



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE
ANNUAL REPORT

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NIJ

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To the President, the Attorney General and the Congress:

It is my honor to transmit the National Institute of Justice's annual report on research, development and evaluation for fiscal year 2014, pursuant to Title 1 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and Title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a stylized "R".

Nancy Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Director, National Institute of Justice

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NIJ's Strategic Challenges 2014

NIJ is committed to transforming the criminal justice field by meeting these challenges:

1. **FOSTERING SCIENCE-BASED CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTICE:** Supporting scientific research to ensure the safety of families, schools and communities.
2. **TRANSLATING KNOWLEDGE TO PRACTICE:** Disseminating scientific research to criminal justice professionals to advance what works best in crime prevention and reduction.
3. **ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY:** Building a more efficient, effective and fair criminal justice system through technology-related solutions.
4. **WORKING ACROSS DISCIPLINES:** Drawing on physical, forensic and social sciences to reduce crime and promote justice.
5. **ADOPTING A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE:** Understanding crime and its social contexts to support state and local criminal justice agencies.

Chapter 1: Fostering Science-Based Criminal Justice Practice

Strengthening Forensic Sciences

Research and development is law enforcement's silent but powerful partner. NIJ has provided more than \$125 million since 2009 to fund more than 300 research and development projects related to forensic science, resulting in more than 600 scientific publications, presentations and reports.

In 2014, NIJ further strengthened its commitment to forensic science research and development by issuing a solicitation to laboratories to conduct research studies designed to produce practical knowledge to improve the examination of physical evidence in forensic science laboratories. Through this solicitation, NIJ will inform best practices by evaluating existing laboratory protocols, developing validated methods that can be replicated by other laboratories—making a direct and immediate impact on laboratory efficiency—and assisting in the development of policy decisions.

- **Learn more** about NIJ's forensics portfolio on NIJ.gov, keyword: "forensic research and development."

Randomized Controlled Trials Challenge

In 2013, NIJ became the first Department of Justice agency to issue a competition on Challenge.gov. In 2014, NIJ built upon the success of previous challenges by offering five additional competitions that gathered fresh ideas from disciplines outside the traditional criminal justice research community.

One competition offered prizes totaling \$300,000 to the first five agencies to complete five successful randomized control trials (RCTs). Of the various scientific methods of inquiry available, RCTs have the greatest likelihood of producing sound evidence because of the ability of random assignment to isolate a specific treatment of interest from all of the other factors that influence any given outcome.

Although RCTs are pervasive in medicine and marketing as part of the standard process for making decisions and advancing the field, they have not been widely implemented within the criminal justice system.

The NIJ RCT Challenge encourages the use of RCTs in the criminal justice field to address meaningful problems and encourage agencies to use rigorous research methods to craft solutions to the problems they face. It is hoped that this Challenge will create incentives for agencies to use low-cost RCTs as a standard and straightforward approach to answering their questions and conducting day-to-day business operations.

- **Learn more** about this challenge on NIJ.gov, keyword: "randomized controlled trials challenge."

Encouraging Scholarly Publishing

To help ensure that NIJ's grant-funded research, development and evaluation awards produce scholarly products of the highest possible quality, NIJ increased expectations for award recipient publications. Starting with awards made in 2015, NIJ expects grantees to produce deliverables that can take the form of one or more published, peer-reviewed scientific journal articles; law review journal articles; book chapters or books in the academic press; technological prototypes; patented inventions; or similar scientific products.

NIJ has also added new performance measures for potential grantees to encourage the production and dissemination of relevant scholarly products. Grantee performance will be measured in part by the quality of the research as demonstrated by the scholarly products produced under the grant.

➤ **Learn more** about publishing requirements by reviewing solicitations on NIJ.gov/funding.

Social and Behavioral Science Collaborations

NIJ and the National Science Foundation (NSF) are collaborating to share scientific knowledge to support social, behavioral and forensic sciences as they relate to crime and criminal justice in the United States.

The two agencies are identifying areas for cooperation, collaboration, and sharing of scientific knowledge and technologies. One such area is the co-funding of proposals that encourage high-quality criminal justice scholarship and promote collegial interactions between scholars, scientists and criminal justice professionals.

NIJ and NSF are also coordinating their efforts to support symposia, workshops, and other networking opportunities that might facilitate shared goals in the areas of criminology and criminal justice. In 2014, NIJ transferred \$500,000 to NSF to support seven research projects being undertaken by researchers at universities throughout the country. These projects represent a wide array of criminal justice research areas, from an investigation of the effects of civil protection orders in domestic violence cases to a review of the judgment and influence of DNA examiners.

During 2014, NIJ and NSF partnered to welcome proposals for the establishment of Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers (I/UCRCs) in areas relevant to the forensic sciences. These I/UCRCs will convene forensic experts, industry developers and researchers to develop long-term partnerships to address the needs and challenges of the forensic sciences. Through this partnership, NIJ contributes to the nation's research infrastructure base and enhances the intellectual capacity of the engineering and science workforce through the integration of research and education.

Although I/UCRCs cover a range of topics, none has specifically focused on forensic science research. It is anticipated that these interactions will facilitate progress not only toward advancing the state-of-the-art in acquiring, preserving, analyzing and interpreting evidence but also toward enhancing the scientific grounding of evidence-based decisions. A third benefit

would be workforce development in forensic science, a field with increasing academic and popular public interest.

- **Learn more** about I/UCRCs on NSF.gov, keyword: “Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program.”

Building the Next Generation of Researchers

Through a continued commitment to programs such as the Graduate Research Fellowship and the W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship for Research on Race, Gender, Culture, and Crime, NIJ is building our nation’s researcher infrastructure. These programs encourage new and emerging scholars to apply for fellowships, build scientific knowledge, and disseminate their findings with the help of NIJ’s national-level platforms. By providing young researchers with the tools and skills they need to succeed, NIJ is also investing in its own future as it embraces a new generation of criminal justice researchers who have benefited from these support programs.

In 2014, NIJ provided more than \$240,000 in funding for eight Graduate Research Fellowships. The Institute also provided nearly \$50,000 to support one W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship for Research on Race, Gender, Culture and Crime in 2014.

- **Learn more** about NIJ’s support for the next generation of researchers on NIJ.gov, keyword: “graduate research fellowship” and “W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship.”

Research Assistantship Program

NIJ’s Research Assistantship Program has been attracting highly qualified doctoral students since 2001. The program provides financial support to participating universities for the costs associated with research assistants enrolled in various degree programs including criminal justice, forensics, public health and social work who then work at NIJ and participate in NIJ’s research activities.

Initially available to criminal justice graduate students in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, the Research Assistantship Program expanded in 2014 to include all public or private U.S. universities that have research-based doctoral-degree programs in a NIJ-supported discipline; i.e., social and behavioral sciences, operations technology, information and sensors research and development, or investigative and forensic sciences.

