

TECHBeat

Dedicated to Reporting Developments in Technology for Law Enforcement, Corrections and Forensic Sciences

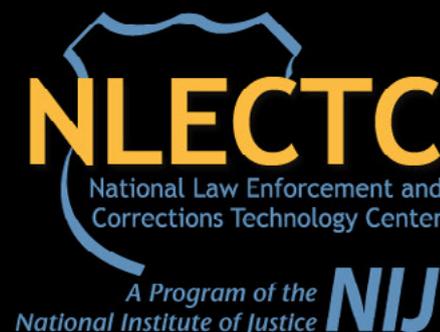
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TechBeat is the bimonthly newsmagazine of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System. Our goal is to keep you up to date on technologies for the public safety community and research efforts in government and private industry.

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TELL US ABOUT YOUR TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center wants to know your technology needs and requirements as a law enforcement or corrections professional. Use the form at https://www.justnet.org/tech_need_form.html to describe tools that would enhance the safety and effectiveness of your job. This information from practitioners is used to inform the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) research, development, testing and evaluation process and to make recommendations on prioritizing NIJ's investments across its various technology portfolios.

The NLECTC System

The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System is critical to the National Institute of Justice's mission to help state, local, tribal and federal law enforcement, corrections and other criminal justice agencies address technology needs and challenges.

The NLECTC System is an integrated network of centers and Centers of Excellence that offer free criminal justice technology outreach, demonstration, testing and evaluation assistance to law enforcement, corrections, courts, crime laboratories and other criminal justice agencies.

For information, visit www.justnet.org or contact (800) 248-2742.



NCJRS is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to support research, policy and program development worldwide.

For information, visit www.ncjrs.gov.

ANDROID AND IPHONE APPS AVAILABLE



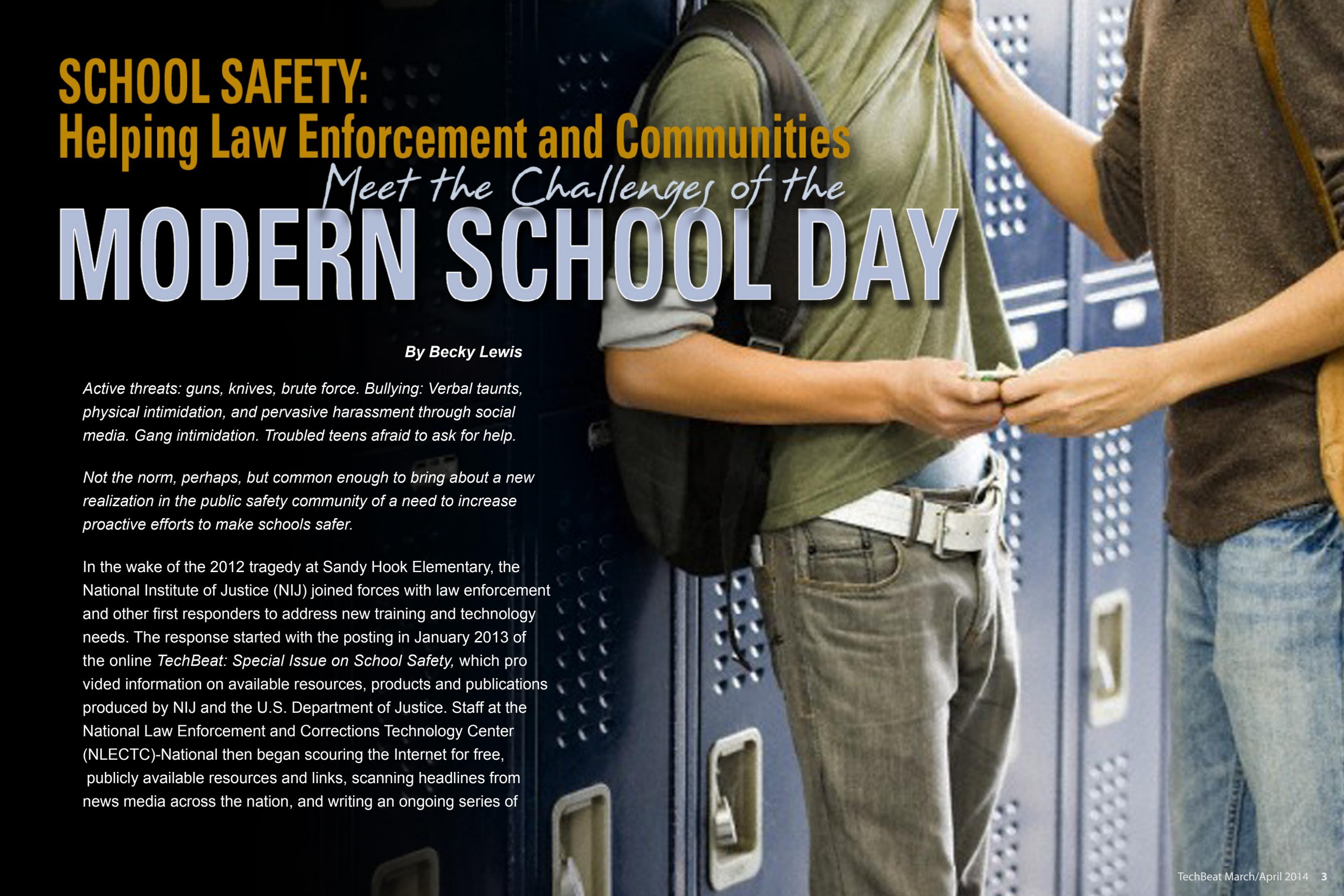
Android and iPhone apps are now available to access *TechBeat*. Keep current with research and development efforts for public safety technology and enjoy interactive features including video, audio and embedded images.

