



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

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### PUBLICATION ADVISORY

#### **Justice Department Publications Explore Effect of Prison Restructuring, New Officers and Technology in Law Enforcement Agencies**

WASHINGTON -- The Office of Justice Program's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) today released the newest publications from the Executive Session on Policing and Public Safety, a roundtable funded by NIJ and managed by Harvard's Kennedy School of Government Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management. The Executive Session brings together police chiefs, union leaders, and academic and criminal justice policy leaders to find solutions to today's most pressing law enforcement issues.

In *Exploring the Role of the Police in Prisoner Reentry*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice President Jeremy Travis, East Palo Alto Police Chief Ronald Davis, and Law Professor Sarah Lawrence examine police officers' role in prisoner reentry. With high numbers of parolees reentering communities every day, police have traditionally perceived their role as limited to monitoring probationers and parolees. In this paper the authors argue that greater police involvement in prisoner reentry can promote public safety through problem-oriented policing efforts, and can increase police legitimacy, through enhanced community policing efforts, particularly in minority communities.

In *Police Leadership Challenges in a Changing World*, retired Oakland, Calif. Police Chief Anthony Batts, Director and Chief Legal Counsel of the Police Benevolent and Protective Association of Illinois Sean Michael Smoot, and former NIJ Deputy Director Ellen Scrivner examine the impact of new technology and a new generation of police officers on existing police culture. The success of police organizational leaders may depend on how effectively they recognize and adapt to the dynamic characteristics of younger officers. This paper argues that newer and younger officers not only present leadership challenges, but also bring unique qualities to law enforcement that may help it meet community and citizen expectations. The new generation of police recruits demonstrates a familiarity with technology and social media, possesses new attitudes towards their role in law enforcement and the community, and are more accepting of diversity while embracing new beliefs regarding autonomy and decision making. These skill sets, attitudes, and expectations are among the competencies needed for 21<sup>st</sup> century law enforcement.

**TITLE:** *Exploring the Role of the Police in Prisoner Reentry and Police Leadership Challenges in a Changing World*, part of the Executive Session on Policing and Public Safety series published by NIJ.

**AUTHOR(S):** Jeremy Travis, Ronald Davis and Sarah Lawrence (*Prisoner Reentry*), Anthony W. Batts, Sean Michael Smoot and Ellen Scrivner (*Police Leadership*)

**WHERE:** <https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/238337.pdf> (Prisoner Reentry), and <https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/238338.pdf> (Police Leadership)

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The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary Lou Leary, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has seven 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; the Community Capacity Development Office, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART). More information about OJP and its components can be found at <http://www.ojp.gov>.