Eight universities responded to NIJ’s call for participants, nominating a total of nine candidates. The competitive research assistantship selection process resulted in the identification of six candidate placements for the 2014–2015 academic year. Total funds obligated in support of the Research Assistantship Program in FY 2014 were \$312,086.

- **Learn more** about NIJ’s Research Assistantship Program on NIJ.gov, keyword: “research assistantship program.”

Indian Country Portfolio

NIJ's Violence Against American Indian (AI) and Alaska Native (AN) Women research program works to document the prevalence and nature of violence against AI and AN women, including those living on sovereign tribal lands. The research program is also designed to evaluate the effectiveness of federal, state, tribal and local responses to violence against AI and AN women; and propose recommendations to improve the effectiveness of such responses.

In 2014, NIJ launched the Violence Against Indian Women (VAIW) National Baseline Study (NBS), the second phase of a research program that aims to produce a more thorough understanding of the issues faced by Native American women living in Indian Country and Alaska Native villages. The NBS is critical to quantifying the magnitude of violence and victimization in tribal communities and understanding service needs. The data collected in this study will provide reliable and valid estimates of the scope of the problem and will aid in identifying possible solutions to address the needs of Native American women living in tribal communities for the very first time.

- **Learn more** about NIJ's Indian Country Portfolio on NIJ.gov, keyword "Indian Country."

Chapter 2: Translating Knowledge to Practice

Bridging Research and Practice

Research sometimes produces results that impact an unanticipated audience. Additionally, as researchers engage in dissemination activities, they may become aware of a new venue for reaching a target audience. Because project budgets must be finalized before results are known and dissemination activities are fully realized, grantees may end up with insufficient funds to reach these new and unexpected audiences or venues.

NIJ's Bridging Research and Practice (BRP) program provides funds to former NIJ grantees who need to continue to disseminate and promote their findings to new practitioner audiences, especially using venues for which they did not plan or budget during their grant. Monetary support is available to present at professional practitioner-focused conferences or webinars; publish in professional association journals and other practitioner publications, including blogs; publish videos for practitioner audiences; and use other reasonable means to reach practitioner audiences.

➤ **Learn more** about BRP on NIJ.gov, keyword: "bridging research and practice."

Translational Criminology Portfolio

Since 2011, NIJ has systematically sought to understand how research informs practice. As part of its translational criminology portfolio, NIJ is dedicated to studying the implementation, translation and dissemination of research.

In 2014, NIJ provided funding in two distinct areas to support translational criminology. The first area is supporting case studies about how research evidence is used in criminal justice practice and policy decisions. Projects include:

- A case study on the use of research evidence by Florida state-level decision-makers in the fields of juvenile and adult corrections.
- An effort by George Mason University to reanalyze existing data to focus explicitly on definitions, sources, understandings and uses of scientific and scholarly research for practice and policy decisions within correctional agencies.
- A review of how research is defined, acquired, interpreted and used to change policy and practice within criminal justice and community organizations serving domestic violence victims and perpetrators in Washington State.

The second area includes a translational criminology research fellowship. The research fellow is examining the dissemination of NIJ-funded research, looking closely at the impact of NIJ's research in the field. Ultimately, the fellow will develop empirically based recommendations for strengthening NIJ's dissemination efforts, using novel strategies to reach larger audiences.

➤ **Learn more** about Translational Criminology on NIJ.gov, keyword: "translational criminology."

NIJ Strengthens CrimeSolutions.gov

NIJ's CrimeSolutions.gov uses rigorous research to determine what works in criminal justice, juvenile justice and crime victim services. CrimeSolutions.gov helps users review the research on a wide array of justice topics to see which programs and practices are evidence-based: what works, what doesn't, and what's promising. The ease of searching the database and the concise summary ratings of the evidence are among the most attractive features of CrimeSolutions.gov.

CrimeSolutions.gov contains listings of "Practices" as well as "Programs." A program is a specific set of activities combined, implemented and evaluated according to precise guidance to achieve a specific purpose. (These are often called "name-brand" programs because they are often distinctly recognizable.) Practices take a higher-level look at the evidence from meta-analyses about a general category of programs, strategies or procedures that share similar characteristics with regard to the issue they address and how they do it.

In fiscal year 2014, CrimeSolutions.gov added 14 new program ratings and 17 new practice ratings. With the new additions, CrimeSolutions.gov now contains evaluations for 325 programs and 27 practices. In 2014, due in large part to NIJ's increased dissemination and outreach efforts, use of CrimeSolutions.gov has increased by more than 40 percent.

- **Visit CrimeSolutions.gov** to learn about evidence-based programs and practices that have been shown to work for criminal justice.

Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships

Since 2009, NIJ has provided funding for researcher-practitioner partnerships under an annual solicitation. To date, NIJ has funded 17 projects covering a range of criminal justice topics and involving parole and probation departments, victim advocacy agencies, police departments, specialized courts, and other practitioners.

Researchers and practitioners have unique skills and perspectives that can inform each other and make for a more informed research initiative. Researchers often give practitioners a broader view of procedures, point out patterns that may warrant improvement, and use data to develop solutions to common problems faced in practice. At the same time, researchers experience a real-world view of the issues faced by their practitioner counterparts. Overall, work completed through a researcher-practitioner partnership can make criminal justice and academic efforts more relevant and efficient.

These partnerships are proven to be successful in advancing criminal justice. One noteworthy example of an effective researcher-practitioner partnership comes from the St. Louis Public Safety Partnership between the University of Missouri— St. Louis, the city of St. Louis and their police department. This partnership employed a "hot spot" policing technique in randomly designated areas and found a 50-percent drop in firearms assaults compared to control areas.

- **Learn more** about researcher-practitioner partnerships on NIJ.gov, keyword: "researcher-practitioner partnerships."

Chapter 3: Advancing Technology

Body-Worn Cameras

Cameras in patrol vehicles are now commonplace, but cameras worn on an officer's body are an emerging trend. To date, the scientific research on body-worn cameras is limited despite a growing adoption and implementation of the technology. To assist law enforcement executives in making informed decisions about body-worn cameras, NIJ has invested \$1,607,729 for two research studies.

In 2013, NIJ funded the CNA Corporation to examine the impact of body-worn cameras in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on negative police interactions with citizens. This research project entails both process and outcome evaluation studies. The outcome evaluation component consists of randomized experiments with approximately 400 patrol officers who receive training on the use of the cameras while on duty (activating them during citizen encounters).

In 2014, NIJ funded the Los Angeles Police Foundation to conduct an evaluation of body-worn video technology in the Los Angeles Police Department. The study will use social science methods to determine how body worn video equipment is used in the field (process evaluation) and determine the impact of the cameras on police and citizen behavior and crime (impact evaluation). The project will employ advanced techniques for analyzing the resulting thousands of hours of video content that will be collected. The researchers will test the techniques to determine whether and how those analytics can be applied.

In addition to the two research projects described above, NIJ funded ManTech to prepare a practical introduction to body-worn cameras for law enforcement. The report was published as "A Primer on Body-Worn Cameras for Law Enforcement," in September 2012 and is available at www.justnet.org/pdf/00-Body-Worn-Cameras-508.pdf.