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SCHOOL SAFETY: Helping Law Enforcement and Communities *Meet the Challenges of the* MODERN SCHOOL DAY

By Becky Lewis

Active threats: guns, knives, brute force. Bullying: Verbal taunts, physical intimidation, and pervasive harassment through social media. Gang intimidation. Troubled teens afraid to ask for help.

Not the norm, perhaps, but common enough to bring about a new realization in the public safety community of a need to increase proactive efforts to make schools safer.

In the wake of the 2012 tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) joined forces with law enforcement and other first responders to address new training and technology needs. The response started with the posting in January 2013 of the online *TechBeat: Special Issue on School Safety*, which provided information on available resources, products and publications produced by NIJ and the U.S. Department of Justice. Staff at the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC)-National then began scouring the Internet for free, publicly available resources and links, scanning headlines from news media across the nation, and writing an ongoing series of

success stories on new technologies being implemented. In July, the Center launched SchoolSafetyInfo.org, an always evolving website dedicated to bringing up-to-the-minute information and assistance to the public safety community.

“Federal, state and local jurisdictions are all working together to find new and innovative ways to keep children and adults safe in school settings,” says Mike O’Shea, senior law enforcement program manager at NIJ. “This clearinghouse of information and contacts helps law enforcement and other public safety officials prepare, respond and recover as they work to keep schools as safe as possible.”



The site provides information on:

- Government organizations and publications.
- Professional associations.
- University research and resources.
- NIJ products and services.
- NLECTC products and services.
- Networking opportunities.
- Original articles (success stories).
- Reposts of news articles from around the country.



“Changing times call for changing strategies. There are new dangers in our communities and in our schools, and these new realities call for a new focus on safety,” O’Shea says. “Far from only developing techniques to respond efficiently to an active incident, public safety officials are also exploring technologies to gauge and prevent potential crises. And they are sharing their ideas and results. Through SchoolSafetyInfo.org, we are facilitating that sharing process.”

According to O’Shea, NIJ has been a leader in identifying and sharing new training and technology related to school safety ever since Congress passed the Safe Schools Initiative 15 years ago. NIJ has worked with the U.S. Department of Education, the U.S.

Secret Service, the FBI and other government agencies and departments to develop tools and strategies to boost school security, and in 2013, added a new partner, the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC).

Through NLETC-National, NIJ provided logistical and subject-matter support to MPCTC in organizing a focus group meeting of school safety experts from around the country in April. Participants brainstormed about technology needs and potential solutions, networking with each other and making plans to leverage each other’s efforts. While at the meeting site in Sykesville, Md., NLETC-National staff conducted video interviews and gathered information for success stories to help form the building blocks for SchoolSafetyInfo.org.





“It’s a new day in the effort to keep schools safe. Law enforcement and public safety officials are teaming with, and counting on, students, school officials, parents and concerned citizens to share the responsibility to keep schools safe,” says O’Shea, who gave presentations on the NIJ/NLECTC school safety efforts as part of a U.S. Department of Homeland Security webinar in November, and during a session at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) annual conference in October.

In preparation for the IACP presentation, NLECTC-National staff organized success stories posted on SchoolSafetyInfo.org into a print publication, *Sharing Ideas and Resources to Keep Our Nation’s Schools Safe!* After O’Shea provided copies to session

participants, National Center staff distributed the remaining copies at the conference booth. Following the conference, NLECTC-National created and posted an online version on www.justnet.org, the NLECTC System website, and staff made plans for a publicity campaign to promote the publication and the website in early 2014.

“There are daily news reports of school violence, bullying, weapons and other threats to students, to teachers and to staff. NIJ and NLECTC don’t have all the answers, but we will keep looking for them and sharing all that we find,” O’Shea says.

For more information on NIJ’s school safety programs, contact Mike O’Shea at (202) 305-7954 or by email at michael.oshea@usdoj.gov.

