

Office of Justice Programs

Annual Report to Congress

Fiscal Year 2012

Letter from the Assistant Attorney General

To the President, Members of Congress, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Professionals, and the American People:

It is my privilege to present the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Annual Report. This year's report reflects OJP's sustained commitment to evidence-based solutions to criminal justice programming. Motivated by a strong scientific bias, we are consistently looking at research to guide program development in officer safety, juvenile justice, victim services, reentry, recidivism, and many other areas within OJP's domain.

In FY 2012 OJP built on its innovative CrimeSolutions.gov, a vehicle to inform practitioners and policy makers about what works in criminal and juvenile justice and crime victim services, to create the Diagnostic Center, a consultation service to help localities find individualized solutions to their unique public safety challenges. We undertook a paradigm-shifting study of the crime victims field, Vision 21, presenting a final report that provides a framework for strategic change in the field and offers broad recommendations for overcoming political, philosophical and policy challenges. Continuing the work of the Attorney General's Defending Childhood Initiative, a Task Force composed of 13 leading experts including practitioners, child and family advocates, academic experts, and licensed clinicians issued a final report to the Attorney General presenting comprehensive policy recommendations in the fall of 2012. The report will serve as a blueprint for preventing children's exposure to violence and for reducing the negative effects experienced by children exposed to violence across the United States.

We strengthened connections with our sister federal agencies, working together on the Federal Interagency Reentry Council and the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention. We have nurtured relationships with our state, local, tribal, and private and philanthropic partners, and we continue to attend to our constituents' feedback about our efforts to advance the fields of criminal and juvenile justice.

OJP awarded 2,876 grants totaling more than \$1.7 billion in FY 2012. We have prudently administered the taxpayer dollars that fund the critical work described in this report. We believe our efforts justify the confidence Congress has placed in us and fulfill Congress' intention that we actively engage cities, states, and tribes with state of the art training and technical assistance. The work done in FY 2012 has helped move the field even closer to a day when evidence rather than tradition, and innovation rather than convention, characterize our efforts to promote safety and security in America.

Sincerely,



Karol V. Mason
Assistant Attorney General

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INTRODUCTION

The Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) close partnership with state, local, and tribal justice systems is essential to providing comprehensive and cohesive support for the nation's public safety needs. OJP provides innovative leadership, critical research and information, and essential funding to help communities implement programs and strategies.

OJP's goals are the following:

- To strengthen partnerships with state, local, and tribal stakeholders.
- To ensure integrity of, and respect for, science, including a focus on evidence-based, "smart on crime" approaches in criminal and juvenile justice.
- To administer OJP's grant awards process in a fair, accessible, and transparent fashion, and as good stewards of federal funds, manage the grants system in a manner that avoids waste, fraud, and abuse.

Composed of five bureaus, one program office, and eight support offices, OJP and its programs and research address every facet of criminal and juvenile justice.

Bureaus and Program Offices:

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)

National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)

Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART)

Support Offices:

Equal Employment Opportunity Office (EEO)

Office of Administration (OA)

Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management (OAAM)

Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO)

Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)

Office of Communications (OCOM)

Office for Civil Rights (OCR)

Office of General Counsel (OGC)

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, OJP made 2,876 grant awards totaling more than \$1.7 billion to criminal and juvenile justice organizations and victim service providers at the national, state, local, and tribal level to support public safety and justice initiatives in every part of the United States. This report includes both new and continuing programs administered by OJP in FY 2012.

The first section describes programs, initiatives and activities that operate across OJP. The second describes the work of each Bureau and Office, highlighting the major accomplishments of FY 2012. The report ends with a description of those management and administration activities that ensure OJP's smooth functioning and prudent stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Additional information regarding OJP's initiatives can be found on the OJP Web site at www.ojp.gov. A complete list of OJP's FY 2012 awards is available in the funding section of the OJP Web site at <http://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov:85/selector/result>

Summary of FY 2012 Grant Awards

PROGRAM OFFICE	Number of Awards	Total Award Amount
BJA	1,767	\$640,808,410.00
BJS	121	\$39,649,149.00
OJJDP	369	\$269,554,670.00
NIJ	363	\$168,618,239.00
OVC	192	\$585,405,758.00
SMART	64	\$16,235,706.00
Grand Total	2,876	\$1,720,271,932.00

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL: OJP-WIDE INITIATIVES

Defending Childhood: The Attorney General's Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence

The Attorney General's Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence, part of the Defending Childhood Initiative, was established on October 13, 2011. The Task Force is composed of 13 leading experts including practitioners, child and family advocates, academic experts, and licensed clinicians. Joe Torre, founder of the Joe Torre Safe at Home® Foundation, and a

witness to domestic violence as a child himself, and Robert Listenbee, Jr., former Chief of the Juvenile Unit of the Defender Association of Philadelphia and current Administrator of OJJDP, served as Co-Chairs. Based on the testimony at four public hearings, on comprehensive research, and on extensive input from experts, advocates, and impacted families and communities nationwide, the Defending Childhood Task Force issued a final report to the Attorney General presenting its findings and comprehensive policy recommendations in the fall of 2012. The report will serve as a blueprint for preventing children's exposure to violence and for reducing the negative effects experienced by children exposed to violence across the United States. It can be found at <http://www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood/task-force.html>.

National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention (Forum)

The goals of the Forum are to elevate youth and gang violence as an issue of national significance; enhance the capacity of participating localities, as well as others across the country, to more effectively prevent youth and gang violence; and to sustain progress and systems change by expanding engagement, collaboration, and coordination in addressing youth violence at the national, state, and local levels. The Forum brings together networks of law enforcement agencies, educators, health and treatment providers, community and faith-based organizations, parents and children. It supports local efforts to prevent and reduce gang violence among young people between the ages of 10-24, by providing cities with the latest tools, information, technical support, and resources to help them develop and implement effective, evidence-based comprehensive youth violence prevention plans.

- Ten cities participate in the Forum: the original six – Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, Salinas, and San Jose, plus four expansion sites – Camden, Minneapolis, New Orleans, and Philadelphia.
- OJP and other federal agencies and DOJ components have helped all of the initial six cities develop and implement comprehensive plans to prevent youth violence, which attracted more private and public investment.
- Findings from an independent assessment of the Forum show it has had a real effect on each city's youth violence prevention strategy. The Forum is helping other communities benefit from the lessons learned by sharing information and publishing a toolkit online at www.FindYouthInfo.gov/youthviolence.

OJP Diagnostic Center Implementation

The OJP Diagnostic Center helps communities use local data to frame public safety and criminal justice issues. It brings together experts from across the Department of Justice to cultivate in communities awareness and understanding of the value of applying evidence-based, data-driven approaches to criminal justice, juvenile justice and victim services and to create a criminal justice community linked together by programs that are smart on crime. The Center works collaboratively with communities for weeks or months, in a process that combines the expertise of Diagnostic Center staff with that of community stakeholders.

