Selected Summaries

Media Power and Information Control: A Study of Police Organizations and Media Relations, J.S. Lovell. Findings in this study indicate that a police department’s media image may be affected more by how it handles news and manages information than by crime rates. Departments that have frequent and active communication with the media appear to receive more favorable coverage and to be more adept at minimizing the effects of damaging news stories. 244 pp. Grant 2000–IJ–CX–0046; NCJ 197060. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/1.html.

Spermatozoa Capture During the Differential Extraction Process for STR Typing of Sexual Assault Evidence, A. Eisenberg. This progress report details the development of a cellular sorting method for recovering sperm that may be used as evidence in sexual assault cases. The authors describe the four phases of this project, which was designed to demonstrate the usefulness of a sperm-specific antibody/magnet bead reagent. 4 pp. Grant 2000–IJ–CX–K009; NCJ 197532. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/2.html.

Campus Sexual Assault: How America’s Institutions of Higher Education Respond, H.M. Karjane et al. Results of this congressionally mandated study indicate that most 4-year public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education have made substantial progress in efforts to develop explicit policies for responding to sexual assault. The authors make recommendations for creating policies specific to the school and identifying areas that may need further improvement. 327 pp. Grant 1999–WA–VX–0008; funded in collaboration with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW); NCJ 196676. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/3.html.

Families as a Resource in Recovery From Drug Abuse: An Evaluation of La Bodega de la Familia, E. Sullivan et al. By involving families of offenders in case management and other services as a supplement to probation, parole, or pretrial supervision, La Bodega de la Familia can increase successful drug treatment, reduce the use of punishment of relapse by incarceration, and lessen the harm to families that addiction causes. This evaluation, however, did not find a reduction in the likelihood of drug offender relapse or arrest and conviction for a new crime. 85 pp. Grant 1998–IJ–CX–0049; NCJ 195087. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/4.html.

Understanding the Use of Force By and Against the Police in Six Jurisdictions, Final Report, J.H. Garner et al. This study found that police use of force was more common and more severe when arrests occurred on the weekend, in response to...
These summaries do not contain sufficient information to adequately assess the significance of the findings as stated here. The full reports provide greater detail, including information on the research designs, data analyses, and study limitations.

Copies of full reports are available for a fee from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service by calling 800–851–3420. Documents less than 25 pages long are $10 each; documents 25 pages and longer are $15 each.

A priority call, and when police used lights and sirens. Overall, police officers used force in 17 percent of arrests, while suspects used force in 12 percent of arrests. Police were found to use more force against male suspects, suspects known to carry weapons, and suspects who used physical force to resist officers. The study suggests that future police training and policies may benefit from increased attention to the more frequently used and less severe types of force. 217 pp. Grant 1995–IJ–CX–0066; funded in collaboration with the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS); NCJ 196694. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/5.html.

**Evaluation of the Texas Christian University Drug Screen**, K. Knight et al. The Texas Christian University (TCU) Drug Screen is a self-administering tool that translates clinical language to a format more suitable for those with an eighth-grade reading level and has shown promise in diagnosing substance-abusing inmates in large correctional facilities. The evaluation analyzed the psychometric properties of the drug screen and documented normative responses for participants. Researchers used the results of the evaluation and feedback from interviewers and inmates in developing the TCU Drug Screen II. 75 pp. Grant 1999–MU–MU–K008; funded in collaboration with the Corrections Program Office (CPO); NCJ 196682. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/6.html.

**How Accurate Are Arrestees in Reporting Their Criminal Justice Histories?: Concordance and Accuracy of Self-Reports Compared to Official Records**, B.D. Johnson et al. Arrestee self-reports are sufficiently reliable for criminological research, particularly when the honesty of the answers can be documented. This conclusion was based on a sample of New York City arrestees, whose self-reports were matched to their official criminal histories and urinalysis test samples. Subjects were likely to report their arrest and imprisonment for nonviolent offenses but tended to deny arrests for violent crimes. Self-reports of illegal drug use tended to match urine test results for the majority of the subjects. 45 pp. Grant 2000–IJ–CX–0041; NCJ 196657. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/7.html.

