
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
and NCJA President

Moderator

Joan C. Weiss, Executive Director
Criminal Justice Statistics Association

Presenters

David Huizinga, Professor
Institute of Behavioral Science
University of Colorado at Boulder

Terence P. Thornberry, Professor
School of Criminal Justice
State University of New York at Albany

Reactors

J. Price Foster, Professor
Justice Administration
University of Louisville

Darnell F. Hawkins, Professor
University of Illinois, Chicago

Gayle Hobbs, Regional Administrator
Missouri Department of Youth Services

Panel presentations and discussion will be followed by an open question-and-answer period in which audience participation is invited.

LUNCHEON

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Adelphi

Convener

Governor Miller

Introduction of Speaker

The Honorable Jan Laverty Jones
Mayor of Las Vegas, Nevada

Speaker

Jim Brown, President
Amer-I-Can Program
Former Cleveland Browns star running back;
Member, Football Hall of Fame

PLENARY SESSION

2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Bijou Complex

PLENARY PANEL

2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"A roundtable discussion identifying and defining youth gang and violent juvenile crime problems."

Moderator

John C. Calhoun, Executive Director
National Crime Prevention Council

Presenters

Elizabeth T. Buhmann, Research Specialist
Research and Policy Division
Texas Attorney General's Office

Ronald Chance

Project Director
National Youth Gang Suppression and
Intervention Program
School of Social Service Administration
University of Chicago

Mujahid Ramadan

Nevada State Drug and
Alcohol Programs Coordinator

Reactors

Mayor Jones

Ron Bell, Executive Director
Mission Hill Community Centers
Boston, Massachusetts

Fernando I. Soriano, Professor
University of Missouri, Kansas City
Member, Youth Gang Drug Prevention
Program Advisory Committee
Administration on Children, Youth, and Families
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Hall of Fame

WORKING BREAKFAST SESSION

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Grand Salon

Continental breakfast served

Overview of Previous Day's Proceedings

Presenter

Jerome E. McElroy
Executive Director
New York City Criminal Justice Agency

PLENARY PANEL

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Bijou Complex

"A roundtable discussion of the family and juvenile crime problem."

Moderator

Mr. McElroy

All sessions will be held in Bally's Reno Resort

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Panelists

Eugene T. Paslov
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Nevada Department of Education

Alfonso R. Jackson, Executive Director
Dallas (Tex.) Housing Authority

Tracy Steele, Special Assistant for
Economic Development
Arkansas Governor's Office

Dennis R. Watson, Executive Director
National Black Youth Leadership Council

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"A discussion of strategies to prevent and control youth gang involvement and juvenile crime."

Session I Barrymore
Law Enforcement and Prosecution Strategies

Moderator
Ms. Lederer

Presenters
Harold L. Johnson, Chief of Police
Mobile, Ala.

Lorne C. Kramer, Chief of Police
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Robert Lucherini
Deputy District Attorney
Clark County Nevada

Darrel W. Stephens, Executive Director
Police Executive Research Forum

Session II Metro
Legislative Strategies

Moderator
Nolan E. Jones, Director
Committee on Justice and Public Safety
National Governors' Association

Presenters
Adam K. Troy, Executive Administrator
The Ohio Civil Rights Commission

The Honorable Robert M. Sader
Nevada State Assembly

Rose M. Ochi, Director
Criminal Justice Division
Los Angeles, Calif.

Session III
Prevention and Intervention Strategies Orpheum

Moderator
Ann Jaede, Program Manager
Minnesota Office of Strategic and
Long Range Planning

Presenters
Robbie Callaway, Assistant National Director
for Government Relations
Boys and Girls Clubs of America

Robert Lewis, Jr., Program Manager
Street Workers Program
Boston (Mass.) Community Schools

Victor J. Poirier, Manager of Community Affairs
Kansas City (Mo.) Power and Light Company

Natalie Salazar, Executive Director
Community Reclamation Project
Lomita, California

LUNCHEON AND CLOSING PLENARY SESSION
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Adelphi

Convener
Richard C. Rice, Director
Missouri Department of Public Safety

Speaker
Governor Miller

Presenters
The Honorable Frankie Sue Del Papa
Attorney General of Nevada

The Honorable Robert W. Sweet, Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention
U. S. Department of Justice

Michael J. Russell, Deputy Director
National Institute of Justice
U. S. Department of Justice

Questions and comments will be invited from the audience during this session

ADJOURNMENT
2:30 p.m.

MEETING OF THE STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE NGA COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Orpheum

All sessions will be held in Bally's Reno Resort

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MEETING OF NCJA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Palace B

THURSDAY, OCT. 10

MEETING OF THE NCJA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(cont'd)

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Palace B

Appendix B: Conference Participants



PARTICIPANTS

"NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH GANGS AND VIOLENT JUVENILE CRIME"

RENO, NEVADA

Oct. 7-9, 1991

Final List of Attendees

Mr. Michael Agopian
Deputy Director for Data Analysis
Bureau of Justice Statistics
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5846

Mr. Alan L. Alcon
Project Manager
Juvenile Justice Clearing House
1600 Research Boulevard
P. O. Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20850
301-251-5575

Ms. Judith Allen
Missing Children
Office of the Attorney General
State of Nevada
198 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-4170

Mr. Richard H. Allen
Manager, Safety & Security
Management Training Corporation
5005 Echo Avenue
Reno, NV 89506
702-677-3510

Mr. Jeff Allison
Program Specialist
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-514-6278

Mr. Dan P. Altman
Youth Program Specialist
National Crime Prevention Council
1700 K Street, NW, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20006
202-466-6272

Ms. Sandra Amodei
Executive Secretary
Office of the Governor
State of Nevada
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5670

Mr. Gene Anderson
Consultant
Community Youth Gang Services
144 South Fetterly Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90022
213-266-4264

Mr. Joey Andrews
Manager, Technical Assistance
National Council of Juvenile
and Family Court Judges
P. O. Box 8970
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89507
702-784-1665

Mr. Don Bailey
State Printer
Printing Division
301 S. Stewart Street
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-4380

Mr. Richard L. Barnhart
Program Specialist
National Academy of Corrections
National Institute of Corrections
U. S. Department of Justice
1790 30th Street, Suite 430
Boulder, CO 80301
303-939-8855

Ms. Robin Bates
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

Mr. Ron Bell
Executive Director
Mission Hill Community Centers
1481 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02120
617-442-9314

Ms. Lyn Bennett
Nevada PTA
Reno, NV

Lt. Ondre Berry
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2195

Mr. Alfred Blumstein
Professor & Dean
Carnegie Mellon University
School of Urban and Public Affairs
Pittsburg, PA 15213
412-268-2159

Mr. Dick Bogle
Commissioner of Public Safety
City of Portland
1220 SW 5th Avenue, #404
Portland, OR 97212
503-823-4682

Ms. Donna Bostard
Administrative Secretary
Idaho Office of the Governor
Statehouse Mail
Boise, ID 83720
208-334-2100

Ms. Peggy Lear Bowen
Member
Nevada State Board of Education
Nevada State Board for
Occupational Education
400 W. King Street
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5639

Ms. Amy Bransford
Information Specialist
National Institute of Justice/NCJRS
1600 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850
301-251-5237

Ms. Robbye L. Braxton
Information Coordinator
National Crime Prevention Council
1700 K Street, NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20006
202-466-6272

Ms. Jenny Brouner
Chair, Public Advocacy
Junior League of Reno
606 West Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509
702-826-0445