The Center has completed a pilot program during which it worked with seven communities and states from Virginia to Alaska, remotely and on-site, to address violent crime, victim services, corrections, youth advocacy, community-oriented policing and tribal justice. Building on lessons learned during the pilot program, the Diagnostic Center is able to help state, local and tribal

leaders understand and apply appropriate evidence-based practices to address the challenges in their communities. As the Diagnostic Center increases both the number of its community engagements and the complexity of its services in the coming year, smart use of technology and targeted marketing tactics will enable a smooth transition to the communities themselves effecting meaningful change in criminal justice, juvenile justice and victim services systems. The Diagnostic Center is OJP's second phase of integrating evidence-based research into practice. The first phase was CrimeSolutions.gov, an online resource to help criminal justice policy makers and practitioners identify and implement evidence-based programs and practices. CrimeSolutions.gov was named by *The Crime Report* one of the "Ten Most Significant Criminal Justice Stories of 2011" and also received the Silver Award of Distinction for projects that exceed industry standards in quality and achievement from the 2012 Communicator Awards.

Supporting the Federal Interagency Reentry Council

The Federal Interagency Reentry Council is working to make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization, helping those returning from prison and jail to become productive citizens, and saving taxpayer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration. This Cabinet-level Council was established by the Attorney General in January 2011. It now involves 20 federal departments and agencies, working to coordinate critical discussions on ways to reduce barriers to employment, housing, treatment, and education, and to implement strategies for improving outcomes in each of these areas. A key product of the Reentry Council has been the release of 22 reentry "MythBusters," one-page information sheets designed to clarify existing federal policies and point people to resources that can be helpful. Five of the MythBusters tackle employment issues, 10 focus on federal benefits, and three focus on juvenile issues. Others address child support, parental rights, voting, and other issues. The MythBusters are all online and are a useful resource for probation and parole officers, caseworkers, and faith-based and community-based reentry agency providers.

Following are descriptions of FY 2012 programs and activities from OJP's individual Bureaus and Offices.

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victims of human trafficking, information sharing, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to bolster America's communities by emphasizing local control and building relationships in the field. BJA works to develop collaborations and partnerships, provide training and technical assistance, promote capacity building through planning, streamline the administration of grants, create accountability for projects, encourage innovation, and communicate the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level. BJA's Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Office administers death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders, as well as disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty. Following are BJA's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Officer Safety Initiatives

- **The Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)** is an initiative designed to provide critical resources to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the sole purpose of purchasing bullet-resistant body armor for sworn law enforcement officers. Through the BVP Program, states, units of local government, and tribal governments are reimbursed up to 50 percent of the cost of each unit of eligible body armor purchased. This is a critical resource, especially for local jurisdictions. In FY 2012, vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 29 law enforcement officers, in 20 different states.
- **VALOR** (Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officers and Ensuring Officer Resilience and Survivability) served state, local, and tribal law enforcement in FY 2012 through 35 VALOR trainings; 5,480 law enforcement officers trained; 256 toolkits disseminated; 37,640 downloads on the www.valorforblue.org site and 4,293 registered users on the www.valorforblue.org secure site. VALOR partnered with Texas State University for the ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) trainings and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund for outreach and awareness.
- **Center for the Prevention of Violence against the Police**, in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, produced *Preventing Line-of-Duty Deaths: A Chief's Duty*, a self-assessment tool to help law enforcement executives evaluate their agencies' efforts to fully address their safety needs. The Center developed and disseminated informational briefs and awareness/outreach materials through the National Center web page; published (and co-edited) the May 2012 issue of *Police Chief Magazine*; and participated in social media. It reviewed all officer injuries occurring within 18 participating agencies over a one-year period and made policy and training recommendations based on the findings.

Smart Policing initiative (SPI)

SPI is a collaborative consortium composed of BJA, CNA Corporation and 31 local law enforcement agencies. SPI participants test solutions to chronic crime problems confronting law enforcement agencies. Grantees describe a process to identify crime problems they will address and enlist a research partner to assess the effectiveness of their SPI efforts. With their research partners, they engage in a deliberative, analytical process to clearly define problems, devise solutions, and install metrics to evaluate results. Preliminary findings suggest the following:

- Offender-based programs centered on violent crime micro-spots reduced violent crime in Philadelphia.
- Problem-solving teams reduced violence in chronic hot-spots in Boston.
- Place- and offender-based strategies produced a 22 percent reduction in homicides in Los Angeles.
- Place-based crime prevention by environmental design strategies reduced thefts and calls for service at high-traffic convenience stores in Glendale, Arizona.
- Community policing can enhance police legitimacy in distrustful, high-crime migrant neighborhoods in Palm Beach County, Florida.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

The JAG Program was created as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 and continues to be a leading source of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. It provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas, including law enforcement, prosecution and court, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, and crime victim and witness initiatives. The broad scope and flexibility of JAG allows states, local communities, and tribes to balance resources and focus JAG funding to address problems across the entire criminal justice system and react quickly to urgent challenges and changing circumstances. The online “JAG Showcase” highlights JAG statewide, local, tribal, and subgrantee projects that have demonstrated success or have shown promise in meeting the objectives and goals of JAG while positively impacting these communities.

Second Chance Act (SCA)

SCA Programs focus on reducing recidivism, incorporating research and evidence-based strategies, and evaluating the effectiveness and impact of reentry programs for individuals in both pre- and post-release settings as they attempt to make a successful reintegration into their communities. These activities include programs focusing on adult offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders. The programs offer family-based substance abuse treatment, adult planning and implementation projects, reentry courts, adult mentoring programs, and technology career training projects for incarcerated adults and juveniles. SCA provides funding to eligible states, units of local governments, federally recognized tribes, and nonprofit organizations. In FY 2012, 85 SCA awards were issued, including one to the National Reentry Resource Center and several under two new programs: SCA Adult Offender Comprehensive Statewide Recidivism Reduction Demonstration Program and the Smart Probation Program.

Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI)

Supported by BJA in coordination with the Pew Center on the States, JRI is a data-driven approach to reducing corrections spending and reinvesting savings in evidence-based strategies designed to increase public safety. A bi-partisan group of policymakers in jurisdictions engaging in JRI collect and analyze data on the factors driving the growth in criminal justice populations and costs, identify and implement changes to increase efficiencies, and measure both the fiscal and public safety impacts of those changes. Currently 17 state-level and 18 local-level jurisdictions participate in JRI, assisted by BJA’s five experienced technical assistance (TA) providers (Urban Institute, Council of State Governments Justice Center, Vera Institute, Center for Effective Public Policy, and Crime and Justice Institute).

Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) Program

The PSOB Program provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders, as well as disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty. PSOB is a unique partnership among the Justice Department, local, state, tribal, and federal public safety organizations, and national private-sector organizations. The Office regularly coordinates with the Concerns of Police Survivors and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to conduct proactive outreach to public safety

agencies nationwide to increase awareness about the PSOB death, disability, and education programs and provide effective technical assistance to the field with filing PSOB death claims. In FY 2012, BJA's PSOB Office received 258 new death claims and 90 new disability claims. Of the death claims, 45 of the cases have been reviewed and determined; of these, 42 have been approved and benefits paid. Of the disability claims filed in FY 2012, 25 of the cases have been reviewed and determined; of these, 14 have been approved and benefits paid. The PSOB Office also determined cases in FY 2012 filed in prior fiscal years, bringing the total number of cases determined in FY 2012 to 252 death cases (181 approved) and 59 disability cases (28 approved). Further, 262 education claims were approved for funding to spouses and children of America's fallen and catastrophically injured law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other first responders.

Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Program and Building Neighborhood Capacity Program (BNCP)

BCJI and BNCP are two key components of the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI), a White House-led federal partnership that supports transformation of distressed neighborhoods into neighborhoods of opportunity—places that provide the choices, resources, and environments that children, youth, and adults need to thrive. The BCJI program serves neighborhoods of distress, where a combination of crime, poverty, unemployment, poor health, struggling schools, inadequate housing, and disinvestment keep many residents from reaching their full potential. BCJI gives the neighborhoods a core foundation of resources and tools to support data-driven strategy development, community-driven capacity building for collaborative problem solving, and helps them identify and implement evidence-based and innovative strategies to target these drivers of crime. Funded through an interagency agreement among the Departments of Justice, Education, and Housing and Urban Development, BNCP provides intensive training and technical assistance to faith-based, nonprofit, and community organizations to help these neighborhoods design and begin pursuing results-driven, sustainable revitalization plans. Through BNCP, neighborhoods within four cities were selected to receive targeted technical assistance to develop capacity around the essential elements of healthy neighborhoods: Flint's Ward 1 and Ward 3 neighborhoods, Memphis's Binghamton and Frayser neighborhoods, Milwaukee's Amani and Metcalfe Park neighborhoods, and Fresno's El Dorado and Southwest neighborhoods.

Pretrial Justice Reform

The Pretrial Justice Reform program supports fair, effective, and safe pretrial justice practices. This program developed and implemented multi-jurisdictional pretrial risk assessment instruments; published a guide, *Using Technology to Enhance Pretrial Services: Current Applications and Future Possibilities and Pretrial Risk Assessment 101*; and established the Pretrial Working Group and three subcommittees—Justice Systems, Research, and Communications. BJA also supports an evaluation of evidenced-based pretrial release activities in Virginia: the outcomes and knowledge gained by the use of evidence-based risk assessment tools to determine both timing of a prisoner's release and most effective supervision while he is on release in that study will inform local pretrial service programs across the country.

Improving Indigent Delivery Defense Systems

This grant program is designed to improve indigent defense delivery systems at the state and local level. It contributes to indigent defense knowledge and practice by testing approaches to providing quality indigent defense services using the “Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System developed by the American Bar Association in 2002.”

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

The PREA Resource Center (PRC) serves as a national resource for online and direct support, training and technical assistance (TTA), and research to help the field implement the National PREA Standards released May 17, 2012. The Site-Based Demonstration Projects to Establish Zero Tolerance Cultures program provides funds for developing comprehensive approaches to the prevention, detection, and response to sexual abuse in prison and jail as well as for facilitating changes in policy and procedures. The PRC serves adult and juvenile corrections, tribal detention, and law enforcement professionals in their ongoing work to eliminate sexual assault, victimization, and staff sexual misconduct in confinement. In FY 2012, the PRC released its web site, expanded its diverse partnerships and outreach activities to provide more extensive TTA to the field, and convened two national-level adult and juvenile PREA state coordinators meetings. The Site-Based Program provides funding to state governments for demonstration projects within state, local, and tribal adult and juvenile confinement settings.

Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE): Demonstration Field Experiment (DFE)

This DFE is rigorously testing the HOPE probation model to determine if it can promote the successful completion of probation for high-risk probationers through a partnership between BJA and NIJ: NIJ is funding the evaluation of the BJA demonstration sites, which examines assessment scores, criminal histories, and prior behavior on probation to determine which probationers are at high risk for failing probation through drug use, missed appointments, or re-offending. From a pool of high-risk probationers, some are randomly assigned to HOPE probation, others to probation as usual. This DFE includes randomized drug testing and swift and certain sanctions for probationers, and requires close collaboration among the judiciary, law enforcement, and probation staff.

Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP)

JMHCP was created to help states, units of local government, and tribes improve responses to people in the criminal justice system with mental illnesses or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders. JMHCP facilitates collaboration among criminal justice, juvenile justice, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment systems to create effective responses at each step of the criminal justice process, from first encounters with law enforcement through reentry from prison or jail. It also provides training and cross-training and supports strategic planning for mental health and justice professionals. In FY 2012, BJA funded the completion of several successful projects including a report from the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, *Adults with Behavioral Health Needs under Correctional Supervision: A Shared Framework for Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery*. The report introduces a model that can be used at the corrections and behavioral health systems level to prioritize scarce resources based on objective assessments of individuals’ treatment and support

needs and their risk of committing a future crime. BJA also funded CSG to complete the development and pilot of a mental health court curriculum in Delaware and Colorado, which will be launched nationwide in FY 2013.

Justice Information Sharing Partnership Programs

The following three BJA-sponsored partnership programs have significantly advanced law enforcement's ability to protect communities by supporting successful identification, investigation, and prosecution of white collar criminals, terrorists, and other violent criminals.

- **National Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) Initiative (NSI):** The National Network of Fusion Centers reaches over 14,000 law enforcement agencies and more than 60 federal departments and agencies. Extensive officer training and implementation of a national SAR information sharing system has resulted in 23,000 suspicious activity reports and more than 1,000 FBI terrorism-related investigations.
- **National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C):** The Center has trained 4,423 law enforcement officers nationwide on Cyber Crime Investigation and Forensics, Mortgage Fraud, and Intellectual Property Crime. The NW3C processed almost 300,000 complaints, referring 236,973 to enforcement agencies for investigation.
- **Regional Information Sharing System (RISS):** With the family of RISS centers, systems (e.g., RISSNET, RISSIntel, RISSafe, RISS ATIX, RISS Gang) interfaces and projects, law enforcement agencies and officers benefit from a variety of crucial investigative support services that enhance and improve their ability to detect, apprehend, and successfully prosecute criminals.

BJA FY 2012 publications can be found at <https://www.bja.gov/Publications.aspx>

BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is the primary statistical agency of DOJ. BJS collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. BJS provides the President, Congress, other government officials, media, academics, and the public with timely, accurate, and objective data about crime and the administration of justice. BJS provides financial and technical support to state, local, and tribal governments to develop their criminal justice statistical capabilities. This assistance targets the development and completion of information systems related to national criminal history records, records of protective orders involving domestic violence and stalking, sex offender registries, and automated identification systems used for background checks. Following are BJS's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Improving State-Level Criminal Justice Data Infrastructure

National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)

The goal of the NCHIP grant program is to improve the nation's safety and security by enhancing the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information and

by ensuring the nationwide implementation of criminal justice and noncriminal justice background check systems. Complete records require that data from all components of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and corrections, be integrated and linked; NCHIP helps states establish the integrated infrastructure that meets the needs of all components.

NICS Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP)

The goal of NARIP is to improve the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records used by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) to state and federal systems. Such records include criminal history records, records of felony convictions, warrants, records of protective orders, convictions for misdemeanors involving domestic violence and stalking, drug arrests and convictions, records of mental health adjudications, and others, which may disqualify an individual from possessing or receiving a firearm under federal law, but may also reduce delays for law-abiding gun purchasers.

