NEW REPORT LINKS PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO REDUCTION IN RECIDIVISM

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) today announced research which explores knowledge gaps and opportunities for leveraging academic and vocational education programs to improve the reentry outcomes of incarcerated adults and juveniles. The findings confirm the results of a previous report that showed the effectiveness of these programs. The research released today by RAND Corporation is funded by BJA in collaboration with the Office of Vocational and Adult Education at the U.S. Department of Education.

“The findings and recommendations in this study underscore the critical importance of effective academic and vocational education programs in helping incarcerated individuals successfully reenter communities upon release,” said BJA Director Denise E. O’Donnell. “This knowledge serves to tell us which programs should be developed and funded—and which programs provide the greatest return on taxpayer dollars.”

TITLE: How Effective Is Correctional Education and Where Do We Go from Here The Results of a Comprehensive Evaluation

AUTHOR: Lois M. Davis, Jennifer Steele, Robert Bozick, Malcolm Williams, Susan Turner, Jeremy Miles, Jessica Saunders, Paul Hirschfield, Paul S. Steinberg

WHERE: bja.gov/Publications/Rand-HowEffectivelIsCorrectionalEducation.pdf

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The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has six components: 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. More information about OJP can be found at http://www.ojp.gov