Project Aims to Improve
PLANNING
and
TRAINING



TACTICAL OPERATIONS

By Michele Coppola

Good training and readiness are critical for successful SWAT operations. In 2013, the Weapons and Protective Systems Technology Center of Excellence (WPSTC) completed a project aimed at improving planning and training for tactical operations.

Several years ago, the Tactical Operations Technology Working Group identified the need for an affordable and realistic training environment specifically focused on SWAT operations, but first, common terminology and a set of collective tasks common to police tactical operations from which to draw needed to be identified.

WPSTC coordinated the effort, known as the Tactical Operations Mission Analysis Project, and in 2013 produced a draft document titled *Report: Mission Essential Tasks for Tactical Operations*. WPSTC circulated the draft for comment during 2013, and gave a presentation on the project at the annual National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA) Tactical Operations Conference. Release of the report is anticipated for 2014.

“This effort began several years ago with NTOA,” explains Andy Mazzara, WPSTC director. “They were interested in bringing structure and organization to how tactical teams look at the way they conduct operations in the field. This was meant to ultimately achieve a framework structure so they



can do better assessments of their preparedness and readiness of level of training, and improve the level of professionalism and training at the team and department level for tactical operations.”

WPSTC organized a panel of nine experienced tactical law enforcement professionals that reviewed a number of SWAT-related documents as part of its analysis. The panel identified operational scenarios and prospective missions, and collective tasks

“It really presents the professional community of SWAT with a very structured, organized and well-defined description of how and what they do when they perform their operations. This will help them improve their level of professionalism, readiness and quality of training within the SWAT community.”

Ed Hughes of WPSTC, the project lead for the effort, explained that the panel first adapted 10 operational scenarios representative of tactical mission sets encountered by operators (e.g., terrorists-school bus, barricaded suspect and bank robbery).



associated with each mission by operational function. Tactical team commanders can use the resulting list to identify their unit mission-essential tasks.

“The project developed the framework that focuses on operational functions and broke them down to collective tasks and assigned task numbers,” Mazzara says.

“Then we derived the collective tasks needed to accomplish each of the missions and organized them by command and control functions, tactical maneuver functions and tactical support functions. This provided some organization to a broad range of tasks,” Hughes explains.

SWAT

The framework devised by the panel portrays linkages between mission, collective and individual task proficiency, training plans, and tactical readiness. The framework also identified remaining gaps that could be addressed in any follow-on efforts, such as identifying task steps for each collective and subordinate task and the development of performance measures and metrics with which to assess task proficiency.

WPSTC is part of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System, a program of the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ). For more information on the Tactical Operations Mission Analysis Project, contact Andy Mazzara, WPSTC director, at afm126@psu.edu. For information on related programs at NIJ, contact NIJ Program Manager Brian Montgomery at Brian.Montgomery@usdoj.gov.



CIVIL AIR PATROL

Offers Local Support

By Becky Lewis

An autumn blizzard with near-hurricane strength winds that stranded hunters and livestock through western South Dakota ... A family trapped by an Idaho mudslide ... torrential rains that made portions of Colorado inaccessible from the ground ... Alzheimer's patients and children that just wander away.

The Civil Air Patrol responds to all of these events, and more, providing a cost-efficient way for local law enforcement agencies to have an aerial resource when needed.

John Desmarais, Director of Operations at Civil Air Patrol (CAP) National Headquarters in Alabama, wants to get the word out to local law enforcement that CAP provides more than just support at the federal level.

“Many agencies are hesitant to call because when they think aviation they immediately think expensive,” Desmarais says. “CAP prides itself on being a cost-effective force multiplier. Our personnel supporting missions are all volunteers, and because CAP is one of — if not the largest owners of Cessna aircraft in the world — it has some negotiating ability with its maintenance contracts that keep costs relatively low. Ironically, state and local customers also don't have to pay for some of our services like search and rescue and counterdrug operations that

“We do our best to never turn down a lifesaving mission that we can safely accomplish with our resources, and on any given day, our volunteers are always helping out someone somewhere.”

*-John Desmarais,
Director of Operations, Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters*

are federally funded, and in many cases disaster relief operations are also funded directly by FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency].”

CAP operates in much the same manner as the National Guard, he says, with funding for operations and procurement coming through the U.S. Air Force, but the resources are then allowed to be used not only to support the Air Force, but other U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) units, as well as federal, state and local agencies. Although supporting the Air Force is CAP’s primary mission, Desmarais says “lifesaving and emergency missions take precedence. We do our best to never turn down a lifesaving mission that we can safely accomplish with our resources, and on any given day, our volunteers are always helping out somewhere.”