Enhancing National Crime Victimization Information

National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) Small Area Estimation Project

BJS has been using the NCVS to produce national-level estimates of crime since the early 1970s. Local stakeholders would find the survey data more useful if statistics could be produced at a local level to reflect local crime conditions and help assess police and criminal justice services, and also account for the large amount of crime not reported to the police. BJS has therefore embarked on a multifaceted approach to address this demand for small area victimization estimates, which can compare standard measures of crime across geographic areas and to the nation as a whole, and assess local patterns and trends independent from police records. BJS currently produces statistically modeled victimization estimates for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. BJS plans to implement a sample boost in eight to 12 states beginning in 2013 and 22 states beginning in 2015 to generate direct estimates, and to generate generic estimates that describe crime levels for places that share the same general geographic characteristics, such as region, population size, and urbanicity.

Expanding the NCVS into New and Emerging Areas of Victimization

BJS continues to expand and supplement the NCVS collection. Two specific projects include Criminal Victimization of Persons with Disabilities Residing in Group Quarters (CVGQ) and the National Survey of Victim Service Organizations (NSVSO). While the NCVS currently excludes individuals residing in institutional settings, the CVGQ project aims to assess the feasibility of collecting self-report victimization data from persons with cognitive and/or physical disabilities residing in group quarters, including nursing homes, assisted living facilities, veterans' homes, and domestic violence shelters, who may be at a higher risk for victimization. The NSVSO project will first define and construct the universe for victim service organizations, then will test the feasibility and capacity of VSOs to report on the number and types of services provided and characteristics of the clientele. It will also test the data collection methods best suited for capturing this administrative information. In addition, the pretest will explore the availability of client-level administrative data and the mechanisms by which BJS may obtain those data, including any confidentiality, legislative, or other legal restrictions on access.

Instituting New Approaches to Analyze and Communicate Findings

The NCVS continues to highlight new approaches to analyzing and communicating findings on the problem of criminal victimization and crime in the United States. Two new products issued in 2012 include *Prevalence of Violent Crime among Households with Children, 1993-2010* and the NCVS Victimization Analysis Tool (NVAT). In 2010, an estimated 2.8 million children lived in a household in which at least one member age 12 or older experienced violent crime. This represents 3.9 percent of all children age 17 or younger. During 2010, about 1.6 million children ages 0 to 11 and 1.2 million children ages 12 to 17 lived in a household in which at least one member age 12 or older was the victim of violent crime that year. The NVAT makes it easy for people to find and use information from the NCVS. The Quick Tables on the tool's home page allow users to view trends in violent and property crime at a glance. Users can also see estimates of the amount of crime reported and not reported to the police, and find tables of violent crime by victim-offender relationship. For more detailed analysis, users can create customized tables of national crime estimates, by year, type of crime, and other characteristics.

Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 2005: Data Collection Efforts and Activities

This program provides detailed descriptions of the recidivism patterns of prisoners released from state departments of corrections. In 2008, BJS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FBI and the International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets) to allow BJS access to criminal history records. Under the Criminal History Record Information Sharing (CHRIS) Project, BJS has partnered with Nlets to produce an automated and standardized process giving BJS access to criminal history data from the FBI's Interstate Identification Index (III) for recidivism research grant evaluation. BJS and Nlets have also produced software to extract data from electronic rap sheets and generate a relational database that displays state and federal criminal history information in a uniform record layout. BJS is also developing software to convert thousands of state-specific codes in the relational database into a common coding structure that supports multi-state recidivism research. This research database will be used to produce national estimates on the in-state and out-of-state criminal activities of prisoners both prior to entering prison and for five years following release. The results of the study, available in summer 2013, will help inform policymakers and practitioners about such key issues as the rate at which sex offenders commit new sex offenses and the extent to which prisoners are involved in criminal activity in states other than the one that released them.

Federal Justice Statistics Program (FJSP): Continuing Effort

This program fulfills BJS' mandate to collect and report data on the federal justice system. The FJSP collects data from multiple federal justice agencies to generate uniform and comparable statistics about individuals and cases processed through the federal justice system. The FJSP standardizes the data across agencies and applies uniform definitions to commonly used statistics from each stage of case processing. Its reports provide annual data on the characteristics of persons and cases handled in the federal system. Because the definitions used in the FJSP are consistent with definitions used by other BJS programs, FJSP data help people make comparisons across stages of the federal justice system, and between federal and state justice systems.

National Survey of Tribal Court Systems (NSTCS): New Data Collection Effort

The NSTCS surveys all tribal court systems in the nation's 565 federally-recognized tribes. The approximately 250 courts are asked about their structure, organization, staffing, funding, services and capabilities. The survey also explores the effect of the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) on court planning activities and workloads and should be in the field by the summer of 2013. The program will provide much needed current data on the characteristics of tribal courts. Federal, state and tribal court administrators will use the statistics derived from the NSTCS for comparative purposes and in making budgetary decisions.

National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS): New Data Collection Effort

The 2012 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS) gathers nationwide data about how legal defense services are provided to indigent people accused of a crime for which they may be jailed or imprisoned. The study collects information on the administration, governance, funding, staffing and compensation structures of the nation's indigent defense systems. The study also examines the types of indigent defense systems used in state and local systems, including public defenders, assigned counsel, and contract attorneys. This is the first study to examine the range of indigent defense systems in operation in each of the nation's 50 states and the District of Columbia, providing much needed, current data on the characteristics of indigent defense systems for federal, state and local court administrators to use for comparative purposes and to make budget and planning decisions.

National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X): New Statistical Initiative

BJS is building a statistical system able to generate detailed national estimates of the volume and characteristics of crimes known to law enforcement, and return meaningful analytic information to law enforcement, policymakers and criminal justice planners on topics important in the 21st century. The first phase of NCS-X develops a nationally representative sample of U.S. law enforcement agencies that provide detailed information on crime incidents in their communities. The NCS-X extracts data from local management information systems and assembles these data at the national level using existing state and national data collection infrastructures. NCS-X will (1) develop a design for a nationally representative incident-based crime database that leverages the existing National Incident-based Reporting System (NIBRS) data, (2) recruit an additional 400 carefully selected law enforcement agencies to contribute incident-based data to NIBRS by offering these agencies expanded operational support, analytic capabilities and other direct benefits for participating in the program, and (3) develop and test technical solutions to collect and extract these incident-based data from local law enforcement records management systems and into state-based information exchanges. The first year of this effort will test the feasibility of the general approach of NCS-X and build greater specificity in the design of the program. The second and third years will emphasize recruitment of local agencies into the national NIBRS sample, and the subsequent years will focus on using and reporting the data to serve local, state, and national information needs.