Mr. Herb Brown
Director of Crime Prevention
North Las Vegas Police Department
1301 E. Lake Mead Boulevard
North Las Vegas, NV 89030
702-649-0344

Mr. Jim Brown
President
Amer-I-Can
1851 Sunset Plaza Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90069

Elizabeth T. Buhmann, Ph.D.
Research Specialist
Research and Policy Division
Texas Attorney General's Office
P. O. Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711 2548
512-475-4414

Scott L. Buran
Commander
Carson County Sheriff's Office
901 E. Musser
Carson City, NV 89701
702-887-2233

Ms. Brenda Burns
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

Mr. Albert S. Butler
Chief Deputy District Attorney
District Attorney's Office
15th Judicial Circuit
100 South Lawrence Street, 3rd Floor
Montgomery, AL 36192 2501
205-832-2550

Lt. Dave Butzer
Portland Police Bureau
1111 SW 2nd Street
Portland, OR 97204
503-823-2104

Mr. Eugene R. Calderon
C.E.O.
Puerto Rican Association
for Community Affairs
853 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10003
212-673-7320

Mr. Robert N. Calderone
Director of Juvenile Services
Washoe County Juvenile Probation
P. O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520
702-328-2761

Mr. John C. Calhoun
Executive Director
National Crime Prevention Council
1700 K Street, NW
2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20006
202-466-6272

Mr. Robbie Callaway
Assistant National Director
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
611 Rockville Pike, Suite 230
Rockville, MD 20852
301-251-6676

Lt. Doug Campbell
University of Nevada, Reno
Police Department
1305 Evans Avenue
Reno, NV 89557 0059
702-784-4013

Mr. Ron Chance
Project Director
National Youth Gang Suppression
and Intervention Project
University of Chicago, SSA
969 E 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60615
312-702-9896/643-6941

Dr. Andrew J. Chishom
Professor
College of Criminal Justice
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208
803-777-5709

Ms. Carol Coghlan
Attorney
P. O. Box 33275
Phoenix, AZ 85067 3275
602-231-6643

Mr. J. David Coldren
Executive Director
Illinois Criminal Justice
Information Authority
120 South Riverside Plaza
10th Floor
Chicago, IL 60606
312-793-8550

Ms. Kim T. Conley
Staff Associate
National Criminal Justice Assn.
444 North Capitol Street, NW, #608
Washington, DC 20001
202-347-4900

Mr. Robert J. Cordy
Chief Legal Counsel
Office of the Governor
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
617-727-9173

Mr. Rod Countryman
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

Lt. Bob Cowman
Sparks Police Department
1125 C Street
Sparks, NV 89431

Mr. James D. Cox
Director of Urban Services
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
771 1st Avenue
New York, NY 10017
212-351-5930

Mr. Scott Craigie
Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5670

Ms. Ann H. Crowe
Coordinator of Juvenile
Justice Programs
American Probation & Parole Assn.
Council of State Governments
Iron Works Pike, P. O. Box 11910
Lexington, KY 40578 1910
606-231-1808

Ms. Patricia A. Cuza
Director
Office of Criminal Justice
Lewis Cass Building, First Floor
P. O. Box 30026
Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-6655

Mr. Garry W. Davis
Detective
Boise Police Department
7200 Barrister
Boise, ID 83704
208-377-6761

Mr. Ronald Davis
Special Agent, Group Supervisor
Drug Enforcement Administration
U. S. Department of Justice
401 Ryland Street, # 331
Reno, NV 89502
702-784-5617

The Honorable Frankie Sue Del Papa
Attorney General
State of Nevada
198 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-4170

The Honorable Robert J. Del Tufo
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Department of Law & Public Safety
Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-4930

Mr. Peter DiBacco
M. J. McKenzie Co.
1113 Morgan Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA 19026
215-853-3374

Mr. William J. Dixon
Police Officer
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2195

Mr. Ron Donnelly
Gang Officer
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2115

Mr. Lindsay G. Dorrier, Jr.
Director
Virginia Department
of Criminal Justice Services
805 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
804-786-8718

Sgt. Edna Drake
Detective Sargeant
Jackson Police Department
Mississippi Criminal Justice
Task Force
327 East Pascagoula Street
Jackson, MS 39205
601-960-1251

Mr. Murray E. Durst
Manager of Substance Abuse Programs
National Council of Juvenile and
Family Court Judges
P. O. Box 8970
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV 89507
702-784-1662

Mr. Leonard D. Eron
Professor of Psychology
University of Illinois at Chicago
P. O. Box 4348
M/C 285
Chicago, IL 60680
312-413-2622

Mr. Gale Richard Evans
Unit Chief, Violent Crimes
Major Offenders Section
Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20535
202-324-4294

Ms. Mary Lynne Evans
Administrator
Office of Narcotics Control
Assistance
c/o DMV/PS Director's Office
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711
702-687-5375

Mr. Jeffrey Fagan
Associate Professor
School of Criminal Justice
Rutgers University
15 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102
201-648-1305

Chief Louis H. Fetherolf
Fallon Police Department
55 N. Williams Avenue
Fallon, NV 89406
702-423-2111

Mr. Ronny Finch
Deputy Sheriff, Youth Gang Officer
Douglas County Sheriff's Department
P. O. Box 213
Minden, NV 89423
702-782-9900

Ms. Jennifer Fohs
Staff Assistant
Human Resource Group
National Governors' Association
444 N. Capitol Street, NW, #250
Washington, DC 20001
202-624-5853

Jack D. Foster, Ph.D.
Cabinet Secretary
Education and Humanities Cabinet
Capitol Building, Room 105
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-564-2611

Dr. J. Price Foster
Professor, Justice Administration
University of Louisville
1631 Dunbartonwynde
Louisville, KY 40205
502-588-7177

Richard W. Friedman
Director
Juvenile Justice Advisory Council
301 W. Preston Street, 15th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21281
301-225-4817

Ms. Ellyn Fuetsch
Gifted & Talented Coordinator
Vaughn Middle School
Reno, NV

Sgt. Rick Gilliam
Eugene Department of Public Safety
777 Pearl Street
Eugene, OR 97401
503-687-2152

Mr. Mark Gillispie
Reporter
Cleveland Plain Dealer
1801 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-344-4500

Ms. Kay Godefroy
Executive Director
Neighborhood Crime and
Justice Center
500 Wall, #315
Seattle, WA 98121
206-728-0903

Mr. James Graham
Special Assistant to the Governor
State of Illinois
State of Illinois Center, 16th Floor
100 West Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601
312-814-4841

Mr. Herman Wes Green
Youth Service Commission
Bergen County
1815 Rensselaer Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
201-837-6228

Mr. John J. Greene, III
Director, Training and Contracts
American Correctional Association
8025 Laurel Lakes Court
Laurel, MD 20707 5075
301-206-5045

Mr. Jeff Greim
Senior Program Officer
Public/Private Ventures
399 Market Street, Suite 570
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-592-9099

Ms. Bobbie A. Grier
Director, In-Home Detention
Family Court of Jefferson County
140 2nd Court North
Birmingham, AL 35204
205-325-5047

Mr. Richard Griffin
City Councilman
City of Richmond, CA
P. O. Box 4046
Richmond, CA 94804
202-620-6511

The Honorable Jimmy Gurule
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5933

Mr. Stephen Hagen
Deputy Sheriff-Juvenile
Mineral County Sheriff's Department
1st & A Street
P. O. Box 778
Hawthorne, NV 89415
702-945-2434

Sgt. Steve A. Hairston
Winston-Salem Police Department
P. O. Box 1707
Winston-Salem, NC 27102
919-773-7800