➤ **Learn more** about body-worn cameras at NIJ.gov/body-worn-cameras.

Working With Industry to Develop Standards

Since 1972, NIJ has published more than 60 standards to help ensure that the equipment used by criminal justice agencies is safe and reliable and performs according to established minimum requirements. Current standards cover equipment ranging from body armor and bomb suits to metal detectors and vehicle tracking devices. Standards are developed by committees involving expert criminal justice practitioners, scientists, engineers and, as practicable, representatives of the vendor community through a consensus process.

NIJ has developed standards only when one did not exist, or where an existing standard did not meet the needs of criminal justice agencies.

To leverage limited resources, NIJ began laying the groundwork in 2013 to establish strategic partnerships with voluntary consensus standards bodies. NIJ's standards development process continues to evolve. It is moving toward a model where, once NIJ has partnered with

stakeholders to identify the need for a standard, it will encourage nongovernmental standards developing organizations (SDOs) to develop those standards or minimally test methods that may be incorporated into them. To accomplish this goal, NIJ engineers and scientists are actively participating on those bodies. We have had some early success ensuring that resulting standards adequately consider and meet law enforcement needs and requirements. Examples include ASTM International's recently published E2902-12 *Standard Practice for Measurement of Body Armor Wearers*; and the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) ongoing development of NFPA 1986 — *Standard on Respiratory Protection Equipment for Technical and Tactical Operations*. The publication of these standards obviates the necessity of NIJ having to do so.

➤ **Learn more** about standards at [NIJ.gov/Standards](https://www.nij.gov/Standards).

Enhancing Latent Fingerprint Technology

From January 2013 to January 2014, NIJ conducted the Latent Fingerprint Interoperability Survey (LFIOS), which is the only comprehensive effort to measure the level of interoperability of automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS) maintained by state and local law enforcement agencies for the electronic exchange of latent fingerprint data to support criminal investigations. LFIOS was designed to help law enforcement, government administrators, legislators and researchers understand the technological and regulatory barriers affecting automated, cross-jurisdictional interoperability.

The survey collected critical data in several areas:

- The types and functions of fielded AFIS systems in state and local agencies;
- The current policy agreements among jurisdictions to permit the sharing, exchange and searching of latent fingerprints electronically; and
- The technological and regulatory factors that affect electronic sharing, exchange and searching of latent fingerprints across various jurisdictions.

Of the 135 agencies that responded, 48 state agencies responded fully and one responded partially; 78 local agencies responded fully and eight responded partially.

A report of the content and process of developing and fielding the data collection instrument was released in August 2014. The report lists every question of the data collection instrument and the aggregate results for each. No agency-specific identifiers are associated with the data.

The report does not provide particular findings or specific recommendations; instead, it is intended to accelerate the availability of the survey results and data to the forensics community. NIJ anticipates that the data set associated with the survey will be publicly available in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) in 2015.

➤ **Learn more** about LFIOS at [NIJ.gov/LFIOS](https://www.nij.gov/LFIOS).

Gun Safety Technologies

As part of the President's Plan to Reduce Gun Violence, issued in 2013, NIJ has been working with technology experts and has issued *A Review of Gun Safety Technologies* (www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/242500.pdf), which reviewed existing and emerging safety technologies in guns — commonly known as smart guns, user-authorized handguns, childproof guns or personalized firearms. The report concluded that many products are at a high level of development, and several developed in the private sector are ready to enter the market.

The President's Plan also called for the Administration to issue a challenge to the private sector to develop innovative and cost-effective gun safety technologies and to provide prizes for those technologies that are proven to be reliable and effective. In 2014, NIJ began work to issue a Gun Safety Technology Challenge designed to objectively demonstrate the reliability of firearms available today with advanced gun safety technology integrated into the firearm. The Challenge is expected to be released in 2015, with testing and evaluation will commence in late 2015 or 2016.

Manufacturers or developers of “smart guns” will be invited to submit their products for testing and evaluation by a qualified third-party testing entity capable of assessing the performance characteristics of firearms.

➤ **Learn more** about Smart Guns on NIJ.gov, keyword: “smart guns.”

Preparing for Future Technology Needs

NIJ partners with professional organizations to help advance its scientific mission by identifying future technology needs and policies and approaches for meeting those needs.

In 2014, NIJ hosted an American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Technology Policy Fellow. Dr. Elizabeth Boatman is working with NIJ's Office of Science and Technology (OST) to better communicate the agency's science mission; jump-start its Graduate Research Fellowship in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program; review technology needs identification, planning and policy; and apply her science background to the Criminal Justice Data Mart. Dr. Boatman received her M.S. and Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from University of California, Berkeley. Her professional interests include science communication, data science and data journalism, and K–12 STEM education.

➤ **Learn more** about fellowships on NIJ.gov, keyword: “fellowships.”

Public Safety Applications for Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems

Since 2005, NIJ has funded research projects to identify lower cost alternatives to law enforcement use of traditional aircraft (such as helicopters). Of the roughly 19,000 law enforcement agencies, only some 200 have aviation units, in large part because of the cost associated with procuring and operating these aircraft. NIJ's Aviation Technology Working Group (which has representation from key stakeholder organizations, including the National Sheriff's Association, the International Association of Chief of Police's Aviation Committee, and

the Airborne Law Enforcement Association) has identified light sport aircraft (fixed wing/rotary wing/powered parachutes) as having significant potential to address many law enforcement aviation requirements.

NIJ is partnering with the U.S. Department of State in a two-fold mission: identify and evaluate aviation technology needs of the Kenyan Wildlife Services in furtherance of their counter-poaching mission and produce data and evidence-based recommendations for rural U.S. law enforcement agencies to use in comparable aerial surveillance missions in remote areas. This project addresses, in part, the objectives of the Presidential Executive Order on Combating Wildlife Trafficking, issued in July 2013. Because the actual operation of aircraft is the same, data gathered through the Kenyan Wildlife Services will directly inform operations in rural and tribal law enforcement agencies.

Small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) have significant potential to address many law enforcement needs. Their small size, for example, make them more cost-effective than larger aircraft and more maneuverable in rapid response situations. Because they are unmanned, they also reduce the potential risk to law enforcement personnel.

In addition to the partnership with the State Department, NIJ made an award in 2014 to fund a web-based, online flight operations and incident reporting system for sUAS. By making reporting data readily accessible to the public, NIJ seeks to make further research possible and thereby enhance the safety and increase the operational efficiency of law enforcement sUAS. The Police Foundation is teaming with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management to create this sUAS flight data and incident reporting system.

Unmanned Experts, LLC, has been investigating the use of sUAS in helping law enforcement reconstruct traffic accidents. The study examined the ability of sUAS devices to apply advanced photographic techniques and methods to reconstruct the scene of traffic accidents. The research team's preliminary findings suggest that photogrammetric imaging technology and methods are a viable alternative to traditional methods, such as total station measurements, and that sUAS can improve safety of officers, responders and the public when used to manage traffic incidents. It can also speed up law enforcement's ability to return roadways to service. The photogrammetric imaging technology has environmental limitations (for example, it cannot be used in windy conditions or during thunderstorms), and proper ground control must be maintained.