BJS FY 2012 statistical products and other publications can be found at <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbo>.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

The National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) mission is to generate scientifically rigorous knowledge through research and to disseminate that knowledge in ways that are useful to policymakers and practitioners such as police, prosecutors, judges, correctional officials and victim advocates. By emphasizing the importance of translational criminology—effectively translating scientific discoveries into policy and practice in order to prevent, reduce, and manage crime—in all aspects of NIJ research, the Institute aims to create a dynamic interface between research and practice. Following are NIJ's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Strengthening Science

To strengthen NIJ's own scientific endeavors, NIJ sponsors rigorous studies using randomized controlled trials. Researchers from the Police Foundation are conducting a randomized controlled trial of a training program promoting the use of procedural justice in the Seattle Police Department; researchers from the University of Missouri are evaluating the impact and process of an initiative using hot spots enforcement tactics to reduce crime. To strengthen the internal workings of its peer review process, NIJ launched a pilot effort to use standing scientific review panels (SRPs) to provide greater quality and breadth in evaluating and scoring grant applications.

Strengthening Forensic Sciences

NIJ's basic and applied research enhances the fundamental underpinnings of forensic sciences (such as fingerprint analysis, bite and tool marks, and fire sciences). It has implications for a range of criminal justice practices and policies. Some specific achievements include creating a new model to assess head injuries in infants and toddlers, and body-fluid analysis using protein chromatography and microwave technology to test "touched" evidence containing very small amounts of DNA. One NIJ-funded researcher won the coveted Gerald R. Birth Award in 2012, honoring the best work in diffuse spectroscopy, for his development of an instrument crime analysts can use to create an image of blood on fabrics.

Responding to Sexual Assault

In seeking forensic and social science solutions to solve more sexual assault cases, NIJ-funded researchers created a new toolkit that offers communities a step-by-step process for evaluating the impact of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs. An in-depth analysis of thousands of previously untested sexual assault kits in Los Angeles identified the effectiveness of moving the kits from police evidence rooms to crime labs for DNA-testing. Similar projects are underway in Houston and Detroit to answer questions about whether and when untested sexual assault evidence should be submitted to the laboratory for analysis and how the lab should prioritize the evidence.

Wrongful Convictions

In recent years, hundreds of Americans have been freed from prison after newly tested evidence proved they had been convicted of a crime they did not commit. NIJ funds several efforts to understand the nature and extent of wrongful convictions and prevent them. The Postconviction DNA Testing Assistance Program provides funding to states to do DNA analysis on cases where

actual innocence might be revealed. A research study examined 634 homicide and sexual assault cases in Virginia between 1973 and 1987. In 33 of the sexual assault convictions (eight percent of the total), DNA testing eliminated the person convicted, and the elimination supported exoneration. NIJ and the International Association of Chiefs of Police hosted a summit in August 2012 for experts to freely discuss the issues associated with wrongful convictions.

Officer Safety and Wellness

NIJ supports law enforcement agencies in their efforts to provide safe and healthy environments for officers despite the built-in hazards of their job. NIJ has focused on various facets of police work, ranging from highway hazards to sleep disruptions. NIJ worked with the U.S. Fire Administration, for example, to find ways to make police vehicles more visible on the road. Other new research shows police executives can improve morale and reduce overtime by allowing officers to choose 10-hour shifts: researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital examined how sleep disorders affected the health and safety of 4,957 state and local law enforcement officers in the U.S. and Canada, and found that over 40 percent of participating officers had at least one sleep disorder, most of which had not been previously diagnosed.

Equipment Standards

NIJ funds research to develop performance standards for equipment used by law enforcement and corrections officers. The Institute published its first bomb suit standard and companion certification requirements in March 2012. Like all NIJ standards, this one was developed by a panel of practitioners and technical experts in standards development and conformity assessment. NIJ also issued a \$50,000 Challenge for creative ways to learn when an officer's body armor needs to be replaced. Most law enforcement agencies replace their body armor every three to five years—the typical length of the manufacturer's warranty. But scientists suspect that the ballistic performance of an individual vest varies because of differences in normal daily wear and tear, other environmental factors, and the intrinsic chemical or physical properties of the ballistic materials. In 2012, NIJ also continued work on development of a standard for offender tracking systems covering a range of technologies such as GPS, cellular and monitoring center equipment.

Human Trafficking

NIJ aims to understand the nature and extent of human trafficking to prevent the crime and prosecute the perpetrators. Three studies by NIJ illuminate the hidden world of human trafficking. The first study produced an online compendium of 12 major types of tactics more than 875 cities and counties have tried to deter men from buying sex. The second study examined why few trafficking cases are prosecuted at the state and local level. In 15 counties across the U.S. researchers found that 69 percent of the reviewed cases went forward to prosecution, but were charged not as trafficking cases but rather as traditional offenses such as assault and kidnapping. A third study about labor trafficking found that 31 percent of undocumented, Spanish-speaking workers in San Diego County had experienced at least one incident that meets the official definition of human trafficking.

New Initiatives

To identify new areas where innovative research can benefit the criminal justice system, experts at the National Academies of Science will study crime trends of the past 20 years to understand the crime decline; Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government will conduct an executive session focused on community corrections; and NIJ is studying domestic radicalization to learn how some people move into the realm of violent extremism.

NIJ FY 2012 publications can be found at <http://www.nij.gov/publications/welcome.htm>

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides funding to states, territories, communities, and private organizations through formula and block grants and discretionary grants to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and child victimization. OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and sets policies on federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming nationwide. Following are OJJDP's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Children's Exposure to Violence

OJJDP sought an organization or partnership of organizations to develop and disseminate an array of tools and practical resources targeted toward state and local law enforcement officers and their community partners who are the first responders to incidents of children who have been exposed to incidents of domestic, family, and community violence. This initiative builds upon the Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence, the Defending Childhood program sites, training and technical assistance, evaluation, the Safe Start Program, and the National Survey on Children's Exposure to Violence.

Community-Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program

This program provides funding for localities to support federal, state, and local partnerships to replicate proven multi-disciplinary, community-based strategies to reduce violence, such as the Boston Gun Project, the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model, and the Chicago CeaseFire model. Applicants must target their proposed intervention on the high-risk activities and behaviors of a small number of members of the community who are likely to be involved in gang and gun violence in the immediate future.

The three main goals of this program are to change community norms regarding violence, to provide alternatives to violence for gangs and individuals, and to increase awareness of the perceived risks and costs of involvement in violence among high-risk young people. OJJDP's community-based violence prevention program supports building the capacity of communities to exercise formal and informal social controls and to respond to community-based violence. In FY 2012, OJJDP added four new expansion cities (Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Baton

Rouge) to existing sites: Baltimore City Health Department, City of Boston, City of Newark (NJ), City and County of Denver Safe City Office, Columbia Heights Shaw Family Support Collaborative (Washington, DC), and Fund for the City of New York/Center for Court Innovation.

To increase and improve research about factors that may influence youth violence and youth violence prevention efforts, assess the effectiveness and cost efficiency of existing community-based programs, and identify and evaluate new or emerging models, OJJDP supports field-initiated studies to learn how communities can prevent and reduce youth violence. Grantees include:

- **City of San Jose:** The City of San José, in partnership with Resource Development Associates (RDA) and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, will design and implement a retrospective and prospective evaluation of the Mayors' Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF). Established in 1991, MGPTF is a national model of gang prevention and intervention.
- **University of Chicago:** Researchers will measure delinquency, violence involvement, schooling, and formal labor market outcomes to compare the cost effectiveness of this intervention to other strategies for reducing crime and improving life outcomes of disadvantaged youth.
- **Baylor College of Medicine:** The overarching aim of this study is to gain understanding of factors that affect recidivism to inform development of successful community-based interventions for juvenile offenders.