Mr. David Haneline
Chief
Nevada Division of Investigation
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711 0100
702-687-4412

Ms. Martha Harden
Research Analyst
Democratic Research
House of Representatives
JLOB B5, Mail Stop AS-33
Olympia, WA 98504
206-786-7221

Mr. Glen Harper
Principal
Caliente Youth Center
P. O. Box 427
Caliente, NV 89008
702-726-3181

Mr. C. Brian Harris
Counsel to the Governor
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5670

Dr. Darnell F. Hawkins
Professor
University of Illinois at Chicago
African American Studies (M/C069)
P. O. Box 4348
Chicago, IL 60680
312-996-2996

Ms. Gayle F. Hendricks
Principal
Department of Education
John F. Kennedy High School
331 North Marine Drive
Tamuning, GU 96911
671-646-8615

Capt. Dennis M. Higashi
Kauai Police Department
3060 Umi Street
Lihue, HI 96766
808-245-9742

Mr. Herman W. Hill, Jr.
Senior Program Specialist
Gang Violence Suppression Branch
Office of Criminal Justice Planning
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Gayle Hobbs
Regional Administrator
Missouri Division of Youth Services
P. O. Box 447
Jefferson City, MO 65102
816-889-2428

Mr. Martin (TY) Hodanish
Executive Director
Juvenile Delinquency Commission
212 West State Street
CN 965
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-292-2264

Ms. Sandra A. Holden
Executive Assistant
Boston Community Centers
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02118
617-725-4920

Ms. Dorothy Nash Holmes
District Attorney
Washoe County District
Attorney's Office
P. O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520
702-328-3200

Mr. Roy A. Holt
Assistant Director for Enforcement
Arizona Governor's Office
of Drug Policy
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-3456

Capt. Michael Hood
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Chief
Nevada Highway Patrol
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711 0525
702-687-5310

Mr. Ray Hoyt
Supervisor, Intelligence Operations
Nevada Division of Investigations
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711 0100
702-687-4407

Mr. David Huizinga
Research Associate
University of Colorado
CB-442
Boulder, CO 80309
303-492-1266

Mr. Jack Ickes
Program Coordinator
Washington State Governor's Juvenile
Justice Advisory Committee
P. O. Box 45203
OB 34G
Olympia, WA 98504
206-753-3940

The Honorable Jim Isaac
State Representative
Oklahoma House of Representative
Oklahoma State Capitol Building
Room 500
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-557-7314

Mr. Alphonso Jackson
Executive Director
Dallas Housing Authority
2525 Lucas Drive
Dallas, TX 75219
214-559-9000

Mr. Daniel Jacobson
Detective
Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
400 E. Stewart
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-3753

Ms. Ann Jaede
Program Manager
Office of Strategic and
Long Range Planning
300 Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55155
612-297-2436

Capt. Clifford S. Johnson
Investigative Division Commander
Schaumburg Police Department
1000 W. Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194
708-882-3534

Mr. C. Johnson
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

Chief Harold L. Johnson
Mobile Police Department
2460 Government Boulevard
Mobile, AL 36606
205-434-1701

Mr. Ray Johnson
Executive Director
Office of Criminal Justice Planning
1130 K Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-324-9140

Ms. Jacqueline C. Jones
Principal
Washoe County School District
3150 Wedgewood Court
Reno, NV 89509
702-851-5679

The Honorable Jan Laverty Jones
Mayor
City of Las Vegas
400 East Stewart Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-6241

Dr. Nolan E. Jones
Director
Committee on Justice and
Public Safety
National Governors' Association
444 N. Capitol Street, N.W., #250
Washington, DC 20001
202-624-5360

Mr. Scott Jordan
Court Master
Washoe County District Court
75 Court Street
Reno, NV 89501
702-328-3157

Mr. Craig Jorgenson
District Attorney
Mineral County, Nevada
P. O. Box 1210
Hawthorne, NV 89415
702-945-3636

Ms. Donna Karvia
Clerk of Superior Court
Lewis County Government
P. O. Box 1124
Chehalis, WA 98532
206-748-9121 x287

Mr. Otto Kelly
Gang Specialist
Washoe County Juvenile
Probation Department
1255 Mill Street
P. O. Box 11130
Reno, NV 89520
702-327-2777

Mr. Douglas R. Kinzie
Youth Parole Counselor II
Nevada Youth Parole Bureau
620 Belrose, Suite #C
Las Vegas, NV 89158
702-486-5080

Chief Lorne C. Kramer
Colorado Springs Police Department
P. O. Box 2169
Colorado Springs, CO 80901
719-578-6700

Ms. Karen Krenek
Juvenile Casework Supervisor
Sentencing Alternatives Program
2674 North 1st Street, Suite 100
San Jose, CA 95134
408-944-9048

Mr. Charles Lauer
Policy Analyst/Juvenile Justice
Office of National Drug
Control Policy
Executive Office of the President
Washington, DC 20500
202-467-9660

Mr. Michael A. Lavin
Deputy Director
Montana Department of Justice
215 N. Sanders
Helena, MT 59620
406-444-2026

Ms. Caren P. Lawrence
Police Officer
Inglewood Police Department
One Manchester
Inglewood, CA 90301
213-412-5568

Mr. Paul E. Lawrence
Director of Administration and
Information Systems
National Criminal Justice Assn.
444 N. Capitol Street, N.W., #608
Washington, DC 20001
202-347-4900

Ms. Elizabeth Lederer
Assistant District Attorney
Senior Trial Counsel
New York County District
Attorney's Office
1 Hogan Place
New York, NY 10013
212-335-4250

Mr. Charles Lee
Juvenile Detective
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Sgt. Kevin B. Leonard
Winston-Salem Police Department
P. O. Box 1707
Winston-Salem, NC 27102
919-773-7800

Sheriff John A. Leonhardt
Mineral County Sheriff's Department
1st and A Street
P. O. Box 778
Hawthorne, NV 89416
702-945-2434

Ms. Sheila Melton Leslie
Executive Director
Children's Cabinet Inc.
1090 S Rock Boulevard
Reno, NV 89502
702-785-4000

Sgt. Terry Lesney
Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
400 East Stewart Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-3403

Ms. Lucia C. Garcia Lewis
Coordinator
Financial Aid Scholarships
Truckee Meadows Community College
7000 Dandini Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512

Mr. Robert Lewis, Jr.
Program Manager
Streetworker Program
Boston Community Schools and
Recreation Centers
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02118
617-725-4920

Mr. William R. Lewis, Jr.
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Carson City Juvenile Probation
Department
1545 E. 5th Street
Carson City, NV 89701
702-887-2033

Mr. Al Lindsey
Assistant Deputy Director
Division of Criminal Investigation
Illinois State Police
500 Iles Park Place, Suite 400
Springfield, IL 62718 1002
217-782-6053

Ms. Marsha H. Litter
Counselor
Culvert City Unified School District
Culver Park High School
4034 Irving Place
Culver City, CA 90203
213-390-8886/839-4361x276

Ms. Sarah Longaker
Executive Director
Child Assault Prevention Project
2105 Capurro Street, Suite 2-D
Sparks, NV 89531
702-331-38883

Ms. Migdalia Lopez-Gomez
Executive Director
Secretariat Public Security Council
La Fortaleza
P. O. Box 82
Old San Juan, PR 00901
809-721-4011

Ms. Cathryn Lore
Administrator
Arizona Governor's Office for
Children, Juvenile Justice Programs
1700 W. Washington, #404
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-3191

Mr. Melvin W. Lorenzo
Gang Investigator
Maui Police Department
55 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
808-244-6480