➤ **Learn more** about NIJ's aviation portfolio on NIJ.gov, keyword: "aviation."

Digital Evidence and Forensics

With the proliferation of electronic devices and their use in illegal activity, digital forensics are more important than ever. Today, digital forensics involves an essentially three-step, sequential process: (1) seizing the media equipment; (2) accessing the media files; and (3) forensic analysis of the evidence using the forensic image of the original media.

Today, media can be acquired forensically at approximately 1.5 gigabytes per minute and stored in a RAW image format. This results in a bit-for-bit copy of the data contained in the original

media without any additions or deletions, even for those portions of the media that do not contain data. A one terabyte (TB) hard drive takes law enforcement personnel approximately 11 hours to forensically acquire. Although this method ensures the capture of all possible data stored in a piece of digital media, it is time-consuming and creates a backlog of cases.

New research funded by NIJ is developing innovative means to speed up the processing of large-capacity digital media in a forensically sound manner, preserving the probative value of the evidence that it may contain. In 2014, two awards were made: (1) Accelerating Digital Evidence Analysis Using Recent Advances in Parallel Processing and (2) Rapid Forensic Acquisition of Large Media with Sifting Collectors.

- **Learn more** about NIJ's digital forensics program on NIJ.gov, keyword: "digital evidence and forensics."

National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Centers

The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Centers (NLECTC) are an integral part of NIJ's science and technology program. They support a wide range of activities related to research and development, technology transfer, dissemination, and technology assistance. For example, the primer on body-worn cameras noted previously was developed by ManTech in its role as the host of the then NLECTC Sensor, Surveillance, and Biometric Technologies Center of Excellence. The same center conducted the fingerprint interoperability survey mentioned previously. Another center administers NIJ's testing program, which ensures that the body armor sold to law enforcement agencies is effective.

During 2014, NIJ continued to take steps to consolidate and focus NLECTC into five centers:

1. One to identify and assess the highest priority technology needs of law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies.
2. One to identify effective tools and technologies and adopt them into practice.
3. One to conduct directed research, test and evaluation projects to inform NIJ's nonforensic technology research and development efforts.
4. One to identify and evaluate potential technology solutions to the unique operational needs of small, rural, tribal and border law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies.
5. One to identify the technology needs of public crime laboratories, evaluating solutions to those needs, and assisting in their adoption into practice.

- **Learn more** about NLECTC at JUSTNET.org.

Chapter 4: Working Across Disciplines

Comprehensive School Safety Initiative

NIJ's Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (CSSI) aims to build science-based knowledge about the causes of school violence and to test innovative approaches for safeguarding our nation's students and schools. In 2014, the first year of the initiative, NIJ awarded more than \$68 million for research and programs to improve school safety. Projects under CSSI feature partnerships among schools, scientists, law enforcement, mental health professionals and others. All projects under CSSI contribute to accomplishing the three primary goals of the initiative:

- Improve the safety of schools and students nationwide by developing, supporting and rigorously evaluating school safety programs, practices and strategies.
- Develop and test a comprehensive school safety framework for K–12 schools that is based on research evidence and may be adopted by a wide range of schools.
- Increase scientific knowledge about the incidence and root causes of school violence and other threats to school and student safety.

This initiative will provide objective and independent answers to the difficult school safety challenges that the nation faces. NIJ will share knowledge about science-based practices and policies so that schools and their communities have a stronger foundation of proven programs and approaches they can leverage to meet their individual needs. CSSI will produce findings that will help make decisions about which interventions and programs are most effective — and most cost-effective. The research efforts and pilot projects will yield durable knowledge that will inform school safety efforts for many years to come, as we continue to build upon programs, practices and policies to keep our schools and students safe.

➤ **Learn more** about CSSI on NIJ.gov, keyword: “comprehensive school safety.”

Understanding and Addressing Bullying

Through research and evaluation that furthers our understanding of bullying (along with other youth violence and victimization experiences), NIJ aims to provide objective and independent knowledge and validated tools as well as programs and policies to prevent and reduce bullying and to ameliorate its effects among individuals, schools and communities already impacted.

In 2012, NIJ began building on the momentum of the Department's Defending Childhood initiative by launching a program of research focused on children exposed to violence. Although broadly defined, bullying has been a major focus of these funding opportunities. During 2014, NIJ continued to build on upon its bullying prevention portfolio through funding of a National Academy of Science (NAS) Institute of Medicine (IOM) bullying prevention consensus study, *The Biological and Psychosocial Effects of Peer Victimization: Lessons for Bullying Prevention*, a study that will examine the physiological and psychosocial consequences of peer victimization for both the perpetrator and the target. Furthermore, as part of its CSSI, NIJ is funding numerous projects to evaluate bullying prevention programs used within schools, including the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program and the No Bully System.

One of the highlights of 2014 came from NIJ-funded research that studied middle and high school students over time to see how family abuse, family conflict and delinquency impact perpetration of bullying, sexual harassment and dating violence in early adolescence. Results showed that sibling aggression and having delinquent friends predict bullying behavior among boys and girls in middle school, and that among high school students, there are links between those who bullied others and those who perpetrated teen dating violence.

➤ **Learn more** about bullying on NIJ.gov, keyword: “bullying.”

Analyzing Sentinel Events

When bad things happen in a complex system, the cause is rarely a single act, event or slip-up. More often, bad outcomes such as wrongful convictions, mistaken prison releases, and even revictimization are “sentinel events” — defined as significant negative outcomes that signal underlying weaknesses in the system or process. Sentinel events likely are the result of compound errors and, if properly analyzed and addressed, may provide important keys to strengthening the system and preventing future adverse events or outcomes.

Released in September 2014, *Mending Justice: Sentinel Event Reviews* explores the potential to learn from errors in the criminal justice system by applying a sentinel event review approach. The primary essay — written by James Doyle, a visiting fellow with NIJ for two years — discusses how principles used by aviation and medicine to improve outcomes could be adopted in criminal justice. The book includes a message from the Attorney General and 16 commentaries from highly respected representatives of criminal justice researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders.

In April 2014, NIJ selected three jurisdictions — Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Baltimore — to serve as “beta” pilot sites to help explore the viability of conducting an all-stakeholder, nonblaming review of a sentinel event. NIJ, in partnership with the Office of Justice Programs Diagnostic Center, is providing limited technical assistance but no grant funds to these sites.

NIJ made two awards in 2014 for research that will add to the understanding of how sentinel event reviews might be used to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system. Texas State University will use concept mapping and social network analysis to examine criminal investigative failures in wrongful convictions and unsolved cases. Vera Institute of Justice will develop, implement and evaluate a Self-Harm Analysis and Review Protocol (SHARP) for responding to cases of serious self-harm in the New York City jail with the aim of designing a nationally replicable sentinel event review model.

