Appendix E

Summary
BJA Subcommittee
Report to SAB
January 20, 2012

A. Meetings and Activities:

1. Newest subcommittee – recently appointed since the last SAB meeting

2. Members:  
   Al Blumstein  
   Ed Mulvey  
   Mark Lipsey  
   Bill Bratton  
   Faye Taxman  
   Cynthia Lum  
   Tim Bynum  
   Ed Latessa  
   (Encourage comments from other subcommittee members)

3. Met for a phone conversation prior to the SAB meeting
   
   Explained role and goals of SAB
   
   Discussion of scope of activities of Subcommittee
   
   Impressions of BJA as an agency with
   
   ongoing collaborative activities
   
   considerable potential for applied research

4. Al and I had dinner with Denise O’Donnell, Ed Banks (research to programs), and Betsi Griffith (strategic planning).
   
   Ongoing efforts and programs
   
   Openness to collaboration

5. Meeting yesterday with presentations from BJA staff
   
   Topics presented
   
   Evidence Integration
   
   Smart Policing
   
   Second Chance/Justice Reinvestment
   
   Drug Courts

B. General Impressions re: BJA to Date:

1. Considerable potential to promote research in ongoing activities
   11,000 open grants; $5 billion awarded and managed yearly
   
   Some ongoing efforts – highlighted some of these -
   
   Collaborative environment
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2. Limited resources to integrate data collection into activities. There is always a push to devote resources to getting practice done and programs into the field

3. Have a base of activities and environment that could be built upon

C. Consistent themes regarding development of research portfolio at BJA

1. Role of Collaboration with other OJP agencies
   NIJ, BJS, and OJJDP as collaborators (HOPE as example)
   Possible method for expanding capacities

2. Translation of research in terms applicable to practitioners (approach has been translation tools)

3. Building practitioner capacity to collect and interpret data

4. Increase qualifications and pool of competent people to do evaluations and data collection

5. Technical Assistance function doesn’t have a real science foundation

D. Open Issues

1. Role of systems-based research (implementation science)

2. Potential to build projects off of the JAG money distributed by the agency (over 40% of budget disbursed as block grants to states)

3. Reasonable and tractable evaluation requirements for programs
   - Poor quality of most required evaluations
   - Need to focus research and evaluation efforts to produce relevant information
   - Efforts to move toward development and assessment of principles of effective interventions in different areas

E. Challenge of supporting their efforts and helping them shape their future efforts