The Honorable Susan B. Loving
Attorney General
State of Oklahoma
2200 N. Lincoln, Suite 112
Oklahoma City, OK 73105 4899
405-521-4108

Mr. Robert Lucherini
Deputy District Attorney
Clark County District Attorney's
Office
200 South Third Street
Las Vegas, NV 89155
702-455-4711

Lt. Joseph Martin
Detention
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. Joe Masei
Director
American Samoa Criminal Justice
Planning Agency
c/o American Samoa
Pago Pago, AS 96799
684-633-5221/5222

Lt. George Maskaly
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89503
702-334-2105

Mr. George Mauldin
Undersheriff
Cleveland County Sheriff's Dept.
203 S. Jones
Norman, OK 73069
405-321-8600

Mr. Joseph J. McCaffrey
President
American Federation of Police
11623 Mitla Avenue
Downey, CA 90241
213-928-8661

Ms. Gladys McCoy
Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County
1201 SW Forth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204
503-248-3308

Ms. Barbara McDonald
Deputy Executive Director
Illinois Criminal Justice
Information Authority
120 S. Riverside Plaza
Chicago, IL 60606
312-793-8550

Mr. Jerome E. McElroy
Executive Director
NYC Criminal Justice Agency, Inc.
305 Broadway, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10007
212-577-0505

Mr. Michael J. McKenzie
M. J. McKenzie Co.
1113 Morgan Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA 19026
215-853-3374

Ms. Cathy McNeal
Teacher
Huntsville City Schools
4020 Heatherhill
Huntsville, AL 35802
205-881-1924

Sgt. Doug McPartland
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2194

Mr. Patrick M. Meacham
Spec. Assistant to the Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5911

Sgt. Don Means
Juvenile Detective
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Ms. Wanda A. Meredith
Secretary/Receptionist
National Criminal Justice Assn.
444 North Capitol Street, NW, #608
Washington, DC 20001
202-347-4900

Ms. Janette Willie Mikatich
Juvenile Diversion Project
Coordinator
Adams County District
Attorney's Office
7401 N. Broadway, Suite 250
Denver, CO 80221
303-427-6001

Mr. Kenneth Miller
Section Manager
Ethan Allen School
P. O. Box 900
Wales, WI 53183 0900
414-646-3341

The Honorable Robert J. Miller
Governor
State Capitol
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5670

The Honorable Asoxa Misiata
Representative
American Samoa
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Ms. Natalie Mittag
Planner
North Carolina Governor's Crime
Commission
P. O. Box 27687
Raleigh, NC 27611
919-733-5013

Ms. Stephanie Moen
D.A.R.E. Officer
Staff Services
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Ms. Marcella Morfin
Member
Utah Board of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention
101 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
801-538-1031

Mr. Darrell Morong
Program Specialist
Arizona Supreme Court
1501 West Washington, Suite 337
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-542-9443

Ms. Nancy Mousel
Sustainer
Junior League of Reno
606 West Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509
702-826-0445

Mr. Phil Munger
Resident Coordinator
Reno Housing Authority
1525 E. 9th Street
Reno, NV 89512 3012
702-329-3630

Lt. James Nadeau
Incline Village Substation
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. Richard L. Nathan
Attorney-at-Law
Isaacson, Rosenbaum, Woods,
& Levy, P.C.
633 17th Street, Suite 2200
Denver, CO 80202
303-292-5656

Mr. Andrew Neal
Police Officer
Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
400 E. Stewart Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-3206

Ms. Vicki Neiberg
Chairperson
Michigan Committee
on Juvenile Justice
Lewis Cass Building, First Floor
P. O. Box 30026
East Lansing, MI 48909
517-373-6655

The Honorable Gus Nunez
Vice Mayor
Councilman, Ward 3
City of Reno
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2002

Ms. Judy O'Neal
Chief
Anti-Drug Abuse Branch
Office of Criminal Justice Planning
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Rose M. Ochi
Director
Mayor's Office of
Criminal Justice Planning
200 N. Spring Street, Room 1404
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-485-4425

Mr. Robert L. Ortiz
Director
Special Investigations Division
New Mexico Department
of Public Safety
4801 Indian School Road, NE, #204
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-841-4660

Katie Parks
Student
Gifted & Talented Program
Vaughn Middle School
Reno, NV

Dr. Eugene T. Paslov
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction
Nevada State Department
of Education
400 West King Street
Carson City, NV 89701
702-687-3100

Mr. Gene Peter
Deputy Commissioner
Kentucky State Police
919 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-695-6300

Mr. Dusty Pierpoint
Detective
Lacey Police Department
420 College Street, SE
Lacey, WA 98503
206-459-4333

Brad Pillsbury
Student
Gifted & Talented Program
Vaughn Middle Schools
Reno, NV

Mr. Tony Plew
Patrolman
Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
400 E. Stewart
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-3301

Mr. Victor J. Poirier
Manager, Community Affairs
Kansas City Power & Light Co.
P. O. Box 418679
Kansas City, MO 64141 9679
816-556-2898

Mr. Michael C. Prentice
Assistant Director
Administrative Services Division
Idaho Department of Law Enforcement
3311 W. State Street
P. O. Box 55
Boise, ID 83707
208-334-2521

Sheriff Joe Price
Harrison County Sheriff's Department
Mississippi Criminal Justice
Task Force
P. O. Box 1480
Gulfport, MS 39502
601-865-7092

Mr. Thomas J. Quinn
Executive Director
Criminal Justice Council
Carvel State Office Building
4th Floor
820 North French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-577-3437

Mr. Mujahid Ramadan
Coordinator
State Substance Abuse Program
2701 E. Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89104
702-486-4181

Ms. Winifred Reed
Program Manager
National Institute of Justice
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-0650

Major Dean Renfrow
Director of Criminal Investigation
Division
Oregon State Police
107 Public Service Building
Salem, OR 97310
503-373-3720

Mr. Mario M. Reyes
Special Agent
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, &
Firearms
U. S. Department of the Treasury
650 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 7210
Washington, DC 20226
202-927-8770

Mr. Richard C. Rice
Director
Department of Public Safety
Truman State Office Building
P. O. Box 749
Jefferson City, MO 65102 0749
314-751-4905

Mr. Tracy Riggins
Director
The Salvation Army Youth and
Family Center
2300 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512
702-688-4550

Sgt. Percy R. Roberts, Jr.
Inglewood Police Department
One Manchester
Inglewood, CA 90301
213-412-5568

Capt. Tom Robinson
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-3850

Mr. Richard J. Rogers
Staff Associate
National Criminal Justice Assn.
444 N. Capitol Street, NW, #608
Washington, DC 20001
202-347-4900

Mr. Tim Rogers
Parole Counselor II
Nevada Youth Parole Bureau
620 Belrose, Suite #C
Las Vegas, NV 89158
702-486-5080

Sgt. Richard Ross
Juvenile Detective
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. Brent Royle
Juvenile Detective
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

The Honorable Armando Ruiz
State Senator
Arizona State Senate
1700 W. Washington, Room 309
Phoenix, AZ 85301
602-542-4291

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
Alderman
City of Chicago
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60601

Mr. Michael J. Russell
Deputy Director
National Institute of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-2942

Mr. Pat Ryan
Detective
Eugene Department of Public Safety
777 Pearl Street
Eugene, OR 97401
503-687-5182

Ms. Rebecca Ryan
Specialist
Department of the Attorney General
State of Hawaii
425 Queen Street
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-586-1150