➤ **Learn more** about sentinel events on NIJ.gov, keyword: “sentinel events.”

Understanding Sexual Assault Kit Testing

In 2014, NIJ and the FBI Laboratory partnered to help address the complex issues surrounding untested sexual assault kits (SAKs). The partnership is designed to gather information about the nature of unsubmitted SAKs in an effort to inform practices and protocols surrounding SAKs. NIJ and the FBI expect the work to lead to improved policies and practices for collecting sexual assault evidence and protocols for submitting kits and testing them.

NIJ and the FBI have invited law enforcement agencies from around the country to send previously unsubmitted kits to be part of this program. NIJ will analyze data about the untested kits, and the FBI's DNA lab will test the evidence and enter profiles into the national DNA database to aid investigations.

It is hoped that this research partnership will lead to a better understanding of current practices for collecting evidence and will improve future practices. This initiative is also designed to promote better understanding of the various processes associated with analysis, such as screening and testing; improve and inform practice and policy; and help lessen the number of unsubmitted SAKs across the country.

Also in 2014, NIJ's social science investigators described findings from their studies of the extent and nature of unsubmitted SAKs in Detroit and Houston, including videos on why so many sexual assault kits were not tested in Detroit, and the solutions Houston devised for notifying victims.

- **Learn more** about SAKs on NIJ.gov, keyword: "sexual assault kits."

Studying the Growth of Incarceration

NIJ has a long history of supporting scientific studies about corrections issues, including mass incarceration and its impact on families and communities. The number of men and women under correctional supervision remains a key area of concern and research for NIJ.

Most recently, in an effort to better understand the growth in incarceration, NIJ, in collaboration with the MacArthur Foundation, funded a comprehensive study of the issue by the National Research Council's Committee on Law and Justice. The resulting book, *The Growth of Incarceration in the United States: Exploring Causes and Consequences*, reviews the causes of mass incarceration, draws conclusions about its impact, and makes policy recommendations.

According to the new study, the punitive political climate that formed during a time of rising crime and rapid social change resulted in lengthened sentences, increased prison time for minor offenses, and intensified punishment for drug crimes. The authors evaluated scientific evidence on the effects of high incarceration rates on public safety and U.S. society. They also analyzed the effects of incarceration on those in prison, their families, and the communities from which they originate and to which they return.

- **Learn more** about NIJ's corrections portfolio on NIJ.gov, keyword: "corrections."

Chapter 5: Adopting a Global Perspective

Human Trafficking

In just over a decade, NIJ has constructed the most comprehensive research program on human trafficking in the United States. The Institute has invested significant time and resources studying trafficking in persons to improve the responses from state and local law enforcement, prosecutors, victim services providers and judges.

One of NIJ's primary goals is to better understand the scope, scale and operation of trafficking to inform law enforcement and prosecution efforts and, ultimately, to prevent victimization.

NIJ grantees released findings from several projects in 2014 — all of them designed to understand the operation of trafficking and the victim experience, improve the identification of victims, assess their needs, and evaluate victim services to determine how best to meet those needs.

One NIJ-funded study conducted by the Urban Institute advanced this goal by examining the unlawful commercial sex economy in eight major U.S. cities. The team interviewed pimps, traffickers, prostituted women, child pornographers and law enforcement to understand the dynamics central to the underground commercial sex trade. These actors form a notoriously difficult population to reach because of the criminal nature of their work. The team estimated the unlawful commercial sex economy to be between \$39.9 million and \$290 million in 2007 across the eight cities, but with decreases since 2003 in all but two cities. The researchers found that pimps and traffickers interviewed for the study took home between \$5,000 and \$32,833 a week. The researchers offer policy suggestions to combat the illicit sex market.

Improving Human Trafficking Victim Identification — Validation and Dissemination of a Screening Tool validated a tool that victim service professionals can use to help identify victims of human trafficking and distinguish them from other victims of abuse. Developed over the last seven years by the Vera Institute of Justice in collaboration with 11 victim service organizations in California, Colorado, New York, Texas and Washington, this NIJ-funded tool has been validated with a research sample of diverse victims and potential victims of trafficking. The results were confirmed to be reliable in identifying labor and sex trafficking. The researchers have created both a long and a short version of the tool without substantially affecting the tool's reliability.

In another study, researchers from the Urban Institute studied victims of labor trafficking by analyzing victim service records and conducting interviews with victims of labor trafficking.

Survivors mostly escaped on their own and lived for several months or years before being connected to service providers. Lack of awareness and outreach, and fear, inhibited identification. They found:

- 72 percent of the sample entered the U.S. on a temporary visa. Most common temporary work visas were for work in agriculture, hospitality, construction and restaurants.

- Types of abuse: wage theft, employer control of housing, food and transportation, document fraud, withholding documents, extortion, sexual abuse and rape, discrimination, psychological manipulation and coercion, torture, attempted murder and violence and threats against themselves/family members.
- Control over worker's immigration status was a powerful mechanism of control used to keep workers in forced labor.
- Despite 72 percent arriving legally, by the time victims escaped and were connected to service providers, 69 percent were unauthorized.
- Labor trafficking investigations were often not prioritized by local and federal law enforcement.

➤ **Learn more** about human trafficking research on NIJ.gov, keyword: "human trafficking."

Transnational Organized Crime

Transnational organized crime (TOC) involves the planning and execution of illicit business ventures by groups or networks of individuals working in more than one country. TOC is an international challenge that impacts all levels of law enforcement throughout the United States. Yet, there is a limited understanding of how state and local law enforcement agencies are responding to it. The responsibility for investigating TOC does not belong solely to the federal law enforcement community; state and local law enforcement agencies are key players.

To better understand TOC's impact and the state and local response, NIJ is funding research on some of the more prevalent crimes. In 2014, NIJ-funded researchers from Michigan State University released results from an examination of the structure, organization and processes of the international market for stolen data. The team analyzed nearly 2,000 threads from 13 easily accessible web forums and discovered a network of international cybercriminals operating in a collaborative fashion to buy and sell a range of illegal financial products, including credit cards, bank account data, card verification value data from credit cards, and electronic financial data from eBay and PayPal accounts.

These forums, which primarily were housed overseas in Russia, showed that the average advertised price for a stolen credit card or bank card number was around \$102, and the average price of access to a hacked eBay or PayPal account was around \$27. The research suggests that preventing breaches of financial data requires a combination of changes, including:

- Corporations and financial institutions must be more transparent when their data are stolen.
- Law enforcement cannot stop credit card theft using traditional techniques because the forums are organic and collegial; eliminating the central sellers will not disrupt the networks.
- Consumers who shop from their home computers must be more aware of the dangers and take steps to protect themselves.

- **Learn more** about NIJ’s work on TOC on NIJ.gov, keyword: “transnational organized crime”; learn more about the international market for stolen data on NIJ.gov, keyword: “stolen data.”

