WASHINGTON - The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) today announced the availability of the *NIJ Journal #268*. The cover story discusses the important role of research in the United States’ response to the challenges of transnational organized crime. The Journal also includes: an overview of NIJ’s new peer review process, the final results from an expert panel on the safety of conducted energy devices, and a response from NIJ Director John H. Laub, Ph.D. on an evaluation of NIJ by the National Research Council.

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**WHERE:**  [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/journals/268/welcome.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/journals/268/welcome.htm)

**About the NIJ Journal**
The NIJ Journal features articles to help criminal justice policymakers and practitioners stay 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.

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