The Honorable Robert M. Sader
State Assemblyman
Nevada State Legislature
462 Court Street
Reno, NV 89501
702-329-8310

Ms. Diana J. Saenz
Research Assistant
Institute for Law and Justice
1018 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-684-5300

Mr. Charles L. Salazar
Juvenile Diversion Counselor
Adams County District Attorney's
Office
7401 N. Broadway, Suite 250
Denver, CO 80221
303-427-6001

Ms. Natalie Salazar
Executive Director
Community Reclamation Project
2041 Pacific Coast Highway
Suite 2B
Lomita, CA 90717
213-326-2119

Mr. Karl L. Sannicks
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

Mr. John Sarb
Administrator
Division of Child and
Family Services
State of Nevada
505 East King Street, Room 600
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-4730

Mr. Tim Saver
M. J. McKenzie Co.
1113 Morgan Avenue
Drexel Hill, PA 19026
512-853-3374

Chief Bernard E. Schneider
City of Lovelock
P. O. Box 1100
Lovelock, NV 89419
702-273-2256

Mr. Bob Schwarz
Chaplin
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. Richard G. Scott
Teacher
Carson City School District
241 Heidi Circle
Carson City, NV 89701
702-885-7404H/885-6570W

Major Robert L. Scriven
Commanding Officer
The Salvation Army - Reno
2300 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512
702-688-4550

The Honorable Arthur W. Seaberg
State Representative
State of Minnesota
393 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
621-296-3533

The Honorable Miriam Shearing
District Court Judge
Juvenile Court
3401 E. Bonanza Road
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-455-5325

Mr. Paul Shepard
Reporter
Cleveland Plain Dealer
1801 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-344-4500

Mr. Harvey H. Siegel
Vice President
Phillips Swager Associates
3622 North Knoxville
Peroria, IL 61603
309-688-9511

Mr. Edward F. Smith
Chief Criminal Investigator
Mineral County Criminal
Investigations Division
166 E Street
P. O. Box 89415
Hawthorne, NV 89415
702-945-1127

Rep. Loren A. Solberg
State Representative
Minnesota House of Representatives
P. O. Box 61
Borey, MN 55709
612-296-2365

Dr. Fernando I. Soriano
Assistant Professor
University of Missouri-Kansas City
650 E 25th Street
Kansas City, MO 64108 2795
816-235-2883

Mr. Charles J. Sorrentino
Deputy Director for Enforcement
U. S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 4317
Washington, DC 20220
202-566-2743

Mr. Steve Spradling
Detective
Dallas Police Department
106 S. Harwood Street, #225
Dallas, TX 75201
214-670-5158

Ms. Marlyne Staub
Volunteer
Office of the Governor
State of Nevada
Carson City, NV 89710
702-687-5670

Mr. Tracy Steele
Special Assistant for
Economic Development
Arkansas Governor's Office
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-682-3607

Mr. Darrel W. Stephens
Executive Director
Police Executive Research Forum
2300 M Street, NW, #910
Washington, DC 20037
202-466-7820

Mr. Curtis B. Stewart
Superintendent
Caliente Youth Center
P. O. Box 427
Caliente, NV 89008
702-726-3181

Ms. Anita Sullivan
Sen. Reids Office
Senator from Nevada
Carson City, NV

Mr. Geoffrey Swan
Nevada State Prison
Department of Corrections
Carson City, NV

The Honorable Robert W. Sweet, Jr.
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention
U. S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20531
202-307-5911

Mr. Dennis Syfers
Administrative Deputy
Detention
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. Roland J. Talton
Special Agent
Drug Enforcement Administration
U. S. Department of Justice
350 S. Figueroa Street, #800
Los Angeles, CA 90071
213-894-2650

Mr. Wayne Teglia
Director
Department of Motor Vehicles &
Public Safety
555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711 0900
702-687-5375

Mr. Herbert Terry
Director of Justice Programs
Division of Public Safety Planning
301 W. Pearl Street
Jackson, MS 39203 3088
601-949-2225

Mr. Robert W. Teuton
Assistant Director
Clark County Juvenile Court
3401 E. Bonanza Road
Las Vegas, NV 89001
702-455-5210

Mr. James Thomas
Executive Director
Commission on Crime and Delinquency
P.O. Box 1167
Federal Square Station
Harrisburg, PA 17108 1167
717-787-2040

Ms. Patsy Thomas
Gang Task Force Coordinator
Citizens Crime Commission
of Tarrant County
1300 Summit Avenue, #226
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-877-5161

Dr. Terence P. Thornberry
Professor
School of Criminal Justice
The State University of New York
at Albany
135 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
518-442-5210

Mr. Ricard M. Tiran
Parole/Probation
State of Nevada
1301 Cordone Street
Reno, NV 89502
702-688-1039

The Honorable Letumu Tolouega
Representative
American Samoa
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Mr. Adam K. Troy
Executive Administrator
The Ohio Civil Rights Commission
226 Parsons Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215
614-644-5143

Sgt. Steve Turner
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2115

Mr. Ronald Vance
Member
Utah Board of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention
101 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
801-538-1031

Mr. Rick Vanderburg
Vice President
Admission and Aftercare
Rite of Passage
Athletic Training Center
P. O. Box 1360
Minderi, NV 89423
702-782-7191

Ms. Linda Wade
Nevada PTA Representative
Nevada Parent Teachers Association
1315 Hiawatha Road
Las Vegas, NV 89108
702-646-5437

Mr. Dennis R. Watson
Executive Director
National Black Youth Leadership
Council
250 West 54th Street, Suite 811
New York, NY 10019
212-690-7659

Mr. Jim Watson
Head Group Supervisor
Nevada Youth Training Center
P. O. Box 469
Elko, NV 89801
702-738-7182

Ms. Catherine Webber
Assistant to the Governor
Administrator of Executive Dept.
155 Cottage Street, NE
Salem, OR 97310
503-378-4120

Ms. Joan C. Weiss
Executive Director
Criminal Justice Statistics Assn.
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 606
Washington, DC 20001
202-624-8560

Mr. Glen Welch
Chief Probation Officer
Youth Court
200 West Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802
406-721-5700 x3206

Mr. Ken Wellington
Police Officer
Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
400 E. Stewart Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
702-229-3426

Capt. Jim Weston
Reno Police Department
P. O. Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
702-334-2130

Mr. Gary Wheeler
County Commissioner
Board of County Commission
Indian River County
1840 25th Street
Vero Beach, FL 32960
407-567-8000 x490

Mr. Terry White
Deputy Probation Officer
Youth Court
200 West Broadway
Missoula, MT 59802
406-721-5700 x3206

Chief Daryl M. Wicker
Cypress Police Dept.
5275 Orange Ave.
Cypress, CA 90630
714-229-6620

Mr. Garland Wilhite
Principal
Simon Sanchez High School
Guam, GU 96921

Mr. Fred Williams
Detention
Washoe County Sheriff's Office
911 Parr Boulevard
Reno, NV 89512
702-328-3001

Mr. William R. Woodward
Director
Division of Criminal Justice
Colorado Department of Public Safety
700 Kipling Street
Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215
303-239-4442

Tanya Yancey
Student
Gifted & Talented Program
Vaughn Middle School
Reno, NV

Capt. Tony Zamboni
Sparks Police Department
1125 C Street
Sparks, NV 89431

Appendix C: Conference Speakers and Presenters



SPEAKERS

"NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH GANGS AND VIOLENT JUVENILE CRIME"

RENO, NEVADA
Oct. 7-9, 1991

RON BELL. As the Director of Mission Hill Community Centers, Mr. Bell oversees a wide range of activities and programs including the Hope-in-Progress gang and drug deterrent program. Mr. Bell is a popular lecturer at local schools and conferences on youth-related issues. His lectures have focused on such issues as youth violence and gang activities. He also has served as coach of numerous local youth league basketball teams. Mr. Bell grew up in Mission Hill and attended Boston Latin School, Cheyney University and Bentley College.