In a year’s time, CAP volunteers average 80 confirmed lives saved, and according to Chief of Communications Malcolm Kyser, “This is our niche in the federal marketplace. We leverage volunteer manpower and the largest single-owner fleet of Cessnas (approximately 550) in the world. This enables us to provide aerial platforms in a cost range no one else can touch. In other words, it makes us very cost-effective.”

Agencies that want to request immediate help with a search and rescue mission should call the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at (800) 851-3051. For all other missions, contact the CAP National Operations Center at (888) 211-1812, ext. 300. Agencies can also submit general inquiries about CAP capabilities via email to opscenter@capnhq.gov, but for emergencies, please call.





According to Kyser, CAP performs 90 percent of all inland search and rescue in the United States through its role as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary (the Air Force is responsible for inland search and rescue at the federal level). CAP also performs a number of counterdrug and other homeland security missions.

“We are limited by Posse Comitatus,” Desmarais explains. “We can provide support, though. We train our personnel to support these missions, and can carry local law enforcement personnel as well. We can spot marijuana grows or other illegal activity, but if a suspect flees, we can’t follow him, although we can report it. Carrying

observers from state and local law enforcement is most effective, as they can radio information back to officers on the ground and oftentimes know the areas they serve best.”

DoD also allows some exceptions related to detection and monitoring of cross-border threats with prior planning and approval.

Of its 60,000 members, CAP has approximately 31,000 that are involved in operations, including incident commanders, pilots and aircrew, ground team members, and communications personnel. In addition to that fleet of Cessnas, CAP can call on resources



such as nearly 1,000 land vehicles and a nationwide radio network using public service grade VHF-FM and HF radios. These radios plug into CAP's nationwide communications system, which is designed to be independent of commercial infrastructure, operating entirely on federal radio spectrum. CAP flies approximately 100,000 hours (approximately 70 percent mission support, 30 percent training) annually in the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and has the capacity to support 10,000 to 20,000 more annually.

"It's a pretty robust environment that essentially is run by volunteers in the field," Desmarais says. "We have only about 150 paid staff nationwide, and the vast majority here at headquarters are in administrative roles. We're fortunate to have so many volunteers, including dozens of them here at the national level that help us accomplish our missions every day. These are the folks that make it all work out in the field. Most take

time off from their regular jobs to do this, oftentimes making CAP another full-time career. Our volunteers are very dedicated."

Although the volunteers include some retirees, they tend to be adults in their late 40s to early 50s. Many are retired from the military and working in a second career, or were CAP cadets in their youth. To learn about the CAP cadet program, visit http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/cap_home/teens/.

"I was a cadet myself, and my parents are both volunteers here at headquarters," Desmarais says. "My father is a former CAP wing commander, and when they retired here to be close to my family, they started helping out in the office three days a week. We have literally thousands of people like that who are looking to give something back to their communities."

To learn more about the Civil Air Patrol, its mission and its service, visit <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/>



