The Center for Task Force Training (CenTF) Program provides specialized training for law enforcement personnel who serve on narcotics task forces funded by either Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance formula grants (Byrne Program) or state or local funds. CenTF is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.

Created in 1991, the CenTF program strives to increase the operational effectiveness of multijurisdictional narcotics task forces in three distinct areas—task force command and management, methamphetamine investigation management, and raves/club drug awareness. CenTF training classes are taught by operationally experienced, command-level instructors.

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research, a nonprofit organization that specializes in law enforcement research and education, coordinates the CenTF training program. Each CenTF course may be cohosted by a combination of state, county, or local law enforcement agencies; the Regional Information Sharing Systems Intelligence Center for that area; the local U.S. Attorney’s Office; the state’s
About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance was established in 1984 as a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. BJA provides leadership and resources to state, local, and tribal governments and communities to reduce crime, violence, and drug abuse and to strengthen the nation’s criminal justice system. BJA provides this assistance through formula and discretionary grants, training and technical assistance, publications, and the BJA web site.

For Further Information

To receive additional information about the CenTF program, obtain training schedules, or register for upcoming CenTF training classes, contact:

Institute for Intergovernmental Research
P.O. Box 12729
Tallahassee, FL 32317
850–385–0600, ext. 233 or 300
Fax: 850–385–4563
Web site: www.iir.com/centf

For information about other BJA-sponsored training programs, contact:

Bureau of Justice Assistance
810 Seventh Street NW.
Washington, DC 20531
202–616–6500
Fax: 202–305–1367
Web site: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA

For publications and information on other BJA-funded programs, contact:

Bureau of Justice Assistance Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849–6000
1–800–688–4252
Web site: www.ncjrs.org

Clearinghouse staff are available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. eastern time. Ask to be placed on the BJA mailing list.

narcotics association; or the state’s administrative agency that administers the Byrne Programs.

There are no registration or tuition fees. Participants may be eligible to receive Peace Officer Standards and Training credit for attending a CenTF course. To supplement the delivery of CenTF training courses, a web-based resource center (www.iir.com/centf) for law enforcement use has been developed. The center provides a centralized source of current narcotics investigative information for law enforcement practitioners and includes periodicals, available training, relevant web sites, and other narcotics enforcement-related information.

Narcotics Task Force Workshop

The Narcotics Task Force Workshop on multijurisdictional narcotics enforcement operations is a 3-day course designed for commanders of multijurisdictional narcotics task forces and supervisory personnel. It focuses on the training needed for a multijurisdictional response in the investigation and prosecution of narcotics trafficking conspiracies. This workshop provides training for new and experienced managers, supervisors, and senior investigators who seek advancement. Instruction includes practical exercises that cover administrative and operational aspects of narcotics task force enforcement efforts. Training topics include:

- Organizing the Task Force
- Policies and Procedures
- Task Force Personnel Issues
- Confidential Informants
- Case Management
- Undercover Operations and Risk Management
Methamphetamine Investigation Management Workshop

The manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine is one of the fastest growing drug problems facing the nation. The rapid spread of methamphetamine from the western United States to other parts of the country is an increasing challenge for law enforcement personnel nationwide. The covert nature of drug laboratories and the hazardous chemicals involved in methamphetamine drug operations pose unique challenges for law enforcement managers and investigators. Investigations must be properly managed to ensure effective and safe outcomes.

This 3-day workshop was designed for state and local law enforcement officers and addresses the operational aspects of managing methamphetamine investigations and other problems specific to these types of investigations. Training topics include:

◆ The Methamphetamine Problem
◆ Clandestine Laboratories
◆ Manufacturing Methamphetamine
◆ First Response Procedures
◆ Investigation Techniques
◆ Raid Issues
◆ Current Trends

Raves/Club Drug Awareness Seminar

The Raves/Club Drug Awareness Seminar for state and local law enforcement is a 1-day class that focuses on a relatively new problem facing law enforcement—the proliferation of synthetic illicit drugs commonly associated with the nightclub or “rave” scene. This course highlights drugs such as gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB), commonly referred to as the “date-rape drug,” and methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), commonly referred to as “ecstasy.” These and other club drugs pose unique challenges to law enforcement because they are relatively inexpensive, easy to obtain, and appear to be the new drugs of choice for teenagers and young adults.

Seminar topics include the identification of club drugs on the market, the dangers associated with their use, and the management of investigations of these controlled substances to ensure effective and safe outcomes.

Photo © Digital Stock 1998. Meth lab photo courtesy of the Institute for Intergovernmental Research.