ALFRED BLUMSTEIN. Dr. Blumstein is dean and J. Erik Jonsson Professor of urban systems and operations at the School of Urban and Public Affairs of Carnegie Mellon University. In addition to being chair of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the state criminal justice planning agency, Dr. Blumstein has served as director of Task Force on Science and Technology for the president's Commission on Law Enforcement Administration of Justice and as a member of the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing. Dr. Blumstein also has chaired the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Research on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice, and has chaired the committee's panels on Research on Deterrent and Incapacitative Effects, Sentencing Research, and Research on Criminal Careers. Dr. Blumstein holds a bachelor's degree in engineering and physics from Cornell University, a master's degree in science of statistics from the University of Buffalo, and a doctoral degree in operations research from Cornell University.

JIM BROWN. Mr. Brown, a football Hall of Famer, created the Amer-I-Can Program for juveniles and young adults with long prison records. The former Cleveland Brown running back's two-year-old program is a 15-step life management training course that focuses on building self-esteem, setting goals, finding jobs, establishing emotional control, and family relationships. In the Amer-I-Can handbook, Brown outlines lessons in the value of positive thought, proper communication, the art of financial stability, improving attitudes and motivation. The program, which has been taught to more than 4,000 inmates, uses former gang members and inmates as instructors and has expanded from Los Angeles to Ohio, New York, and Nevada. Mr. Brown has dedicated the last several years to helping troubled youth. Prior to starting the Amer-I-Can Program, he spent five years working with similar inmate programs in the California Department of Corrections. In 1989, Mr. Brown released his autobiography, "Out of Bounds."

ELIZABETH T. BUHMANN, PH.D. Dr. Buhmann is a research specialist in the Research and Policy Management Division of the Office of the Attorney General in Austin, Texas. She has contributed to various Texas Attorney General publications on gangs and participated in numerous conferences of the problem of gangs. Previously, Dr. Buhmann was a technical writer for two law firms in Austin and also an assistant professor of Philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Buhmann holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Smith College and a master's and doctoral degree in philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh.

JOHN A. CALHOUN. As executive director of the National Crime Prevention Council, Mr. Calhoun oversees all activities and has coordinated the Youth as Resources and Community Responses to Drug Abuse programs. He also has served as the director of the Center for Governmental Affairs of the Child Welfare League of America, Commissioner of the Administration for Children, Youth and Families, and Chief of the Children's Bureau. He served as the Massachusetts Commissioner of Youth Services, chair of the State Task Force on Adolescents and Organizer and chair of the State Conference on Families. Mr.

Calhoun holds a bachelor's degree and master's degrees in theology and public administration from Harvard University.

ROBBIE CALLAWAY. Mr. Callaway is the Assistant National Director for Government Relations for the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Mr. Callaway has been influential in obtaining passage of federal legislation favorable to the youth and families of America, such as the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, and the Child Protection Act. In 1987, he received the U. S. Department of Justice Award for "outstanding service to President Reagan's Child Safety Partnership". Mr. Callaway, a graduate of the University of Maryland, previously worked as a counselor and ultimately the director of the Caithness Shelter Home for runaway, delinquent, abused and neglected children.

RONALD L. CHANCE. Mr. Chance is the project director of the National Youth Gang Suppression and Intervention Program in the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. Among his many duties, he administers a national research and development project aimed at addressing the youth gang problem. Mr. Chance also was program coordinator of a national survey that assessed community and programmatic approaches to youth gang activity. He holds a bachelor's degree in international studies from Bradley University and a master's degree in social welfare policy and administration from the University of Chicago.

FRANKIE SUE DEL PAPA. Ms. Del Papa is the Attorney General of the State of Nevada. She also has served as Secretary of State. Ms. Del Papa practiced law for 12 years and was a member of the University of Nevada Board of Regents. Previously, Ms. Del Papa was a staff assistant for U. S. Senator Allan Bible and a law clerk for U. S. District Judge Bruce Thompson. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada at Reno and a law degree from George Washington University.

ROBERT J. DEL TUFO. As the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey, Mr. Del Tufo heads the Department of Law and Public Safety and sits upon 39 Boards and Commissions. Previously, he served as the First Assistant Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and director of its Division of Criminal Justice. He served as the Commissioner of the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation and as the U. S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey. Mr. Del Tufo holds a degree in English from Princeton University and a law degree from Yale University.

JEFFREY A. FAGAN. Dr. Fagan is an associate professor in the School of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University. In addition to editing the *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, Dr. Fagan has published several papers on youth gangs, including gang involvement in drug use and drug selling. Dr. Fagan is chair of a working group on the social ecology of crime and drugs for the Social Science Research Council's committee on research on the urban underclass, and is a member of the research advisory group for the Program in Human Development and Criminal Behavior of the McArthur Foundation. Dr. Fagan earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from New York University and holds a master's degree in industrial engineering and a doctoral degree in public policy in the School of Civil Engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

JACK D. FOSTER. Mr. Foster has been the Secretary of Education and Humanities for the State of Kentucky since 1987. Prior to his cabinet appointment, he was principal partner in State Research Associates, a national public policy consulting firm specializing in state policy. Among his other positions, Mr. Foster was a member of the Education Reform Task Force responsible for drafting the Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990 and a member of the Council on School Performance Standards that is designing a new curriculum and assessment system for Kentucky schools.

J. PRICE FOSTER. Dr. Foster is professor at the University of Louisville's School of Justice Administration and is currently serving as liaison for the university president's Urban Mission project. In addition to serving as dean of the University of Louisville's School of Justice Administration, Dr. Foster has directed the National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Office of Criminal Justice Education and Training of the former U. S. Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Dr. Foster also has been deputy administrator of the Florida Governor's Council on Criminal Justice and dean of students at Andrew College in Georgia. Dr. Foster serves on the board of

directors of the Louisville Youth Forum and the advisory committee for the Law Enforcement Explorers and is the chair of Louisville's Police Administration advisory committee. Dr. Foster holds a bachelor's degree in history and business administration from Tennessee Wesleyan College, a master's degree in history from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and a doctoral degree in criminology from Florida State University at Tallahassee.

JIMMY GURULE. Mr. Gurule is the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs in the U. S. Department of Justice. He served as an Assistant U. S. Attorney in the Criminal Division of the Office of the U. S. Attorney in Los Angeles, Calif., where he was Deputy Chief of the Major Narcotics Section. In addition, Mr. Gurule was a prosecutor in the Salt Lake County Attorney's Office and a trial attorney in the Criminal Division of the U. S. Justice Department. Mr. Gurule holds a bachelor's degree and a law degree from the University of Utah.

DARNELL F. HAWKINS. Dr. Hawkins is a professor in the department of African-American Studies, Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Illinois. He is the author of *Homicide Among Black Americans*, and has published many articles dealing with crime and imprisonment among black Americans. Dr. Hawkins, who holds a doctorate in sociology from the University of Michigan and a law degree from the University of North Carolina, is currently a member of the editorial advisory board for *Criminology* and on the editorial board for *Justice Quarterly*.