Countering Violent Extremism

Violent extremists support or commit ideologically motivated violence to further political, social or religious goals. NIJ’s research about violent extremism is designed to provide community leaders with evidence-based practices for bolstering resilience and developing communitywide responses that can prevent and mitigate threats posed by violent extremists.

Important questions remain about the nature of violent extremism, but few are as vexing as why and how individuals become violent extremists. This process, often referred to as “radicalization to violent extremism,” is the central focus of NIJ’s research and evaluation efforts addressing violent extremism.

Since 2012, NIJ has focused its research investments in this area on developing a better understanding of domestic radicalization to violent extremism, and on advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention of radicalization in the United States. Now in its third year, this program continues to fund diverse research and evaluation efforts while focusing on the dissemination of early results.

In June 2014, NIJ hosted practitioners, including representatives from U.S. Attorneys’ Offices, other federal agencies, state and local law enforcement agencies, and international partners, at a program update meeting that provided an opportunity for grantees under this program to present initial findings and introduce new projects.

- **Learn more** about NIJ’s work to counter violent extremism on NIJ.gov, keyword: “countering violent extremism.”

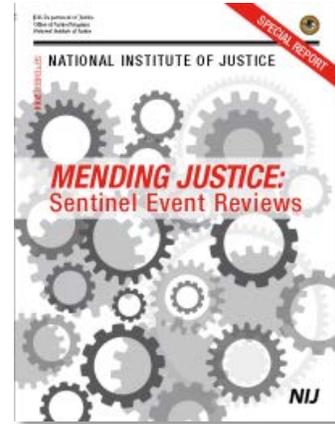
Chapter 6: Highlights of Dissemination

During 2014, NIJ continued to integrate traditional and new media to disseminate research to the criminal justice community, using a variety of communication methods.

Mending Justice: Sentinel Event Reviews

How should the criminal justice system respond to errors? A common response is to seek out “bad apples,” apportion blame, and conclude that the error has been dealt with, once individuals are punished or a policy is changed.

However, errors in a complex system are rarely the result of a single act or event. In medicine, aviation and other high-risk enterprises, serious errors are regarded as *system* errors or “organizational accidents.” Organizational accidents are potential “sentinel events,” incidents that could signal more complex flaws that threaten the integrity of the system as a whole. These other complex systems have developed sentinel event reviews — nonblaming, all-stakeholder, forward-leaning mechanisms — to go beyond disciplining rule-breakers in an effort to minimize the risk of similar errors in the future and improve overall system reliability.



In 2014, NIJ released *Mending Justice: Sentinel Event Reviews*, a collection of essays that explore the potential to learn from errors in the criminal justice system by applying a sentinel event review approach.

The primary essay — written by James Doyle, a Visiting Fellow with NIJ for two years — discusses how principles used by aviation and medicine to improve outcomes could be adopted in criminal justice. The book includes a message from the Attorney General and 16 commentaries from highly respected representatives of criminal justice researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders.

➤ **Read** *Mending Justice: Sentinel Event Reviews* on NIJ.gov, keyword “Mending Justice.”

Research for the Real World Seminars

NIJ’s in-person seminar series takes place periodically in Washington, D.C., and features research that is changing the thinking about policies and practices. The seminars are recorded before a live audience and posted on NIJ.gov. In 2014, NIJ held four *Research for the Real World* Seminars:

- “The “Real World” of Dating Violence in Adolescence and Young Adulthood: A Longitudinal Portrait,” Peggy Giordano, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Sociology, Bowling Green State University.
- “Opening the Black Box of NIBIN,” William R. King, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Research and Program Development, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University,

and John Risenhoover, NIBIN National Coordinator, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

- “Building Trust Inside and Out: Challenges Facing Police Leaders,” Dennis Rosenbaum, Ph.D., Professor of Criminal Justice and Psychology, University of Illinois at Chicago.
- “Consequences of a Prison Record for Employment: How Do Race, Ethnicity & Gender Factor In?” Scott Decker, Ph.D., Foundation Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Arizona State University.

➤ **View these seminars** on NIJ.gov, keyword “Research for the Real World.”

The NIJ Journal

The *NIJ Journal*, published twice a year, features articles to keep criminal justice policymakers and practitioners informed about new developments. The *NIJ Journal* presents research-based information that can help inform policy decisions and improve understanding of the criminal justice system.



➤ **Read the *NIJ Journal*** on NIJ.gov, keyword: “NIJ Journal.”

Professional Association Publications

NIJ shares research findings in a variety of professional association publications. In 2014, NIJ staffers contributed to multiple publications, including the American Correctional Association’s *Corrections Today*, the International Association of Chiefs of Police’s *Police Chief Magazine*, the American Probation and Parole Association’s *Perspectives*, the International Association for Identification’s *Identification Magazine* and *Mission Critical Communications*. In addition, a number of professional publications reprinted articles from the *NIJ Journal* and other NIJ products.

Social Media

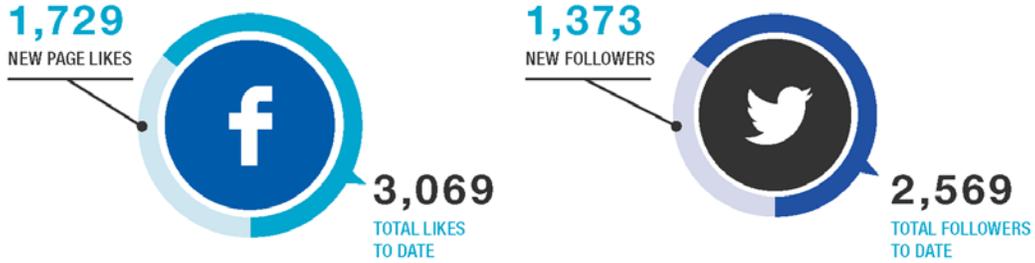
For the past two years, NIJ has disseminated research via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Currently, 3,069 people follow NIJ on Facebook and 2,569 people follow NIJ on Twitter. Over 50 percent of these followers were added during 2014, showing a sharp increase in audience growth compared to the previous year.

NIJ published 535 posts on Facebook and 1,122 posts on Twitter in 2014. When combined, these posts appeared in the feeds of more than 413,030 people. Similarly on YouTube, NIJ’s videos were watched 22,593 times.

On Facebook, viewers interacted with NIJ’s posts 80 percent more in 2014 than in the previous year. On Twitter, interaction on NIJ’s posts occurred 773 percent more. Similarly on YouTube, NIJ’s videos were watched for 12 percent longer than in 2013 and received 60 percent more comments.

In 2014, social media led to 19,013 visits to NIJ.gov. Some of the most popular topics this year were missing and unidentified persons, offender reentry, deterring criminals, body armor and sexual assault.

HOW MANY PEOPLE CONNECTED WITH NIJ ON SOCIAL MEDIA?



HOW MANY PEOPLE SAW NIJ'S SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS?

