

JRSA Electronic News

A monthly briefing for members

February 8, 2013

SAC News

Nevada SAC Has New Director

Dr. Joel Lieberman is serving as the Interim Director of the Center for the Analysis of Crime Statistics in Nevada. He received his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Arizona. His work focuses on the application of social psychological theories to criminal justice issues. His research interests are in the areas of inter-group conflict, jury decision-making, aggression, and criminal justice applications of social media. He conducts research in these areas using a variety of methodological approaches, including survey research, experimental design, and content analysis. Former SAC Director Tim Hart moved to Queensland, Australia, to become Senior Lecturer at Griffith University, Gold Coast Campus.

Arizona SAC Director Appointed to SEARCH Membership Group

SEARCH Chairman Francis X. Aumand III appointed Phillip Stevenson, Ph.D., Director of the Arizona Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), as an At-Large representative to the SEARCH Membership Group. The appointment was made January 1, 2013, and will run through December 31, 2014.

"I am pleased Dr. Stevenson has agreed to join the SEARCH Membership as an At-Large appointee," said Chairman Aumand. "With his experience and knowledge of evidence-based practices in the justice system, he will bring a beneficial perspective to the deliberations of the Membership."

Dr. Stevenson has served as Arizona's SAC Director since 2006, and is the current President of JRSA. For more information, go to <http://www.search.org/about/news/2013/stevenson.asp>.

National News

President Obama Announces Choice to Head OJJDP

The Obama Administration announced its intent to appoint Robert Listenbee, Jr. to serve as administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) at the Department of Justice. Listenbee is currently chief of the Juvenile Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia, and recently co-chaired Attorney General Eric Holder's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence. He is also a primary member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, which is tasked with advising the president, Congress and the OJJDP administrator on federal policies related to juvenile justice.

The administrator position at OJJDP has not been filled by a permanent appointee since J. Robert Flores stepped down in 2008. President George W. Bush appointed Jeff Slowikowski to serve as acting administrator in January of 2009. He stayed on the job until January 2012, when he was replaced as acting administrator by then-deputy administrator of policy, Melodee Hanes. Hanes will remain with the agency in another role, said a source at OJJDP.

Listenbee will be the first appointed administrator not to be confirmed by the Senate. The OJJDP job was stripped of confirmation requirement in August when President Obama signed the Presidential

Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011, which removed confirmation requirements from scores of appointments that heretofore had required Senate blessing.

Obama Gun Violence Proposal Includes Focus on NICS and COPs Hiring

Excerpts of this article are from the February issue of the National Criminal Justice Association's NCJA Justice Bulletin.

President Obama's proposal for reducing gun violence recommends a mix of executive actions and legislative proposals falling into four broad categories: background checks; assault weapons ban; school safety; and mental health services. The proposal seeks to incentivize states to continue reporting criminal history records into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Instant Criminal Background Check (NICS) database. Specifically, it calls for investing \$20 million in FY13 and \$50 million in FY14 to further incentivize states to upload their criminal history and mental health records. Also, it proposes to reduce privacy-related barriers under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and ensure better federal agency sharing of records.

The strategy calls for an end to the Congressionally-mandated freeze on gun violence research conducted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and others. A Presidential memorandum directs the CDC to conduct research into the causes and prevention of gun violence, assess existing strategies for preventing gun violence, and identify research questions with potential public health impact. It proposes \$10 million for the CDC to conduct research, including investigating the relationship between video games, media images, and violence

The President's proposal also calls on Congress to pass the Administration's previous request for a new \$4 billion COPS Hiring fund to help keep 15,000 officers on the street and commits the Department of Justice to prioritizing COPS Hiring grant applications for the employing of school resource officers. In addition, the proposal calls for a new \$150 million Comprehensive School Safety program to employ school resource officers, school psychologists, social workers, and counselors. Funding from this new program could also be used to purchase school safety equipment, develop safety plans, conduct threat assessments, and train crisis intervention teams. Finally, the plan proposes new funding for, and focus on, mental health interventions.

View the gun violence [prevention plan](#) and detailed [fact sheet](#).

Publications and Online Resources

Program Offers Support for Justice-Involved Families

[Juvenile Justice 101](#), a parent and youth-driven program in King County, Washington, helps parents and guardians of justice system-involved youth understand the juvenile court process. [A Guidebook for Implementing Juvenile Justice 101](#) provides more information about this family engagement program, a 6-month plan for implementing the program in local courts, and training materials for partners. [Juvenile Justice 101](#) is a MacArthur Foundation "Models for Change" Program.