MINNESOTA



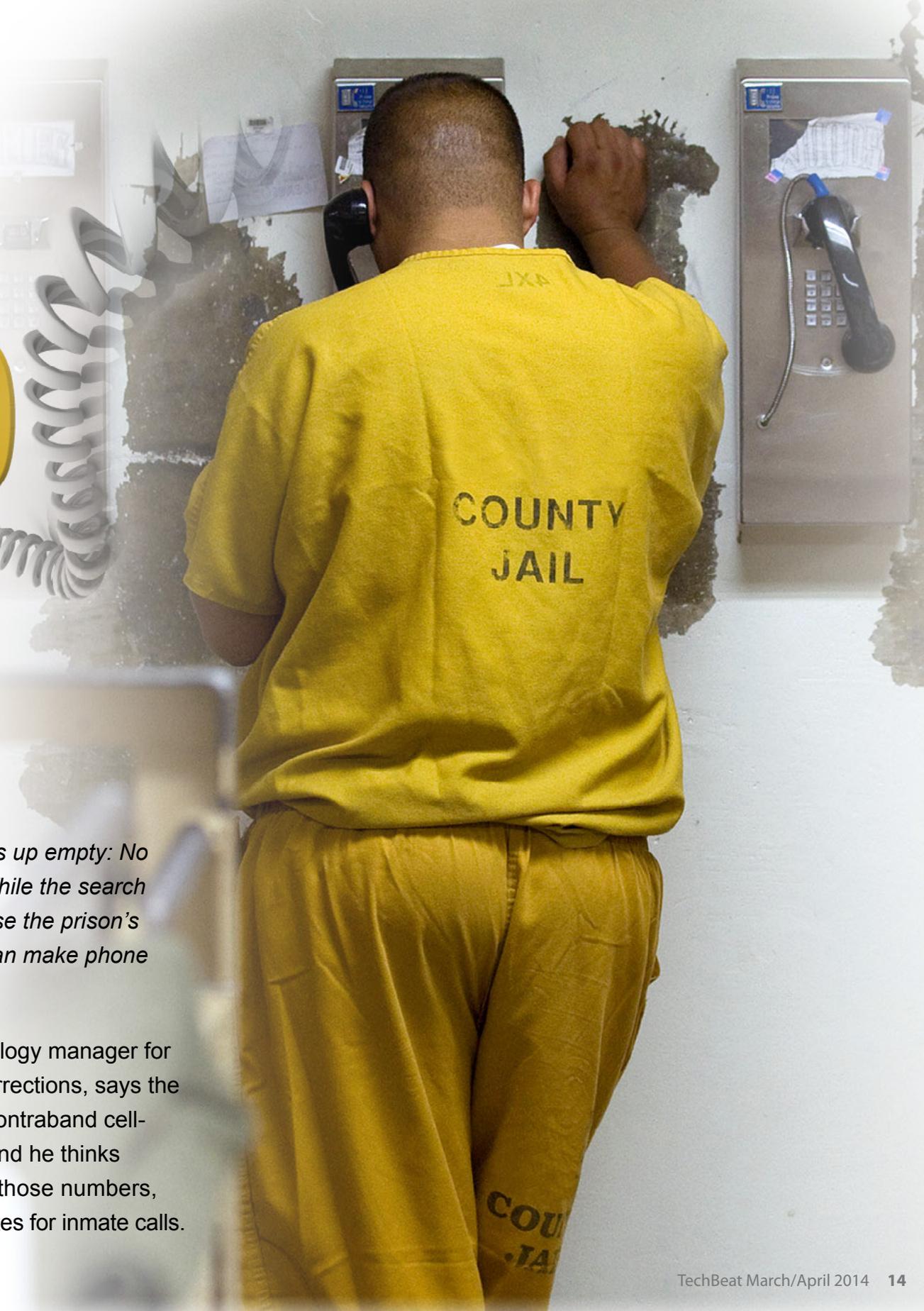
REDUCES PHONE RATES *to* COMBAT

CONTRABAND CELLPHONES

By Becky Lewis

Another sweep through the facility comes up empty: No contraband cellphones found today. While the search goes on, inmates wait their turn to use the prison's accessible landlines, where they can make phone calls at a reasonable rate.

Victor Wanchena, security technology manager for the Minnesota Department of Corrections, says the department has found only five contraband cellphones in the past three years, and he thinks a number of strategies play into those numbers, including the state's low phone rates for inmate calls.





“We tried to find an equitable rate to charge. Offenders need to have reasonable access at a reasonable price because communication with loved ones and families is important, especially from a re-entry standpoint,” Wanchena says. “More than 95 percent of these offenders are going to get back out, so it’s important that they maintain their ties, their connection to the outside. We struck on an equitable rate that still provides some income back to the institution to fund programs that benefit offenders, such as law libraries. It might be difficult to fund those programs otherwise.”

He also believes that staff culture plays an important role in maintaining not only low numbers of contraband cellphones, but also a professional and safe atmosphere overall.

“Our staff culture is about professional conduct that achieves our department mission of providing a safer Minnesota. It’s about doing good shakedowns. It’s about doing good searches. It’s about having very good basic correctional skills,” he says.

Wanchena says that the Minnesota DOC has ongoing training regarding maintaining proper boundaries with offenders, emphasizing ways in which staff can be set up and become compromised, and ways to avoid compromising situations, as well as how to handle them if you find yourself compromised. Staff members also learn about the cumulative stress of working in the correctional environment and dealing with how the job weighs on them over time.

“It’s a benefit to the whole system if workers can stay fulfilled, positive and motivated, and keep

the department vision in their heads. I can’t overemphasize the benefits you get from solid professionalism,” Wanchena adds. “We’ve been entrusted with a very difficult mission by the public and it’s our responsibility to conduct ourselves in a way that’s professional. We support each other and we’re not afraid to get involved if we see someone else having a problem.”

Minnesota has a good solid approach that works, but Wanchena, who attended and presented at the Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice (NIJ) August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections, says that although he knows that staff culture and department attitude are important for everyone, participating in the Institute has shown him that, “There are many paths out there to the same destination. We understand that for a smaller system, it is sometimes easier to do certain things than it is for a larger jurisdiction. Everyone’s approach is different.”

For more information on the programs of the Minnesota Department of Corrections, contact Victor Wanchena at (651) 361-7252 or victor.wanchena@state.mn.us.

This article is one of a series of articles to appear in TechBeat focusing on information presented at the NIJ August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections, which brought together administrative-level corrections professionals to learn about contraband cellphone interdiction. For information on the Institutes, contact Jack Harne, NIJ corrections technology program manager, at jack.harne@usdoj.gov.