Field-initiated Research and Evaluation Program

This program funds studies of school-based practices, environment, and achievement to reduce student victimization and the risk of delinquency. OJJDP supports research that investigates how to improve the level and quality of a juvenile's participation in school; how to improve school safety and climate; how to stem the "school-to-prison pipeline;" how to increase accessibility of quality education for juvenile offenders; and how to advance use of positive discipline and learning policies and practices nationwide. Grantees include:

- **Texas A&M Research Foundation:** Researchers will test whether youth subjected to exclusionary school discipline practices such as suspension and expulsion, are more likely to experience juvenile justice contact.
- **University of Washington:** Researchers will assess the effectiveness of curricula and instructional practices within the 23 short-term juvenile detention centers in Washington State.
- **University of Virginia:** Based on prior research findings, the investigators will use authoritative discipline theory to identify the best indicators of three school climate domains: structure (strict, but fair, discipline); support (availability of supportive adults); and student engagement.

Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Demonstration Program

OMB's Partnership Fund for Program Integrity Innovation supports pilot projects to streamline administration and strengthen program integrity in federal assistance programs administered in cooperation with the states. States and local communities have been at the forefront of implementing juvenile justice reforms and evidence-based programming. Pilot sites test high-return-on-investment innovations that have the potential to significantly impact multiple programs. Through this initiative, OJJDP seeks to further these reform efforts while assisting localities as they adjust to dramatically declining juvenile justice funding. The results of this demonstration program will also identify best practices in the use of limited federal, state, and local dollars for juvenile justice. Grantees include the Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services, the Delaware Criminal Justice Council, and the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency to develop and implement an integrated set of evidence-based and cost-measurement tools to make informed decisions about resources and services for justice-involved youth. Awards were also made to a Training and Technical Assistance provider (Georgetown Center for Juvenile Justice Reform) and an evaluator (Urban Institute).

National, Multi-State and Local Mentoring Initiatives

Mentoring programs support a structured relationship between an adult or trained peer and one or more youth. Mentoring uses relationships to institute changes in youths' behaviors or attitudes and to help them achieve specific goals, such as improved academic performance and/or social or job skills. In FY 2012, OJJDP supported three major mentoring initiatives. They include:

- **National Mentoring Programs** for organizations that have active affiliates, chapters, or subgrantees in at least 45 states.
- **Multi-State Mentoring Programs** for organizations that have been in existence for at least three years, have subgrantees, affiliates, or chapters in at least five states, and have established a strong presence in their communities. Under this solicitation, OJJDP supported providers of intensive youth mentoring activities associated with non-profit, long-term, residential substance abuse treatment programs focused on juvenile justice system-involved youth.
- **Local Mentoring Coordinator Program** supports coordinators who will develop or enhance a collaborative of existing mentoring services provided by multiple organizations for youth in a localized geographical area who are identified as being at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.

Support for American Indian and Alaska Native Youth

The Alaska Native Youth at Risk Training and Technical Assistance Program helps Alaskan tribal communities develop multi-disciplinary partnerships addressing the cultural needs and common challenges of those who work with Alaska Native youth. It supports an organization providing comprehensive and culturally relevant training and technical assistance to youth-serving programs in Alaska Native villages and communities. The program is designed to reduce disparities in access, usage, and outcomes of prevention and limited intervention youth services to address delinquency, alcohol/substance abuse, and other challenges.

The National Intertribal Youth Summit, July 28-August 2, brought to Washington, DC more than 200 youth and adult leaders from 53 tribal communities across the country. The conference

targeted leadership development and examined critical tribal youth issues, such as healthy relationships and lifestyles, education, suicide and substance abuse prevention, cultural preservation, and community development, teen dating violence, delinquency, and gang involvement. The 2012 summit built on the work and collective youth vision established in previous three tribal youth summits. OJJDP partnered with a range of federal agencies to organize the event. Youth participated in talking circles and attended seminars and lectures focused on civic engagement, conflict resolution, and federal policies affecting Indian country. Tribal communities nominate youth to participate in each summit, through which OJJDP hopes to engage the next generation of tribal leaders in an ongoing dialogue.

Juvenile and Family Drug Courts

Drug courts are a specially designed court calendar or docket within a juvenile or family court to which youth and parents having problems with alcohol and other drugs are referred. The drug court judge closely oversees each case and both leads and works as a member of a team comprising representatives from treatment, juvenile justice, social services, school and vocational training programs, law enforcement, probation, the prosecution, and the defense. In FY 2012, OJJDP supported two types of drug courts. Juvenile drug courts build the capacity of states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and tribal governments to employ the Reclaiming Futures model for juvenile offenders who are substance abusers. The family drug court program provides services for parents with substance use disorders and/or co-occurring mental health disorders who are involved with the family dependency court as a result of child abuse and neglect, and to their children.

OJJDP FY 2012 publications can be found at <http://www.ojjdp.gov/publications/index.html>.

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is committed to enhancing the nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership to change attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all crime victims. OVC administers programs authorized by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA), as amended, and the Crime Victims Fund (Fund) authorized by this statute. The Fund is comprised of criminal fines and penalties, special assessments, and bond forfeitures collected from convicted federal perpetrators, as well as gifts and donations received from the general public. Money deposited in the Fund supports a wide range of activities on behalf of crime victims, including compensation and assistance services, training and technical assistance, and program evaluation and replication. Following are OVC's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services

OVC's *Vision 21: Transforming Victim Services* strategic planning initiative is a comprehensive assessment of the crime victims field. It gave service providers, advocates, criminal justice practitioners, allied professionals, policymakers, and others the opportunity to engage in discussions about crime victim issues through a lens broader than their everyday work. The *Vision 21 Final Report* is the result of this effort, a document created by the field for the field. It

presents a framework for strategic change in the field and offers broad recommendations for overcoming political, policy, and philosophical challenges.

Strengthening the Field's Response to Sexual Assault Victims

Strengthening Military-Civilian Partnerships to Respond to Sexual Assault

This training, provided in coordination with the Department of Defense's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, helps community-based advocates partner with local military personnel to assist sexual assault victims in the military. It teaches participants in communities located near military installations with high reporting levels of sexual violence about military systems, protocols, and culture to improve services to military sexual assault victims.

American Indian and Alaska Native SANE–SART Initiative

To enhance the capacity of AI/AN communities to improve responses to adult and child victims of sexual assault, OVC supports three demonstration sites in tribal communities, TTA providers, and two coordinating positions, one at the FBI and one at the Indian Health Service. The Initiative also established a National Coordination Committee to ensure the Initiative meets its goal to develop effective, culturally relevant, model programs.

Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

Strategic Action Plan for Human Trafficking Victim Services

Through the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, via the Senior Policy Operating Group, OVC serves as one of three co-chairs (along with the Departments of Health and Human Services and Homeland Security) of the Victim Services Working Group to develop the nation's first strategic action plan for victim services. The plan outlines goals for short- and long-term improvements for rescuing and serving victims of human trafficking over the next five years.