GAYLE HOBBS. For the past nine years, Ms. Hobbs has served as the Regional Administrator for Missouri Youth Services. She has focused on restructuring and developing new program techniques for high risk youths statewide. Presently, Ms. Hobbs is working with various social service agencies to develop a locally controlled collaborative service delivery system for Kansas City area youth and families. She is a Missouri state certified family therapist and awaiting licensure as a Missouri Clinical Social Worker.

DAVID HUIZINGA, PH.D. Dr. Huizinga is a Research Associate for the Institute of Behavioral Science at the University of Colorado. Previously, he served as the Senior Research Associate for the Behavioral Research Institute. Dr. Huizinga has served as Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator and statistician for numerous federally funded juvenile delinquency research projects and has written a variety of publications on juvenile delinquency and drug use. Dr. Huizinga holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in mathematics from the University of Wyoming and a doctoral degree in psychology from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

ALPHONSO R. JACKSON. Mr. Jackson is executive director of the Dallas Housing Authority, where he is responsible for providing safe, sanitary housing for low-income persons. Mr. Jackson previously has served as director of the Department of Public and Assisted Housing in Washington, D. C., director of public safety for the city of St. Louis, and executive director of the St. Louis Housing Authority. Mr. Jackson is president of the Texas chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities. Mr. Jackson hold a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in education administration from Northeast Missouri State University, as well as a law degree from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

ANN C. JAEDE. Ms. Jaede is the Program Director for the Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning for the State of Minnesota Criminal Justice Program. She performed the first comprehensive descriptive study of Minnesota's juvenile court population and has served on a Supreme Court Commission as a expert in the field of juvenile justice. Originally a school teacher, Jaede received a master's degree in educational psychology and an Education-Administration Specialist degree from the University of Minnesota through an NIMH Fellowship. Ms. Jaede has been a member of NCJA since 1975, and a Board member since 1988. She currently chairs the NCJA Policy Committee.

HAROLD L. JOHNSON. Mr. Johnson has been chief of police of the Mobile, Alabama Police Department since February 1990. Prior to taking that position, Chief Johnson was the chief of the Ecorse Police Department in Ecorse, Michigan. Born in Detroit, Chief Johnson joined the Detroit Police Department in 1964 after serving three years in the United States Navy. He retired from the Detroit police force as an inspector in 1988.

NOLAN E. JONES, PH.D. Dr. Jones is the Director for the Committee on Justice and Public Safety of the National Governors' Association (NGA). He has served as staff director for the NGA's Task Force on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Previously, Dr. Jones was assistant professor of political science at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Recently, Dr. Jones was elected to the governing council of the American Political Science Association. He holds an undergraduate degree from Texas Southern University and a doctoral degree in political science from Washington University.

LORNE C. KRAMER. Mr. Kramer is the Chief of the Colorado Springs Police Department. Previously, he served as a Commander in the Los Angeles Police Department. Mr. Kramer is a consultant and instructor for the National Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and has developed several gang prevention programs. Mr. Kramer holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Redlands, a master's degree from USC and graduated from California's Law Enforcement Command College.

ELIZABETH J. LEDERER. Ms. Lederer is assistant district attorney for New York County (N.Y.) and was chief prosecutor in the highly publicized case of the jogger attacked by a group of youths in New York City's Central Park. In addition to working in private law firms, Ms. Lederer previously has worked in the Manhattan district attorney's Sex Crimes Unit and with the U. S. district attorney offices in Boston (Mass.) and in Southern New York. Ms. Lederer holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy and German from Clark University in Worcester (Mass.) and a law degree from Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

ROBERT LEWIS, JR. Mr. Lewis is program manager of the Boston (Mass.) Community Schools and Recreation Center. In addition to having served as youth business developer for the Youth Entrepreneurial Development Project in Cambridge (Mass.), where he established a demonstration project aimed at assisting low-income youth to develop their own business, Mr. Lewis has been youth service coordinator for a Boston youth services program. Mr. Lewis's local youth service memberships include South End Alliance, Reclaim our Community, Dorchester Youth Alliance, and Youth Worker's Alliance. Mr. Lewis attended the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and Curry College (Mass.).

ROBERT G. LUCHERINI. Mr. Lucherini is the Deputy District Attorney of Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada where he prosecutes cases of homicides, sex crimes, economic crimes and drug and gang-related crime. Previously, Mr. Lucherini served as Deputy Attorney General of the State of Nevada. Mr. Lucherini also has served as a law clerk in the Third Judicial District Court in Fallon, Nevada and as Chief Law Clerk in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office in Sacramento, Calif. He holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Utah and a law degree from the McGeorge School of Law.

GLADYS McCOY. Ms. McCoy serves as the Multnomah County Chair in Portland, Ore. As the Chief Executive Officer, she administers all county programs under the departments of Community Corrections, Environmental Services, General Services and Human Services. Previously, Ms. McCoy served as the Multnomah County Commissioner and the State of Oregon Ombudsman. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Talladega College and a master's degree in social work from Portland State University.

BARBARA B. MCDONALD. Ms. McDonald is the Deputy Executive Director for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. She is the First Vice-President of the National Criminal Justice Association and a member of the International Chiefs of Police Association Crime Prevention Committee, and the U. S. Attorney General's Northern District Law Enforcement Coordinating Council Executive Committee. She received a bachelor's and a master's degree of education from the University of Vermont and a certificate of advanced study from the University of Vermont for organizational and human resource development.

JEROME E. McELROY. Mr. McElroy is executive director of the New York City Criminal Justice Agency, which provides pretrial services to criminal courts. In addition to having trained command staff in the New York City Police Academy, Mr. McElroy has served as associate director for the Vera Institute of Justice, deputy administrator for the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services' Office of Planning and Program Assistance, and as lecturer and professor at the City University of New York and at Fordham University and has chaired the Essex County Correction advisory board. Mr. McElroy is a member of the National Criminal Justice Association's Board of Directors. Mr. McElroy holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in sociology and is working on a doctoral degree in sociology from Fordham University's College of Arts and Sciences.

BOB MILLER. Mr. Miller is currently the Governor of the State of Nevada. He was lieutenant governor of Nevada and president of the Nevada District Attorneys Association and the National District Attorneys Association. Gov. Miller is currently the chairman of the Nevada Commission on Economic Development, the Nevada Commission on Tourism and the National Governors' Association Committee on Justice and Public Safety. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Santa Clara and a law degree from Loyola Law School.

ROSE OCHI. Ms. Ochi is the director of the Los Angeles City Criminal Justice Planning Office. As director, Ms. Ochi coordinates the administration of justice-related policy and program development. Her professional experiences include being a Presidential Appointee to the National Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy, chairing the National Minority Advisory Council on Criminal Justice, and the mayor's representative to the Los Angeles County Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. She is a graduate of the University of California and California State University and received her law degree from Loyola.

EUGENE T. PASLOV. Dr. Paslov has been Nevada's State Superintendent of Public Instruction since August 1985. He was instrumental in creating programs for at-risk children and improving the quality of the statewide school curriculum and developed "The Governor's Institute for Gifted and Talented Nevada High School Students." Dr. Paslov received a master's and doctoral degree in political science and public school administration from Teachers College, Columbia University in New York City.

VICTOR J. POIRIER. Mr. Poirier is manager of community affairs for the Kansas City, Missouri Power and Light Company. While holding that position, Mr. Poirier has explored a number of ways that private firms can become involved in addressing needs of the community. Prior to joining the KCPL in 1975, Mr. Poirier served as project director for the Alternative Futures Program for Greater Kansas City developing long-range strategies for the future of Kansas City. He holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in philosophy and a master's degree in theology from the Aquinas Institute, River Forest, Ill. He is also a graduate of MIT, Sloan School of Management, Summer Urban Executive Program, in Cambridge, Mass.

