

# JRSA Electronic News

A monthly briefing for members

September 27, 2011

## SAC News

Longtime Alabama SAC Director **Becki Goggins** was appointed by Governor Robert Bentley to serve as the Privacy and Data Specialist for the State's newly created Office of the Health Insurance Exchange, the agency that will be coordinating implementation of the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* passed by Congress last year. Replacing her until a new director is appointed is **Lynn Childs**, Manager of the Crime Statistics and Information Division, Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

## National News

*This article was excerpted from the National Criminal Justice Association InfoLetter.*

### **Senate Committee Passes FY'12 Appropriations**

The Senate Appropriations Committee voted last week to approve its version of the bill which would fund the Department of Justice for FY 2012. Overall, the bill would spend \$26.9 billion for DOJ operations and programs, which is 2 percent less than FY11 levels. It would cut the state and local grant programs overall by 17 percent. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) would receive \$45 million (compared to \$60 million in FY11), of which \$26 million would be used to implement the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), and \$10 million to continue NCVS redesign efforts; the House bill funds BJS at \$47 million. The Committee funds the National Institute of Justice at \$40 million (compared to \$48 million in FY11 and \$41 million in the House). Of that amount, the Committee mandates the transfer of \$5 million to the National Institute of Standards and Technology Office of Law Enforcement Standards for work on DNA and Forensics reference materials. Some programs, including those administered by Office on Violence Against Women, were level-funded. Others, such as the Second Chance Act, were eliminated. Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) fared better than most of the programs administered by Bureau of Justice Assistance, a victory considering that the committee had to find money to restore funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services program and the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, which had been eliminated in the House bill. Under the Senate bill, Byrne JAG would receive \$395 million (\$380 million after carve-outs), a reduction of 8 percent.

Reports are circulating that appropriators will begin working on reconciling the House and Senate versions of the various appropriations bills, by early next month. The House Appropriations Committee chairman has stated his intent to complete the FY12 bills before the deficit super committee makes its report to Congress at the end of November.

## Publications

### **Guide Provides Steps for Reducing Recidivism**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance announced the publication of "A Ten-Step Guide to Transforming Probation Departments to Reduce Recidivism," which provides probation officials with a roadmap to

overhaul the operations of their agencies to increase public safety in their communities and improve rates of compliance among those they are supervising. This guide draws extensively on the experience of a multiyear effort in Travis County (Austin), Texas, to implement four core practices essential to probation agencies' success in reducing probationer recidivism. The guide is available at [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/CSG\\_10Step\\_Guide\\_Probation.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/pdf/CSG_10Step_Guide_Probation.pdf).

### **Long Term Plan Addresses Tribal Public Safety Needs**

*Tribal Law and Order Act: Long Term Plan to Build and Enhance Tribal Justice Systems* reports on the plan devised to implement the *Tribal Law and Order Act*, which was passed in 2010 to address the significant public safety challenges faced by Tribal nations. The act mandates that the Departments of Justice and the Interior develop, in consultation with Tribal Leaders and tribal justice professionals, a long-term plan to address incarceration and the alternatives to it in Indian country. <http://www.bja.gov/pdf/FinalTLOATribalJusticePlan.pdf>

### **Report Details Tribal Youth in the Federal Justice System**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) cosponsored the report, *Tribal Youth in the Federal Justice System*, which describes findings from an Urban Institute study that explored the issue of American Indian youth who are processed in the federal justice system. Although juvenile cases are rare in the federal system, over the ten-year period 1999-2008 about half of all such juveniles were Tribal youth. The report explores the jurisdictional complexities that help explain why tribal youth cases enter the federal system, and discusses the outcomes of these youth at each stage of the justice system. It is available at <http://www.urban.org/publications/412369.html>.

### **New Report Examines Juvenile Justice Reform Models**

The Research and Evaluation Center at John Jay College of Criminal Justice recently released *Resolution, Reinvestment, and Realignment: Three Strategies for Changing Juvenile Justice*, which examines the reform models that have influenced the recent decline in the number of incarcerated youth, and discusses the future usefulness of these models. The report categorizes the various reform models into one of three types:

1. Resolution Models: Reforms are accomplished and maintained with managerial action and state leadership. Examples: Massachusetts, Missouri, and Utah.
2. Reinvestment Models: Reforms are accomplished and maintained using financial incentives to reduce the demand of local jurisdictions for state-operated confinement institutions. Examples: Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin.
3. Realignment Models: Reforms are achieved and sustained by reorganizing juvenile justice systems, reducing or eliminating state-level confinement and replacing it with local services and placement. Examples: California and Wayne County (Detroit), Michigan.

The study examines the effects of the reform models on trends in the utilization of juvenile corrections and their association with rates of serious crime. The authors acknowledge that any of the three models can be effective, but they recommend realignment as the approach most likely to be sustainable over time. The report is available at <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/4851.php>.