Funding to Organizations Serving Victims of Human Trafficking

OVC awarded funding to 14 organizations to provide services for victims of human trafficking; seven of these organizations partner directly with BJA-funded task forces. Grantees ensure that trafficking victims have access to a full range of comprehensive services, including shelter, advocacy, case management, legal services, and health care. From January-June 2012, OVC grantees served 1,092 victims.

Partnership for Freedom: Innovation Awards to Stop Human Trafficking

OVC and other OJP and government bureaus and offices work with Humanity United to forge a public/private partnership to develop collaborative solutions to address human trafficking. Humanity United makes awards to help communities identify local collaborative and comprehensive solutions to help victims of human trafficking. OVC supports training and technical assistance to the selected communities.

Other Victim Services Programs

Antiterrorism Emergency Reserve

OVC provided funding for closed-circuit television to the Department of Defense's Office of Military Commissions to allow victims and their families at four sites to view terrorism trials taking place at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for the attack on the USS Cole, and for the alleged conspirators in the September 11, 2001 attacks. Under the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP), families of the 13 soldiers killed in the November 5, 2009 Fort Hood, Texas shooting attended the court-martial of the accused shooter, Major Nidal M. Hasan. Through AEAP, OVC funded the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), a private, nonprofit organization, to develop a Fort Hood Court-Martial Observer Program to provide support to victims and their families to travel and observe the proceedings. OVC also provided funding to the Army for a website for victims to access case and travel information. The International Terrorism Victim Expense Reimbursement Program (ITVERP) reimburses eligible victims of acts of international terrorism occurring outside the United States for expenses associated with that event. In FY 2012 OVC reimbursed 29 Kenyans who were victims of the August 7, 1998, terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi.

Through Our Eyes: Children, Violence, and Trauma

This four-part video series and resource guide supports the Attorney General's Defending Childhood Initiative. The series educates professionals about how exposure to violence and victimization can have lasting, and sometimes lifelong, consequences. Video introductions were posted on OVC's Web site in January 2013, along with the guide and links to download the videos.

VOCA State Victim Assistance and Compensation Formula Grant Programs

OVC awards each eligible state and territory a VOCA victim assistance formula grant to support services to victims of crime, including intervention and counseling; referrals; assisting primary and secondary victims; helping victims participate in the criminal justice system; and safety planning. Program funding comes primarily from criminal fines, special assessments, and bond forfeitures from convicted federal offenders, not tax dollars, making it a self-sufficient resource that serves more than 3.5 million crime victims annually. Each eligible state and territory also receives a VOCA victim compensation formula grant for direct reimbursement of crime-related expenses. Funding supplements state funds to reimburse victims for such out-of-pocket expenses resulting from crime as medical and dental care, funeral and burial assistance, counseling, and lost wages and support. Victims receive more than \$450 million in reimbursements every year from this program.

OVC FY 2012 publications can be found at
<http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/Publications.aspx?SortOrder=Title>.

OFFICE FOR SEX OFFENDER SENTENCING, MONITORING, APPREHENDING, REGISTERING AND TRACKING

The Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) is guided by its mission to assist 227 registration jurisdictions (50 states, five principal U.S. territories, the District of Columbia, and certain federally recognized Indian tribes) with implementing the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, and to identify, promote and support the use of best practices in the field of sex offender management. While providing these state, local and tribal jurisdictions with guidance regarding the implementation of the Adam Walsh Act, the SMART Office also tracks important legislative and legal developments related to sex offenders and administers grant programs related to the registration, notification, and management of sex offenders. By the end of FY 2012, 16 states, three territories, and 36 tribes had already implemented SORNA. All but a handful of the remaining jurisdictions are committed to continuing to implement SORNA's requirements. Following are SMART's key initiatives in FY 2012.

Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative (SOMAPI)

SOMAPI is a three-phase initiative designed to help direct OJP's and SMART's research, policy, and grant-making efforts in sex offender management and provide guidance to the field on how best to protect the public from sexual violence. Phase I (an assessment of the current research, practices and needs of the field) and Phase II (a forum to further refine what was learned in Phase I and to develop recommendations for the field and OJP) took place in FY 2012.

Phases I and II of SOMAPI brought together, for the first time since 1996, a cross section of researchers, policy makers and practitioners from across the country to discuss a variety of pressing issues in the field. Recommendations from Phases I and II of the Initiative will be used to shape the agenda of SMART's FY 2014 Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability (Phase III), where participants will learn from national and local experts and government officials about the latest and most promising practices and research in adult and juvenile sex offender management, including prevention, investigation, arrest, prosecution, sentencing, correctional programming, reentry, supervision, treatment, registering, and tracking sex offenders.

Promoting Evidence in Sex Offender Management Grant Program

In FY 2012, the first year of funding under this new grant program, the SMART Office provided funding to support two promising practices in the field of sex offender management: the replication and expansion of the application of a new dynamic sex offender risk assessment tool, the Sex Offender Treatment and Intervention Progress Scale (SOTIPS); and the expansion of Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA), a model for community involvement in sex offender reentry. Attention was given to the generation of evidence to permit research and evaluation of these practices, and an additional \$1.5 million in funding was transferred by the SMART Office to NIJ to fund an evaluation of SOTIPS. The SMART Office also supported the technical assistance component of an innovative multi-disciplinary program designed to treat youth with sexual behavior problems through a grant managed by OJJDP.

SMART FY 2012 publications can be found at <http://www.smart.gov/newsletters.htm>

OJP OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT INITIATIVES

Cost-saving Strategies

OJP conducted its own internal cost-savings initiative focused on reducing contract costs, restructuring the workforce, implementing more strategic operating measures, and improving the business process through automation and streamlining. Key areas of savings identified and acted on include technology improvements such as video-teleconferencing which enables every OJP staff member to connect with co-workers and customers worldwide without having to travel, and digital or Voice-Over-IP telecommunications. OJP identified multiple opportunities for insourcing contract-based services, reduced staff and leadership travel (exceeding OMB's expectations of a 30 percent reduction in travel costs), and reduced the number of mobile devices and other non-essential technological services. OJP estimates current and expected short-term savings at over \$2 million as a result of these actions.

OJP reduced its operating budget by more than \$9 million while maintaining strong grant oversight for the combined portfolio of active grants, meeting or exceeding all monitoring goals and targets and ending the year with a clean independent audit opinion on OJP's financial statements. OJP was responsible for stewardship and internal control for more than 12,000 active grants totaling \$9.5 billion in federal resources in FY 2012, with an FY 2012 operating budget of only \$175 million, which amounts to just two percent of the total resources OJP manages.