**Susceptibility of PharmChek™ Drugs of Abuse Patch to Environmental Contamination**, D.A. Kidwell et al., and **Improving the PharmChek™ Sweat Patch: Reducing False Positives From Environmental Contamination and Increasing Drug Detection, Final Report**, M. Long et al. The PharmChek sweat patch is a device that detects the presence of drugs in sweat. These reports describe continued development of the device and make recommendations in the application, removal, and design of the patch. The research showed that the results can be misleading for persons who live in a drug-contaminated environment or apply drugs to their skin. The reports suggest that improving procedures for cleaning skin and reanalyzing the cleaning materials can allow for improved interpretations. **Susceptibility**: 24 pp. Grant 2000–RD–CX–A038; NCJ 195986. **Improving**: 44 pp. Grant 2000–RD–CX–A038; NCJ 196030. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/8.html.

**Use and Evaluation of Hair Analysis, Urinalysis, and Ion Mobility Spectrometry in a Juvenile Diversion Program in New Orleans, Final Report**, T. Mieczkowski et al. Research in this drug treatment program showed that hair analysis and ion mobility spectrometry (IMS) were more effective than urinalysis in detecting cocaine; however, IMS was not as reliable as the others in the detection of marijuana use. 220 pp. Grant 1999–IJ–CX–0018; NCJ 197050. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/9.html.

**Effectiveness of Denial of Handgun Purchase by Violent Misdemeanants, Final Report**, G.J. Wintemute et al. This evaluation found that denying handgun purchases by violent misdemeanants is
positively associated with reducing the risk of future arrests for new gun and/or violent crimes. This conclusion was based on an analysis of the records of 986 persons who applied to purchase guns but were denied and 787 persons who applied and were approved prior to passage of the 1991 California law prohibiting gun purchases by violent misdemeanants. Data show that successful purchasers were more likely to be arrested for new gun and/or violent crimes than those who were denied. 74 pp. Grant 1998–IJ–CX–0024; NCJ 197063. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/10.html.

**Final Activities Report for the National Communications Interoperability Assessment Project,** A.G. Arnold. This evaluation of the Multiple Agency Radio Interoperability Program (MARIP) TRP–1000 Transportable Intelligent Interconnect System found the device to be effective in expanding the technical support capabilities of participating agencies. As they evaluated the operational utility of the cross-band repeater technology used by the wireless voice communications device, 18 of 21 survey respondents indicated they would recommend the MARIP TRP–1000 to other public safety organizations with no or minimal reservations. 4 pp. Grant 2000–MU–MU–K007; NCJ 198178. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/11.html.

**Other Research Projects**


**Drugs, Incarceration and Neighborhood Life: The Impact of Reintegrating Offenders Into the Community, Executive Summary,** D.R. Rose et al. 28 pp. Grant 1999–CE–VX–0008; funded in collaboration with CPO; NCJ 195164. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/17.html.

**Predicting Levels of Abuse and Reassault Among Batterer Program Participants,** D.A. Heckert et al. 167 pp. Grant 1998–WT–VX–0014; funded in collaboration with OVW; NCJ 195176. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/18.html.


Incarceration/Truth in Sentencing (VOITIS); NCJ 195170. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/20.html.


Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center: Is It Effective? A Comparison of Youth Released From a Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Center to Youth at a Traditional Juvenile Correctional Center, Final Report, J.A. Gordon. 65 pp. Grant 1999–RT–VX–K024; NCJ 196668. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/38.html.


**Centralized Response to Domestic Violence: San Diego County Sheriff**, S. Pennell et al. 77 pp. Grant 1998–WT–VX–K014; funded in collaboration with OVW; NCJ 197051. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/52.html.


Identification and Testing of Available Sensors for the Detection of Perfluorocarbon, Final Report, Tracer Detection Technology Corp. 29 pp. Grant 2001–LT–BX–K005; funded in collaboration with the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Program; NCJ 197719. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/68.html.


Southwest Border Technology Program, B.A. Wright et al. 22 pp. Grant 1998–304–M; funded in collaboration with LLEBG; NCJ 197859. The full abstract can be found at http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol5_1/76.html.


NIJ in the Journals


