WASHINGTON – Six doctoral students will share a total of $569,623 from the new Graduate Research Fellowship Program, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) announced today. The grants fund doctoral research that focuses on crime, violence and other criminal justice-related topics.

The fiscal year 2015 Graduate Research Fellowship Program award recipients are—
• Andrea Marie Headley, Florida International University, Department of Public Administration
• Donald E. Hunt, Georgia State University, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
• Brendan Lantz, Pennsylvania State University, Department of Sociology and Criminology
• Erica Redner-Vera, Arizona State University, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
• Maribeth L. Rezey, University of Missouri, St. Louis, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
• CheyOnna Sewell, University of Missouri, St. Louis, Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

“We are excited to introduce this new fellowship program and support these six fellows as they complete their doctorate programs,” said BJS Director William Sabol. “BJS will greatly benefit from the research the new fellows provide as we continue to advance our criminal justice programs and data collections.”

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program facilitates collaboration between academic and government researchers in survey methodology, statistics, economics and social sciences. It is open to students who are in the final stages of graduate study and increases the number of researchers who are using criminal justice statistical data generated by BJS.

Fellows address substantive, methodological and analytical issues relevant to BJS programs and further the existing knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system. These contributions help create solutions to better prevent and control crime and ensure the fair, impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States.

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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.