FACEBOOK

535
FACEBOOK POSTS REACHED
260,177
PEOPLE IN 2014

TWITTER

1,122
TWITTER POSTS REACHED
386,853*
PEOPLE IN 2014

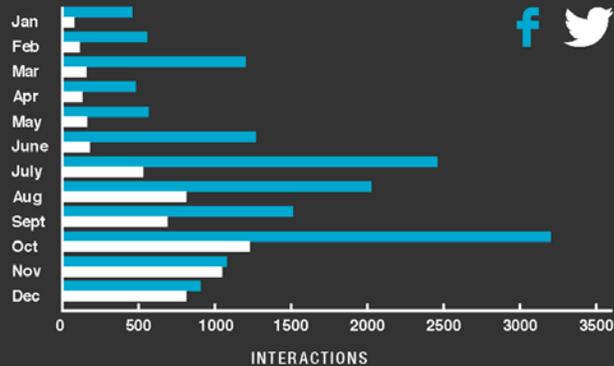
*THESE NUMBERS ONLY REFLECT JULY-DECEMBER 2014

HOW DID PEOPLE ENGAGE WITH NIJ ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

FACEBOOK:
15,850 INTERACTIONS
(80% INCREASE SINCE JAN 2014)

TWITTER:
5,956 INTERACTIONS
(773% INCREASE IN 2014)

NUMBER OF FACEBOOK AND TWITTER INTERACTIONS



Appendix: Financial Data

Exhibit 1: Funds Made Available Pursuant to P.L. 113-76, FY 2014

Type of Funds	Amount (in millions)
1. Research Evaluation and Development	
a. NIJ Base Appropriation	\$40.0
b. Evaluation Clearinghouse/What Works Repository (CrimeSolutions.gov)	1.0
c. National Commission on Forensic Science	1.0
d. National Institute of Standards and Technology	3.0
2. State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance	
a. DNA-Related and Other Forensic Programs and Activities	
i. DNA Analysis and Capacity Enhancement Program and for Other Local, State and Federal Forensic Activities	\$117.0
ii. Postconviction DNA Testing	4.0
iii. Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants	4.0
b. Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants	12.0
c. Domestic Radicalization Research	4.0
d. Comprehensive School Safety Initiative	75.0
3. Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs	
a. Analysis and Research on Violence Against Indian Women	1.0
b. Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women and Related Issues	3.25
4. Reimbursements and Transfers From Other Federal Entities (including OJP components)	
	6.9
5. Section 215 Set-aside for Research and Statistics	
	13.8
6. Carryover From Prior Fiscal Years	
	2.1
Total Funds	\$288.1

*P.L. 113-76 directed NIJ to transfer \$3 million to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Exhibit 2: Allocation of Funds, FY 2014

Type of Activity	Subcategory	Percent
Social Science	Research and Development*	36.3
Science and Technology	Research and Development*	3.8
	Technology Assistance/Test & Evaluation	3.1
Investigative and Forensic Sciences	Analysis and Capacity Enhancement**	31.3
	Research and Development*	8.5
	Training and Technical Assistance	4.2
Dissemination/Outreach/Program Support		3.2
Carve-Out for Section 215 Set-Aside for Research and Statistics		0.9
OJP Management and Administration (M&A)		7.2
Direct Transfer to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Pursuant to Public Law 113-76		1.0
Carryover***		0.5
Total		100.0

*Per Section 200.87 of the new OMB Uniform Guidance: Cost Principles, Audit, and Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards (Omni-Circular): *Research and development means all research activities, both basic and applied, and all development activities that are performed by non-Federal entities. The term “research” also includes activities involving the training of individuals in research techniques where such activities utilize the same facilities as other research and development activities and where such activities are not included in the instruction function.*

“Research” is defined as a systematic study directed toward fuller scientific knowledge or understanding of the subject studied. “Development” is the systematic use of knowledge and understanding gained from research toward the production of useful materials, devices, systems, or methods, including design and development of prototypes and processes.

** Grants to states and units of local government to improve and enhance crime laboratories (including funds for analyses/backlog reduction).

*** NIJ received “no-year” funding for these programs in FY 2014 (funds that did not expire at the end of the fiscal year). “Carryover” funds are those that remained unobligated as of the end of the fiscal year. Depending on the provisions of future appropriations legislation, these funds may be subject to statutory rescission.

Exhibit 3: Allocation of Funds for DNA-Related and Other Forensics Programs and Activities, FY 2014

NIJ received \$117 million in FY2014 appropriations for DNA-related and other forensic programs and activities, which were used as follows:

DNA Analysis, Capacity Enhancement and Other Forensic Activities	FY 2014 Funds (in millions)	Prior Year Carryover Funds Available for Programs (in millions)*
Awards That Directly Benefit State and Local Government Efforts to Build Capacity and Reduce Backlogs		
Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program**	\$71.6	
Solving Cold Cases With DNA	4.7	
DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants Program	1.0	
Research and Development		
Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice	17.2	
Graduate Research Fellowship	0.1	
Forensic Science Research	1.0	
Training and Technical Assistance		
Training and Technical Assistance (including \$3.5 million for the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs))	8.4	
Other		
Carve-Out for Section 214 NIJ/BJS Set-Aside for Research, Evaluation and Statistics	2.3	
Office of Justice Programs Assessment for Management and Administration (M&A)	9.4	
Dissemination/Outreach/Program Support	0.9	
Peer Review of DNA Analysis, Capacity Enhancement and Other Forensic Activities Applications/Discretionary Applications	0.4	
Subtotal	\$117.0	\$0

Postconviction DNA Testing Program	FY 2014 Funds (in millions)	Prior Year Carryover Funds Available for Programs (in millions)*
Postconviction DNA Testing Assistance Program Grants	\$3.6	
Office of Justice Programs Assessment for Management and Administration (M&A)	0.32	
Carve-Out for Section 214 NIJ/BJS Set-Aside for Research, Evaluation and Statistics	0.08	
Subtotal	\$4.0	\$0

Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program	FY 2014 Funds (in millions)	Prior Year Carryover Funds Available for Programs (in millions)*
Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants	\$2.6	
Training and Technical Assistance	1.0	
Office of Justice Programs Assessment for Management and Administration (M&A)	0.32	
Carve-Out for Section 214 NIJ/BJS Set-Aside for Research, Evaluation and Statistics	0.08	
Subtotal	4.0	\$0
Total	\$125.0	\$0

* Awards made in FY 2014 with prior year “carryover” funds.

** NIJ elects to administer the DNA Backlog Reduction Program through an NIJ-established formula that is detailed annually in the solicitation document. The funds are discretionary in nature (i.e., there is no statutory requirement to administer them as a formula program).