THOMAS J. QUINN. Mr. Quinn is executive director of Delaware's Criminal Justice Council, an oversight board for criminal justice issues, and is staff coordinator for Delaware's State Sentencing Accountability Commission, which develops sentencing standards. Previously, he served as deputy director of Delaware's Criminal Justice Council. Mr. Quinn has served as president and as vice president of the National Criminal Justice Association. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Dartmouth College and a master's degree in criminal justice from the State University of New York at Albany.

MUJAHID RAMADAN. Mr. Ramadan was appointed Nevada's State Coordinator of Substance Abuse Programs by Gov. Bob Miller in 1989. Since then, Mr. Ramadan has worked closely with high-risk gang members and children. During his tenure with Clark County Juvenile Court Services, Mr. Ramadan was appointed to the position as Gang Coordinator and developed treatment, alternative and prevention programs. He received a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and was recently nominated for recognition by the Black History Project.

GERALD P. REGIER. Mr. Regier is the Acting Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the U. S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs. He recently completed an assignment as a Commissioner on the National Commission on Children, culminating in the release of the report, *Beyond Rhetoric. A New American Agenda for Children and Families*. Previously, Mr. Regier served as Associate Commissioner for the Administration for Children, Youth and Families in the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. He has written numerous books including *Values and Public Policy*. Mr. Regier holds an undergraduate degree from Michigan State University and a Master of Public Administration degree from Harvard University.

RICHARD C. RICE. Mr. Rice is the Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety. Previously, he served as the director of the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency. Mr. Rice is a member of the NCJA Board of Directors. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from Kansas State University and a master's degree in social studies from Eastern Michigan University.

BOBBY RUSH. Mr. Rush has been a City Alderman in Chicago since 1983 and is an active member of the Democratic party. Among his many activities, he has spearheaded neighborhood development and was also a member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. As Deputy Minister of Defense of the Black Panther Party, Mr. Rush helped found the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party and served as Chairman. He is a graduate of Roosevelt University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.

MICHAEL J. RUSSELL. Mr. Russell is the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Justice, the principal criminal justice research, development and evaluation agency within the U.S. Department of Justice. Prior to joining NIJ, he served for more than five years on the Judiciary committee and personal staffs of U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA), working extensively on criminal justice issues. In the 99th Congress, Mr. Russell served as Majority Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice. He earned a Master's Degree in Political Science and a law degree from Vanderbilt University. Mr. Russell is a member of the District of Columbia and the Pennsylvania bars.

ROBERT M. SADER. Mr. Sader has a private law practice in Reno, Nevada. In addition to serving as a member of the National Commission on Uniform State Laws and the American Bar Association, he is a member of the Governor's DUI Task Force and the Homeless Task Force. Mr. Sader has received an undergraduate degree in history from Stanford University and a law degree from Georgetown Law Center.

NATALIE D. SALAZAR. Ms. Salazar is executive director of the Community Reclamation Program in Lomita, Calif., a pilot gang and drug prevention program. In addition to serving as executive assistant to the director for the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning in Sacramento, Ms. Salazar previously has held positions as executive assistant to the director for the Los Angeles Community Youth Gang Services Project and on the California Council on Criminal Justice State Task Force on Gangs and Drugs. Ms. Salazar also is a member of the Mexican-American Correctional Association. Ms. Salazar holds bachelor's and master's degrees in criminal justice from the University of California at Los Angeles.

FERNANDO I. SORIANO, PH.D. Dr. Soriano is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Dr. Soriano is a member of the American Psychological Association's National Committee on Violence and Youth and the National Youth Advisory Committee of the Family and Youth Services Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families in the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. He has written numerous articles on gang issues. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California and a master's and doctoral degree in psychology from the University of Colorado.

TRACY L. STEELE. Mr. Steele is the Special Assistant for Economic Development for Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas. His duties include working on various anti-drug and anti-youth gang programs. He is a member of the North Little Rock Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Rice University.

DARREL W. STEPHENS. Mr. Stephens is executive director of the Police Executive Research Forum, which aims to improve policing through research and debate of public policy. In addition to having served previously as chief of the Newport News (Va.) and chief of the Largo (Fla.) Police Departments, Mr. Stephens has been assistant chief of the Lawrence (Kans.) Police Department and a police sergeant for the Kansas City (Mo.) Police Department. Mr. Stephens is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's State and Local Training Advisory Board, and the national advisory board of the Domestic Violence Project and has served as the National Crime Prevention Coalition steering committee's vice chair. Mr. Stephens holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice and a master's degree in public services administration from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

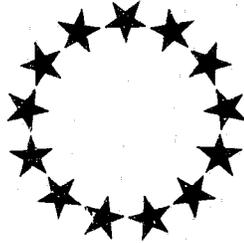
ROBERT W. SWEET, JR. As Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the U. S. Department of Justice, Mr. Sweet is responsible for developing and implementing discretionary programs covering areas such as gang violence and drug abuse. He is a former Senior Policy Advisor to the Senate Republican Policy Committee and has served as the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Domestic Policy Council and as a senior staff member in the Office of Policy Development.

TERENCE P. THORNBERRY. Mr. Thornberry is a Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the State University of New York at Albany. Previously, Mr. Thornberry was an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Georgia where he was the Director of the Criminal Justice Studies Program and the Research Center in Crime and Delinquency. Mr. Thornberry has published numerous manuscripts including *The Criminally Insane* for which he received the Gavel Award, Certificate of Merit, from the American Bar Association. He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Fordham University and a master's degree in criminology and a doctoral degree in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania.

ADAM K. TROY. Mr. Troy is executive administrator of the Ohio Governor's Commission on Socially Disadvantaged Black Males. The Commission, established by the governor in 1989. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Troy served as liaison to the executive director of the Private Industry Council for Columbus and Franklin County where he started several youth projects and employment initiatives that have been recognized as model programs. Mr. Troy earned his undergraduate degree in finance from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga., and also studied at the Colleges of Law and Administrative Sciences at Ohio State University.

DENNIS RAHIIM WATSON. Mr. Watson is founder and executive director of the National Black Youth Leadership Council, dedicated to addressing the problems of drug abuse, crime, teenage pregnancy, gang warfare, illiteracy, and poor self-esteem. Mr. Waston has delivered his inspirational and motivational speeches at more than 2,000 elementary schools, high schools, colleges, prisons, and reform schools throughout the nation challenging black males and other minority youths to excel through volunteerism and community service. A one-time high school dropout, Mr. Watson was educated at the Harlem Preparatory School, Fordham University, PACE University and the New York University. He was named an outstanding young man of America in 1982, 1985, and 1987. Mr. Watson holds more than 100 awards for community service, including three presidential citations.

JOAN C. WEISS. Ms. Weiss is Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Statistics Association. She also served as the first Executive Director of the Institute Against Prejudice and Violence. As Community Relations Specialist for the Montgomery County, Maryland Human Relations Commission, she created and implemented innovative criminal justice programs, including "STOP" for juvenile offenders which won National Association of Counties awards in four consecutive years. A 1984 recipient of the United Nations Human Rights Award. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's degree in social work from the University of Maryland.



National Governors' Association
444 N. Capitol Street, NW
Suite 250
Washington, DC 20001



Office of the Governor
State of Nevada
State Capitol
Carson City, NV 89710



National Criminal Justice Association
444 N. Capitol Street, NW
Suite 608
Washington, DC 20001