Publication Addresses Educational Needs of System-Involved Youth

Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform released the second edition of [Addressing the Unmet Educational Needs of Children and Youth in the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems](#). This paper outlines strategies for meeting the complex educational needs of children and youth involved with the juvenile justice and foster care systems.

Latest TECHBeat Now Available

[*TECHBeat Winter 2013*](#), an interactive publication of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, features an article about FaceCrok, a program that allows inmates to provide anonymous crime tips. Other articles discuss a system that tracks repeat offenders in Niagara County, New York, a manual that outlines policies and procedures for digital evidence; and a smartphone app that allows students to communicate with police.

OJP Annual Report Released

[*OJP Annual Report 2011: Driving the Future*](#) discusses the Office of Justice Program's commitment to outreach and collaboration with the criminal and juvenile justice fields, innovative programs and technology, evidence-based programs and practices, and management of funds. Each chapter includes real-world examples that show positive effects of OJP programs.

Report Discusses Public Involvement with Community Justice

A new report from the Center for Court Innovation, [*The Public Wants to Be Involved: A Roundtable Conversation about Community and Restorative Justice*](#), provides highlights from a roundtable discussion held in August 2011 about engaging the public in justice programming. Participants in this one-day roundtable included policymakers and practitioners representing local, state, and federal initiatives involved in restorative justice, including community courts, community justice panels, community prosecution and holistic defense programs, and the Drug-Free Communities program.

Jail Reentry Resource Available for Corrections

The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) released [*The Role of Screening and Assessment in Jail Reentry*](#). Written by Urban Institute researchers, this brief presents the two-stage screening and assessment process used to determine risk and need levels. This process is a core element of the Transition from Jail to Community model.

NIC Report Addresses 21st Century Correctional Needs

[*Corrections Learning and Performance: A Vision for the 21st Century*](#) is a white paper that focuses on learning and performance challenges in the 21st century. It includes the role of technology on learning programs and the incorporation of evidence-based practices into program design and delivery. <http://static.nicic.gov/Library/026506.pdf>

Article Addresses Mental Health in Corrections

The most recent post on NIC's National Jail Exchange blog is [*On Language and Limits; Missions and Mental Health*](#), which discusses how jail leaders can promote a mission-focused discussion of the jail's role in community mental health. The article also includes practical actions jail leaders can take to optimize the delivery of mental health care in their facilities.

Conferences and Webinars

Summit to Highlight Innovations in Criminal Justice

On February 19-21, in Miami, Florida, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Center for Court Innovation, will host the [*Innovations in Criminal Justice Summit II*](#). The summit will highlight 10 innovative criminal justice practices.

Registration Open for National Crime Symposium

[The National Crime Symposium](#), hosted by the Institute for Social Justice, will take place from February 25 to March 1, in New Orleans, Louisiana. Cosponsored by the [National African American Drug Policy Coalition](#) and the Success Institute of America, the symposium will focus on building trust between members of the justice system and the communities they serve. Topics include community policing, reentry, gangs, restorative justice, mental health, hate crimes, substance abuse, and bullying. Melodee Hanes, Acting Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, will deliver a keynote address on February 28.

Training Available for Juvenile Court Officials

On April 8-12, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges will host an [Institute for New Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) in Reno, Nevada. The Institute is for state and tribal judicial officers who are new to the juvenile and family court bench or who are returning to the bench after other assignments and would like a refresher course.

Grant Management Training Available for OJJDP Grantees

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) is offering a new online training for OJJDP grant recipients. "[Managing Your Grant Award](#)" teaches grantees how to manage projects efficiently, meet progress and financial reporting requirements, and avoid common reporting and budgeting errors. Links to other grant management courses and relevant online resources are provided. Training can be completed in approximately one hour and is mandatory for new grantees.

Announcements

February Is Dating Violence Awareness/Prevention Month

In observation of National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month (February 2013), the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) invites you to view the [Teen Dating Violence Special Feature](#). This resource provides information about teen dating violence and contains links to publications and references that focus on this issue.

Interview Focuses on Neurobiology of Sexual Assault

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) recently posted the video and transcript of its December 2012 [Research in the Real World Seminar: The Neurobiology of Sexual Assault](#). They also posted a three-part interview with presenter Rebecca Campbell, Ph.D. In this interview, *The Neurobiology of Sexual Assault: Implications for First Responders in Law Enforcement, Prosecution, and Victim Advocacy*, real-world, practical implications are examined for first responders such as law enforcement, nurses, prosecutors, and advocates.