Exhibit 4: Solicitations by Title, Number of Applications and Awards, and Value, FY 2014

Exhibit 4a: Competitive Awards

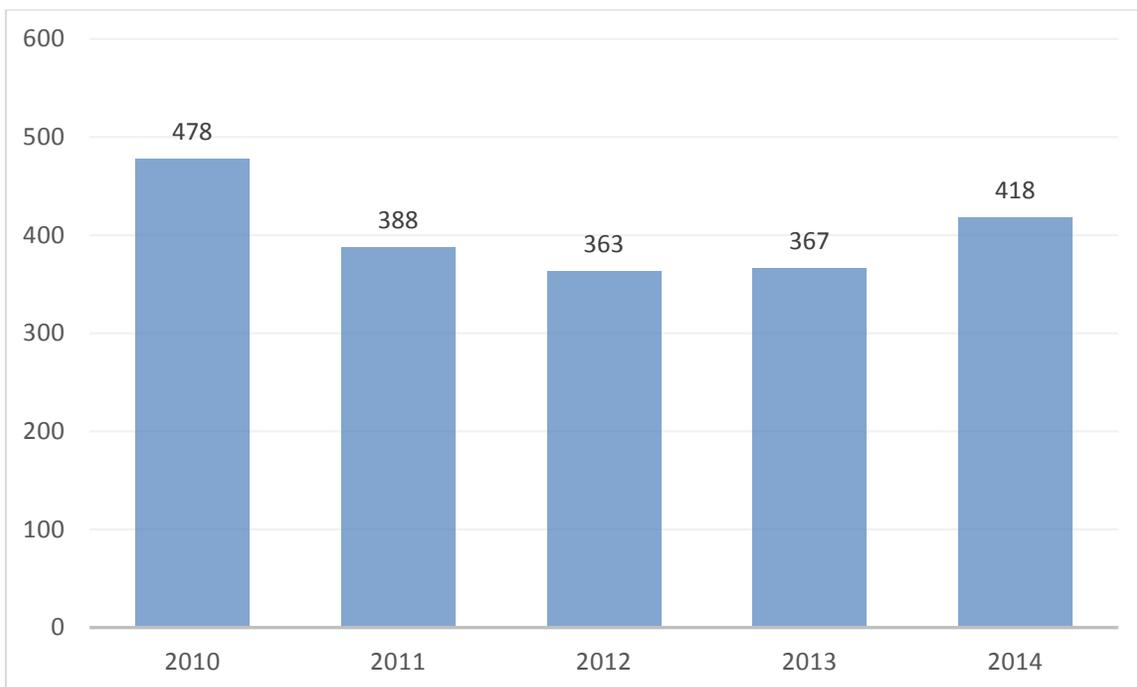
Solicitation Title	Applications Received	Awards Made	Value of Awards
1. Building and Enhancing Criminal Justice Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships	57	6	\$2,742,015
2. Cost-Effective Aviation Technologies and Research to Support Counter-Poaching Operations Related to Endangered, Protected, and/or Regulated Wildlife	6	Awards to be made in FY15	Awards to be made in FY15
3. DNA Arrestee Collection Process Implementation Grants Program	2	2	\$615,980
4. Data Resources Program 2014: Funding for Analysis of Existing Data	55	12	\$470,917
5. Developing Knowledge about What Works to Make Schools Safe	109	15	\$45,036,399
6. Evaluating the Effectiveness of State, Local, and Tribal Responses to Violence Committed Against Indian Women Living in Tribal Communities	4	0	0
7. Evaluation of the Office for Victims of Crime Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth State Demonstration Project	4	1	\$499,994
8. Information Sharing and Its Effect on Tracking Sex Offenders and Community Awareness: Examining a Key Function of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA)	11	1	\$1,000,000
9. Methodological Research to Support NIJ's Program of Research Examining Violence and Victimization of American Indian (AI) and Alaska Native (AN) Youth	7	1	\$421,104
10. NIJ FY 14 Evaluation of the Office for Victims of Crime Service, Support & Justice: A Strategy to Enhance Law Enforcement Response to Victims Demonstration Project	7	0	0
11. NIJ FY14 Graduate Research Fellowship Program Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	5	3	\$86,489
12. NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship Program in the Social and Behavioral Sciences	58	8	\$240,440
13. National Criminal Justice Technology Information Resource Center	5	1	\$3,998,190
14. National Law Enforcement Corrections and Technology Center (NLECTC) System Small, Rural, Tribal and Border (SRTB) Regional Center	8	1	\$1,996,464
15. New Approaches to Digital Evidence Processing and Storage	16	2	\$1,048,340
16. Online Flight and Incident Reporting System for Public Safety Use of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS)	13	1	\$249,959

17. Optimizing the Use of Video Technology to Improve Criminal Justice Outcomes	22	2	\$1,590,257
18. Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program	195	72	\$10,504,868
19. Postconviction Testing of DNA Evidence to Exonerate the Innocent	8	5	\$3,593,453
20. Postdoctoral Fellowship: Dating Abuse among Adolescents and Young Adults	4	0	0
21. Research and Development for Publicly Funded Forensic Science Laboratories to Assess the Testing and Processing of Physical Evidence	0	Awards to be made in FY15	Awards to be made in FY15
22. Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes	200	47	\$20,039,994
23. Research and Evaluation on Children Exposed to Violence	37	1	\$816,031
24. Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization to Violent Extremism	32	6	\$3,139,545
25. Research and Evaluation on Firearms and Violence	33	2	\$1,627,758
26. Research and Evaluation on Justice Systems	84	7	\$3,650,263
27. Research and Evaluation on Trafficking in Persons	28	3	\$981,206
28. Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women: Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence, and Intimate Partner Violence	111	9	\$4,660,302
29. Research and Evaluation on the Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of Elderly Individuals	34	3	\$1,097,356
30. Research on "Sentinel Events" and Criminal Justice System Errors	24	2	\$789,551
31. Research on Gangs and Gang Violence	22	2	\$1,313,713
32. Research on Offender Decision-Making and Desistance From Crime	35	3	\$1,513,404
33. School Safety Investigator-Initiated Solicitation	107	9	\$18,249,540
34. Social Science Research on Implementation, Dissemination and Translation	16	4	\$286,284
35. Solving Cold Cases With DNA	88	25	\$4,742,221
36. Testing Geospatial Predictive Policing Strategies	11	1	\$425,512
37. Tribal Program Postdoctoral Research Associate Fellowship	1	0	0
38. W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship for Research in Race, Gender, Culture, and Crime	20	1	\$49,679
Total	1,479	258	\$137,477,228

Exhibit 4b: Non-competitive Awards¹

Description	Applications Received	Awards Made	Value of Awards
Non-solicited Applications ²	4	4	\$1,924,885
DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program	122	122	\$71,578,465
Continuations of Awards Made in Prior Years	37	34	\$22,556,150
Subtotal	163	160	\$96,059,500
Grand Total	1,642	418	\$233,536,728

Exhibit 5: Number of Awards, FY 2010–2014



¹ All non-competitive awards were made in accordance with NIJ Guidelines Regarding Non-Competitive Awards. <http://www.nij.gov/funding/reviews/Pages/non-competitive-awards.aspx>.

² For information on these awards, please see <http://nij.gov/funding/awards/pages/awards-list.aspx?solicitationid=3964>.