**OVC Funding Creates Cold Case Victims' Guide**

Through a federal grant project funded by the Office for Victims of Crime, participating partners, including the National Sheriffs' Association, developed, "*Serving Survivors of Homicide Victims During Cold Case Investigations: A Guide for Developing a Law Enforcement Protocol.*" The project team identified six key areas to help law enforcement agencies as they reopen cold cases and serve the survivors of homicide victims. The guide is available at

<http://www.sheriffs.org/sites/default/files/uploads/guidefordevelopingalawenforcementprotocolaugust172011.pdf>.

**State Corrections Agencies Address Organizational Changes**

The National Institute of Corrections released *Context and Impact of Organizational Changes in State Corrections Agencies*, which showcases two states, Kansas and Michigan, that engaged in a comprehensive reexamination of their correctional systems. In Kansas, this process was largely known as the Kansas Offender Risk Reduction and Reentry Program, and in Michigan, a similar set of reforms was developed as the Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative. Their goal of these efforts was to improve allocation of resources and provide effective interventions to reintegrate offenders into the community. This report documents the dynamics and context of organizational change within the Departments of Corrections (DOCs) of Kansas and Michigan, focusing on how internal and external factors shaped the recent reforms. The report is available at <http://static.nicic.gov/Library/025241.pdf>.

## **Conferences and Training**

**Register for NIJ's Crime Mapping Conference**

The Eleventh Crime Mapping Research Conference on *Crime, Social Ills, and Place-based Solutions* was rescheduled for October 17-21, in Miami, Florida. This year's conference will focus on solving problems using geography and technology. Workshops and plenary sessions will focus on foreclosures, geographic profiling, geographic information systems and policing, and geocoding crime data. More information is available at <http://www.nij.gov/nij/events/maps/welcome.htm>.

**IACP Holds 118<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

Registration is now open for the 118th International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Annual Conference, to be held October 22-26, in Chicago, Illinois. This event brings together police leaders from around the world to exchange information, share their experiences, and find solutions to issues they are facing. For more information, or to exhibit or register, go to <http://www.theiacpconference.org/iacp2011/public/enter.aspx>. In addition, NIJ is sponsoring *Interview Room Recording Systems* and *License Plate Reader* workshops at the conference. The workshops will be held October 22 and will inform manufacturers, test laboratories, and certification bodies of these standards development efforts. Information is available at [http://www.justnet.org/Pages/IACP\\_workshops\\_notification.aspx](http://www.justnet.org/Pages/IACP_workshops_notification.aspx).

**National Conference Focuses on School Success**

The National Center for School Engagement (NCSE) is sponsoring the first *National Conference on School Success* in Broomfield, Colorado, October 26-28. The conference will bring together national experts to discuss how to engage high-risk students and their families, and how the best schools in the country support students' development and help them become well-rounded citizens. Registration is available online at <http://ncseconference.wordpress.civicore.com/>.

**International Conference on Child/Family Maltreatment Announced**

On January 23-26, 2012, OJJDP and the Chadwick Center for Children and Families will sponsor the 26th annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. Conference sessions will help professionals develop and enhance skills required to recognize, assess, prevent, and treat all forms of child and family maltreatment. Registration is available online. For more information, go to <http://sandiegoconference.org/index.html>.

## **Announcements**

**FBI Launches Child ID App**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) launched its first mobile application—the Child ID App. This free mobile app provides a convenient place for parents and families to electronically store photos and vital information about their children so that they can be provided to authorities on the spot if a child goes missing. Using a special tab on the app, parents can also quickly and easily e-mail the information to authorities with a few clicks. The app, which is currently only available on I-Phones, also includes tips on keeping children safe, as well as specific guidance on what to do in those first few crucial hours after a child goes missing. For more information, go to [http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child\\_080511](http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2011/august/child_080511).

**Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs Implement Data Exchange**

BJA and the Kentucky and Ohio Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) announce the launch of the electronic Prescription Monitoring Information Exchange (PMIX). The goal of PMIX is to help states implement a cost-effective technology solution to facilitate interstate data sharing between PDMPs and has been made possible through funding from BJA's Harold Rogers Prescription Monitoring Program. To read the full announcement, go to [http://www.bja.gov/j\\_today/PMIX.pdf](http://www.bja.gov/j_today/PMIX.pdf); to learn more about PMIX and PDMPs and to request technical assistance visit: [www.pmpalliance.org/content/prescription-monitoring-information-exchange-pmix](http://www.pmpalliance.org/content/prescription-monitoring-information-exchange-pmix) .

**“Lights On” Event Promotes Afterschool Programs**

On October 20, more than 7,500 communities nationwide will participate in the annual *Lights On Afterschool* event, which calls attention to the importance of afterschool programs and the positive role they can play in children's lives, including keeping kids safe, inspiring them to learn, and helping working families. For more information on the After School Alliance, or to host an event, go to <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/loa.cfm>.

**New Discussion Posted to "Director's Corner" Site**

The latest conversation with Dr. John Laub, Director of the National Institute of Justice, is now on *The NIJ Director's Corner* Web page. This discussion, *Feedback from the Field: How Your Colleagues Are Using NIJ's Work*, provides comments from researchers and practitioners on how they are using NIJ research and training tools in the field. It can be accessed at <http://www.nij.gov/nij/about/director/welcome.htm>.