More savings were realized by OJP's Office of Administration (OA) and its Acquisition Management Division (AMD). OA and AMD successfully processed over 725 contract actions, including 151 new awards and 357 contract modifications. The total amount of funding obligated through these acquisitions during FY 2012 exceeded \$79.5 million while AMD executed 217 closeout modifications, deobligating over \$2.3 million in unused funding. In support of the Justice Department's small business goals, AMD awarded 97 new contracts to small businesses in the amount of \$21,283,167, or approximately 27 percent of the total dollars obligated. In the categories of Service Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses (SDVOB) and HUBZone businesses, AMD awarded 16 new SDVOB contracts and 10 new HUBZone contracts. OA prepared in FY2012 to launch a new, automated solicitation and contract writing tool, JPAMS, which will improve accountability, transparency, and efficiency in the whole procurement life-cycle, from requisition to closeout. It will also provide OJP the opportunity in FY 2013 to move to an electronic records retention system, saving time and money.

Risk-based Assessment Process to Strengthen Grant Monitoring

Since FY 2009 OJP has used a risk assessment process to determine monitoring priority of grants and grantees. In FY 2012 OJP's Office of Audit, Assessment and Management (OAAM) in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) automated OJP's risk assessment process using the OJP Grant Assessment Tool's (GAT) monitoring feature. The GAT

uses 27 risk criteria to feed existing information about the financial, administrative, and programmatic performance of grants from GMS and the Financial Management Information System 2 (FMIS2). Additionally, OAAM and OCIO converted the GAT's monitoring assessment tool to SharePoint, providing greater flexibility and capacity to users within OJP. By decreasing the time burden on grant managers and increasing the accuracy and ensuring consistency of risk assessment results, OJP ultimately lowered the time and labor cost of the risk assessment process to program offices.

At the same time, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) developed and launched an Online Grants Financial Management Training for all DOJ grant recipients designed to cover all topics grantees need to ensure sound fiscal management of their awards. The development of this online training has improved grantee compliance and understanding of grant requirements and has allowed OJP to decrease the number of regional training seminars from 11 in FY 2010 to four projected in FY 2013, saving over \$700 thousand from FY 2010 costs. The online training program enrolled 1,143 grantees during FY 2012.

OAAM also worked closely with OJP Bureaus and Offices and the Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to close 86 of the 220 open single and OIG grant audit reports, representing the successful resolution of 350 OIG findings. Of the \$10.6 million in questioned costs identified by the OIG, grantees submitted supportable documentation for \$2.5 million; OJP determined that \$3.6 million was allowable and subsequently approved; and grantees returned nearly \$3.5 million to DOJ for unallowable or unsupported costs. The remaining \$1 million were duplicate costs addressed by DOJ grant recipients in other audit reports, through litigation, or having been erroneously identified as DOJ expenditures. Despite this very complex budget, OCFO worked diligently to ensure that OJP received its seventh straight unqualified audit opinion on its annual financial statements and that financial statement reporting deadlines were met in compliance with OMB, Treasury, Departmental and internal requirements. This finding demonstrates that financial management and budgetary activities are carried out consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policies to ensure the credibility of OJP's and the Department's financial and budgetary data.

OCFO made more than 1,000 direct grantee contacts to resolve Recovery Act reporting delays and related issues, analyzing over 1,000 Recovery Act grantee progress reports for accuracy, clarity and integrity before these reports became available to the public. As a result of this achievement OJP stakeholders have increased confidence in OJP's ability to effectively manage federal resources.

Civil Rights Compliance Monitoring of State Administering Agencies (SAA)

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR), which is the external civil rights enforcement office at OJP, has conducted onsite compliance reviews of SAAs in nearly all fifty states and territories, impacting most OJP recipients and subrecipients. Following the onsite phase of the review, the OCR issues detailed reports to SAAs that include recommendations to improve management practices to protect the civil rights of employees and program beneficiaries and to strengthen monitoring procedures to ensure subrecipients comply with applicable federal civil rights laws.

The OCR has also developed a series of innovative, online training and technical assistance programs on federal civil rights laws. The training programs are readily accessible to administrators of recipient and subrecipient agencies, to their employees and beneficiaries, and to members of the public. In addition to OCR's ongoing work of providing information on civil-rights issues at conferences for recipients, in FY 2012, OCR attorneys served on the faculty of the first government-wide training academy for civil-rights investigators at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina. OCR staff also provided professional-development training to attorneys of the Civil Rights Division on the benefits of adding a claim under the Safe Streets Act when filing a civil-rights complaint in federal court.

OJP LEADERSHIP

Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason



Karol Mason was nominated to be Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs by President Barack Obama on February 13, 2013. Her appointment was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 25, 2013.

Ms. Mason previously served the Department of Justice as Deputy Associate Attorney General. At DOJ her primary responsibilities were to oversee the Tax Division and the grant making components: the Office of Justice Programs, the Office on Violence Against Women, and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. In a cross-department initiative to address criminal justice issues in New Orleans, she led a team of representatives from each of the Department's grant components, as well as the Civil Rights Division, the Office of U.S. Attorneys, the FBI, the DEA and the Community Relations Service. She led Attorney General Holder's Defending Childhood Initiative, and helped create its Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence, bringing in the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services as partners. Ms. Mason was responsible for the implementation of the Combined Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS), which consolidates all of the Justice Department's tribal grants under a single solicitation.

Prior to her federal government service, Ms. Mason practiced law at the Atlanta law firm of Alston & Bird, where she concentrated on public and project finance, chaired the firm's public finance group, and served on its management committee.

Ms. Mason received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and her A.B. from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Among her many honors is a Distinguished Service Award for outstanding service to the Department of Justice, awarded by Attorney General Eric Holder in 2011.

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Mary Lou Leary



Mary Lou Leary is the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), a position she also held from 2009 - 2012. She served as Acting Assistant Attorney General for OJP from March 1, 2012 - June 3, 2013. Ms. Leary has 30 years of criminal justice experience at the federal, state, and local levels, with an extensive background in criminal prosecution, government leadership, and victim advocacy.

From 1999 to 2001, she held several executive positions at the Department of Justice, including Acting Assistant Attorney General for OJP, Deputy Associate Attorney General, and Acting Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Ms. Leary also served as United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, as well as Principal Assistant and Senior Counsel to the United States Attorney, and Chief of the office's Superior Court Division. Her career has included extensive trial and grand jury experience as an Assistant United States Attorney and Assistant District Attorney in Middlesex County, Massachusetts.

Ms. Leary was Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime, a leading victim advocacy organization in Washington, D.C., from 2005 to 2009. She received her law degree from Northeastern University School of Law, a master's degree in education from Ohio State University, and a bachelor's degree in English literature from Syracuse University.

Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Operations and Management James H. Burch, II



James H. Burch, II was appointed OJP's Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Operations and Management in August 2011. In this position, Mr. Burch oversees and directs OJP's Office of Administration, Office of Audit, Assessment and Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Communications, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, and Office of the Chief Financial Officer. From 2009 - 2011 Mr. Burch served as the presidentially-appointed Acting Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA); between 2002 and 2009, he was BJA's Deputy Director for Policy and Management and Associate Deputy Director for Law Enforcement. Prior to joining BJA, Mr. Burch held senior leadership positions in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The author of several publications on criminal and juvenile justice topics, Mr. Burch has trained law enforcement officials throughout the United States on issues related to gangs, information sharing, and violence reduction, and been a guest instructor at the FBI's National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He has a M.S. in Administration with a concentration on law enforcement from Central Michigan University, and a B.A. in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland. Mr. Burch is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute.