

## Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

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## \*\*\*\*\* PUBLICATION ADVISORY \*\*\*\*\*

## BJS RELEASES REPORT ON FIREARM-RELATED BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR UNLAWFUL DRUG USERS

WASHINGTON — The Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) today released *State Progress in Record Reporting for Firearm-Related Background Checks: Unlawful Drug Users*. This is the sixth in a series of reports highlighting states' progress in submitting records related to firearm background checks to various national and state criminal records systems. Under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, those who unlawfully use or are addicted to a controlled substance are prohibited from receiving firearms. This report describes how firearm-related background checks of unlawful drug users prohibit them from purchasing or possessing firearms. It was produced for BJS under a cooperative agreement with SEARCH and the National Center for State Courts.

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The Office of Justice Programs, headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Alan R. Hanson, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six bureaus and offices: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART). More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.