Nebraska Corrections Agency Uses Contraband Cellphones to "TAKE A SNAPSHOT" OF INMATES

By Becky Lewis



Facebook postings. Drug deals. Adult movies. Conversations with loved ones. Across the country, inmates find all kinds of ways to make contraband cellphones work for them.

In Nebraska, correctional authorities are finding a way to make the phones work for them, too.

“Although we’ve had a few issues in our community centers, where

inmates go outside on work release, we haven’t really seen a cellphone explosion yet,” says Jeff Peterson, intelligence coordinator for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS). “We keep a vast amount of data on our inmates, such as financial data and visitor information, and we data mine all of it. We use

Client Export
Data mining Tea



We use the cellphones we have found in the same way. We have the ability to extract data, and we have the ability to link it with our other data. We have the ability to take the cellphone records obtained through subpoenas and extraction tools, and data mine this as well. We have the ability to do link analysis to further our investigations.”

Nebraska has dug deep for data for about five years, resulting in the ability to instantly provide a snapshot of an inmate that includes all of his associations inside and outside the correctional facility, who he’s been working with and what he’s been doing. Investigators within NDCS and from state and local law enforcement agencies know they can turn to the department’s intelligence program whenever they quickly need information about an inmate.

Peterson says NDCS considers itself a partner with law enforcement agencies because it provides a product that helps with investigations on connections within the system, or with background checks on inmates who are about to be discharged. Pulling information from confiscated cellphones helps complete that picture.

Peterson discussed his agency’s program at the Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice (NIJ) August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections, which focused solely on the topic of contraband cellphones in correctional facilities.

“The problem in Nebraska is small and we want to keep it that way,” he says. “We’re small compared to a number of the other agencies who sent representatives to the NIJ Technology Institute for Corrections. We have 4,800 inmates compared to, well . . . compared to a whole lot.”

Although the smaller inmate population in part leads to smaller numbers of confiscated phones, Peterson also says Nebraska does a good job of seeking out and finding phones.

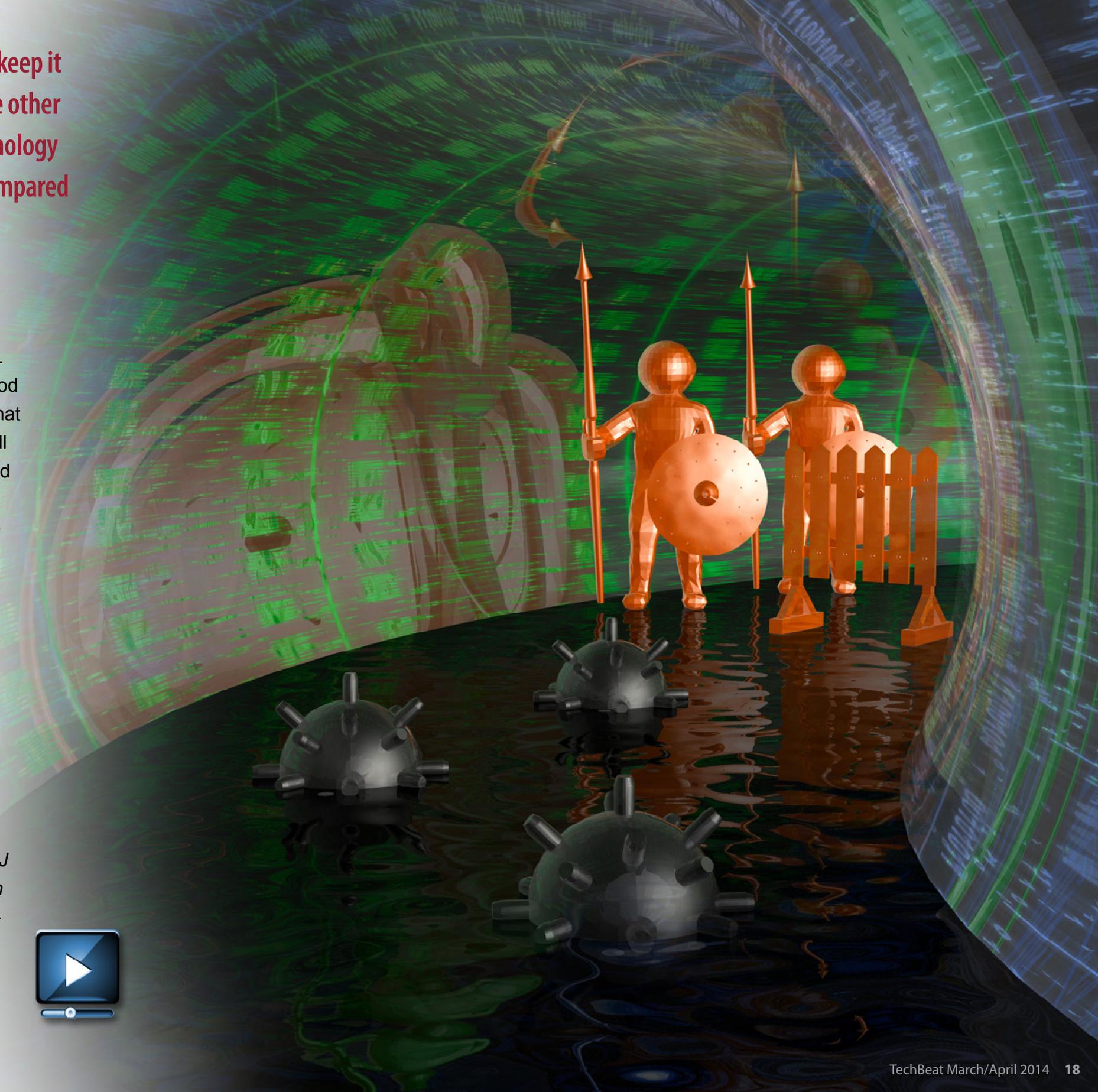
“The problem in Nebraska is small and we want to keep it that way. We’re small compared to a number of the other agencies who sent representatives to the NIJ Technology Institute for Corrections. We have 4,800 inmates compared to, well . . .compared to a whole lot.”

*—Jeff Peterson, Intelligence Coordinator,
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services*

“We just believe we have good sound security,” he says. “We believe we do everything extremely well. We do good searches. We do good intelligence. We have a canine that searches for cellphones. We feel we have a good overall security process that limits what is coming in, and a good overall intelligence process that makes the most out of what we do find. NDCS is always looking to improve the overall security procedure/operation within NDCS, and makes every effort to ensure that we are doing the best possible job to stay in front of emerging trends, and reviewing the best possible practices available.”

For more information on Nebraska’s data mining and intelligence efforts related to contraband cellphones, contact Jeff Peterson at (402) 479-5912 or jeff.a.peterson@nebraska.gov.

This article is one of a series of articles to appear in TechBeat focusing on information presented at the NIJ August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections, which brought together administrative-level corrections professionals to learn about contraband cellphone interdiction. For information on the Institutes, contact Jack Harne, NIJ corrections technology program manager, at jack.harne@usdoj.gov.



TECHshorts is a sampling of the technology projects, programs and initiatives being conducted by the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, as well as other agencies. If you would like additional information concerning any of the following TECHshorts, please refer to the specific point-of-contact information that is included at the end of each entry.

In addition to TECHshorts, *JUSTNET News*, an online, weekly technology news summary containing articles relating to technology developments in public safety that have appeared in newspapers, newsmagazines and trade and professional journals, is available through the NLECTC System's website, www.justnet.org. Subscribers to *JUSTNET News* receive the news summary directly via email. To subscribe to *JUSTNET News*, go to <https://www.justnet.org/subscribe.html>, email your request to asknlectc@justnet.org or call (800) 248-2742.

Note: The mentioning of specific manufacturers or products in TECHshorts does not constitute the endorsement of the U.S. Department of Justice, NIJ or the NLECTC System.



Report on Police Researchers and Practitioners

National Institute of Justice

A report is available on a study that examined the prevalence of police practitioner-researcher partnerships in the U.S. and the factors that prevent or foster partnership development. The authors of *Building Bridges Between Police Researchers and Practitioners: Agents of Change in a Complex World*, surveyed a national sample of law

enforcement agencies on the prevalence of partnerships, and interviewed representatives from 89 partnerships. The authors conducted case studies on four model partnerships, which supported the production of videos to disseminate information to practitioners about successful collaborations.

The national survey indicated that 32 percent of the 871 responding law enforcement agencies reported being in partnerships with researchers. Partnerships were most common among municipal police departments and state law enforcement agencies. Agencies reporting the use of research information, particularly from the National Institute of Justice, were more likely to participate in partnerships.

The interviews with practitioners and researchers revealed keys to successful partnerships, including: 1) partners need to negotiate structural characteristics, such as how the partnership will be supported and institutional demands on both partners; 2) agencies need to recognize the value in research, and researchers must value practitioner knowledge; and 3) both parties need to effectively manage their interpersonal relationship by establishing trust and effective communication.

To read the report, visit <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/244345.pdf>.

Report Updates Data on DNA Backlogs

National Institute of Justice

Making Sense of DNA Backlogs, 2012 — Myths vs. Reality, provides an update on the status of DNA backlogs in the United States. The report is based on data collected from more than 120 public laboratories. When previously updated (*Making Sense of DNA Backlogs, 2010 — Myths vs. Reality*), there was no standard definition of backlog. NIJ subsequently required laboratories that received federal funds to define a backlogged case as one that had not been closed by a final report within 30 days after the lab received evidenced. NIJ also required laboratories to define a backlogged DNA database sample from convicted offenders and arrestees as one that had not been tested and uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System within



30 days of the lab receiving the sample.

Sample report findings:

- Laboratory capacity continues to grow due to increasing automation, hiring of more personnel, use of overtime and improved testing procedures and methods. The federal government supports

these activities through NIJ's DNA Backlog Reduction Program.

- Laboratories processed 10 percent more forensic DNA cases in 2011 than in 2009.
- DNA backlogs nevertheless continued to increase because the demand for forensic DNA casework services in 2011 increased by 16.4 percent over 2009 demands.
- Although 52.2 percent fewer database samples from convicted offenders and arrestees were completed in 2011 than in 2009, new demand to test and upload database samples dropped 51.2 percent, so the overall workload decreased 46.3 percent from 2009 levels.
- Hiring additional DNA analysts, retaining trained personnel, automating work processes, implementing new technologies and altering business practices offer potential solutions to reducing DNA backlogs.

To view the report, visit <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/243347.pdf>.

Program Targets Drunken Driving and Underage Drinking

The Century Council

An organization dedicated to fighting drunken driving and underage drinking has online resources to help law enforcement.

The Century Council is a national, not-for-profit organization funded by distillers. The Council develops and implements programs and public awareness campaigns and promotes action through strategic partnerships with organizations, including the International Association of Chiefs of Police Foundation.

The Council has developed materials that can aid law enforcement community outreach efforts and training. For example, the Council and the Institute for Police Technology and Management developed a Hardcore Drunk Driving Law Enforcement Training Guide. The guide is part of a series of publications addressing the issue of hardcore drunken driving, including guides for judges, prosecutors, and probation and parole professionals. The guide for law enforcement includes strategies, best practices and model programs that can be implemented by law enforcement.

(Source: www.centurycouncil.org)

For more information, visit www.centurycouncil.org.



PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY

JUSTNET

In The News

Following are abstracts on public safety-related articles that have appeared in newspapers, magazines and websites.

New Cameras Keep Watch on MBTA Buses

The Boston Globe, (02/11/2014), Martine Powers

Buses in the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority system will be equipped with high-definition security cameras and video screens, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. By the end of this summer, 225 buses will have the technology, which will live-stream footage to the monitors on the buses and to the T's bus dispatching center. About 200 buses already have surveillance cameras trained on the fare box, but they require T staff to locate the bus and remove the memory drive to view footage.

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2014/02/11/begins-installation-bus-security-cameras/Z1QwLLHvLb3TgsgOPXa9yM/story.html>

Omaha, Kansas City Police Share Strategies to Target Gang Violence

World-Herald, (02/14/2014), Kevin Cole

Police in Omaha, Neb., and Kansas City, Mo., are teaming up to share ways to curb gang violence. Officers from both departments met to discuss strategies to remove violent offenders from the community. Kansas City police said they were impressed by the amount of human intelligence-gathering being done by the Omaha gang unit, and Omaha's commitment to crime lab work, in which every shell casing and firearm that comes into police possession is analyzed.

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20140214/NEWS/140219330/1707>

Baltimore Police to Invest in Gunshot Detection System

The Baltimore Sun, (02/12/2014), Justin George and Yvonne Wenger

Police will use a \$305,000 grant to install a gunshot detection system in east and west Baltimore, which should allow them to pinpoint locations of gunfire and enhance investigations. The ShotSpotter system will use receivers posted in neighborhoods to detect the sound of gunfire. Police will use the readings to track and respond to potential shootings.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/crime/blog/bs-md-gunshot-detector-20140212,0,1193481.story>

CONTACT US

Call the NLECTC Information Hotline at 800-248-2742 or email asknlectc@justnet.org

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FUNDING ASSISTANCE

NLECTC is offering tools and assistance to help Law Enforcement and Corrections agencies locate and apply for funding opportunities.

Federal Funding Opportunities:

No currently relevant solicitations.

Give Us Your Tech Ideas

We are actively seeking ideas to help us identify technology needs and requirements as part of the National Institute of Justice's Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation process.

Click here for recent public safety-related articles from the news media.



WWW.JUSTNET.ORG

JUSTNETNews. Includes article abstracts on law enforcement, corrections and forensics technologies that have appeared in major newspapers, magazines and periodicals and on national and international wire services and websites.

Testing Results. Up-to-date listing of public safety equipment evaluated through NIJ's testing program. Includes ballistic- and stab-resistant armor, patrol vehicles and tires, protective gloves and more.

Calendar of Events. Lists upcoming meetings, seminars and training.

Social Media. Access our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube feeds for the latest news and updates.

Do More With Less. Highlights creative programs and resources to help agencies meet challenges as budgets shrink and demands on departments grow.

Tech Topics. Browse for information on specific topics such as biometrics, cybercrime, forensics and corrections.



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