

TECHBeat

*Dedicated to Reporting Developments in Technology for
Law Enforcement, Corrections and Forensic Sciences*

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NLECTC
National Law Enforcement and
Corrections Technology Center
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National Institute of Justice

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KNOXVILLE "Takes a Stand" AGAINST

BULLYING

By Becky Lewis

You are such a disappointment. You have no friends. You will never be good enough.

Statements that far too many young people hear every day, from their peers and from their families.

Statements that make up the cornerstone of an award-winning series of public service announcements jointly produced by the Knoxville (Tenn.) Police Department and that city's Hardin Valley Academy.

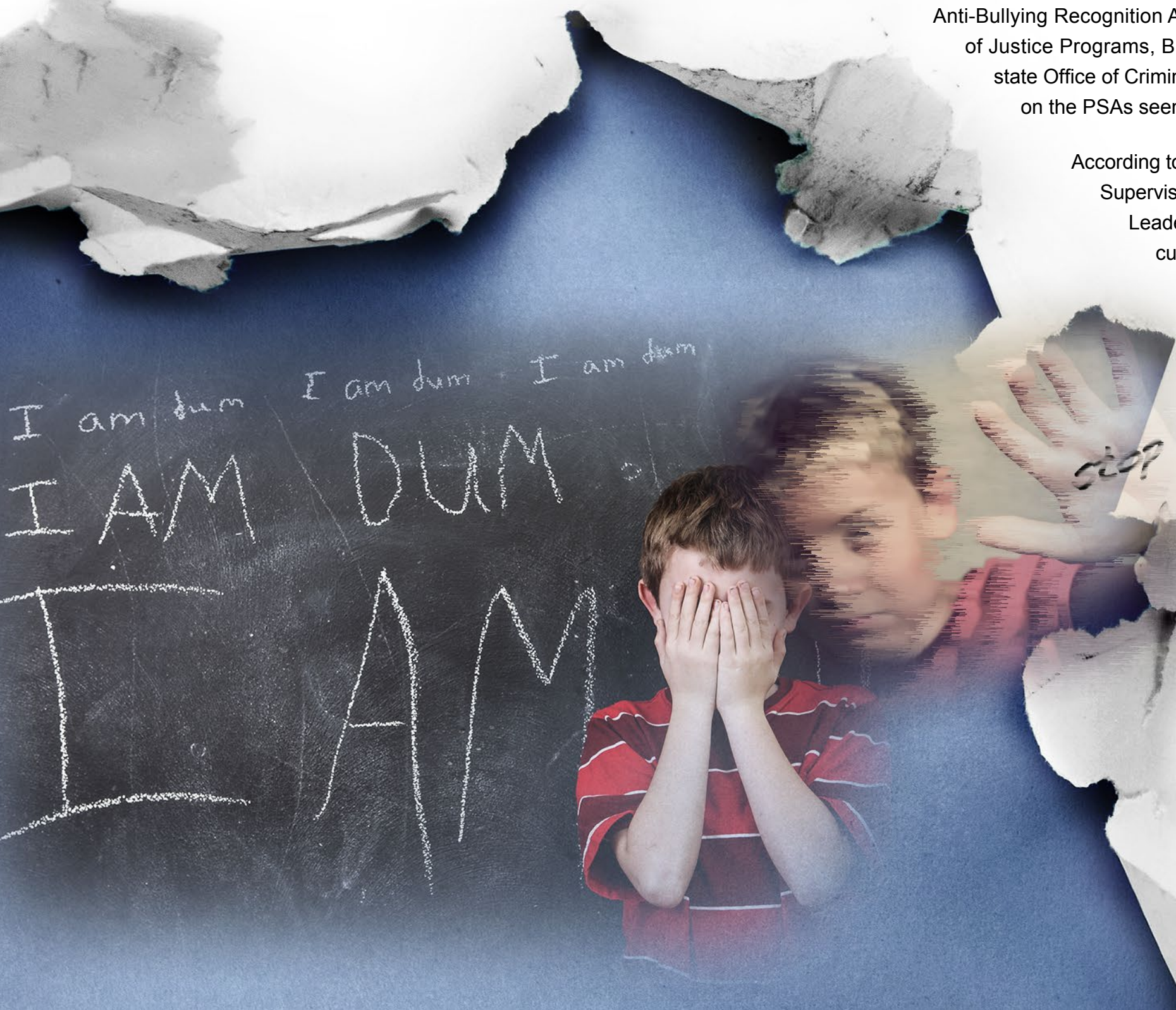
Separate anti-bullying campaigns by the two partners intersected in spring 2012, when students in Hardin Valley's Leadership class saw the Knoxville PD's "Take a Stand Against Bullying" billboard campaign and came up with the idea of asking the

local law enforcement agency to partner with them on the PSA initiative. The police department already had a number of other projects underway (see sidebar, "School Safety Advocacy Council Honors Knoxville Police Department With National Anti-Bullying Recognition Award") through a U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance grant administered by the state Office of Criminal Justice Programs, and teaming up with the students on the PSAs seemed like another piece that fit into the project.

According to Ramona Dew, Knox County Coordinated School Health Supervisor and then-teacher at Hardin Valley, she challenged her Leadership class to come up with an initiative to change the culture of the school in fall 2012.

"They came back and said we needed to do an anti-bullying campaign before someone in Knox County kills themselves. That is, in other places, initiatives seem to start after something happens, after someone dies in a car accident or commits suicide," Dew says.

The group first set out to address the issue with a series of 30-second sound bites filmed in the school's hallways and shown during morning video announcements. Then, in spring 2013, the group came back to Dew with the idea to reach out to the Knoxville PD. Dew contacted the department, and the Safety Education Unit agreed to partner with the students, telling them to "write the scripts and we'll bring them to the screen." The students did just that, writing scripts that touch on cyberbullying, mocking students' academic struggles, shunning their company and more. In addition to writing all the dialog, Leadership class students — not drama club members — do all the acting as well.





School Safety Advocacy Council Honors Knoxville Police Department With National Anti-Bullying Recognition Award

On Feb. 25, 2015, the Knoxville Police Department Safety Education Unit received a national award from the School Safety Advocacy Council (SSAC) for its anti-bullying campaign. In addition to working with Hardin Valley Academy students on the PSA initiative, other parts of the project included the following.

ANTI-BULLYING TOWN HALL MEETING. This free event on April 17, 2014, featured Kirk Smalley, a nationally known speaker whose 11-year-old son committed suicide because of bullying, and an anti-bullying panel discussion moderated by local news anchors. More than 150 people attended the event; an estimated 20,000 watched on television and another 1,000 viewed via live streaming.

ANTI-BULLYING SUMMIT. This free event for Tennessee law enforcement and educators on July 30, 2013, provided lectures and information on signs and symptoms of bullying, cyberbullying and social media, and adult bullying in the workplace. Some 468 persons attended.

BILLBOARD CAMPAIGN. Lamar Advertising, which developed the logo and campaign materials, donated display space on local billboards.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ANTI-BULLYING CURRICULUM. Trained officers and training staff from the unit developed an eighth-grade lesson plan presented at the invitation of local schools. This one-day, one-classroom presentation focuses

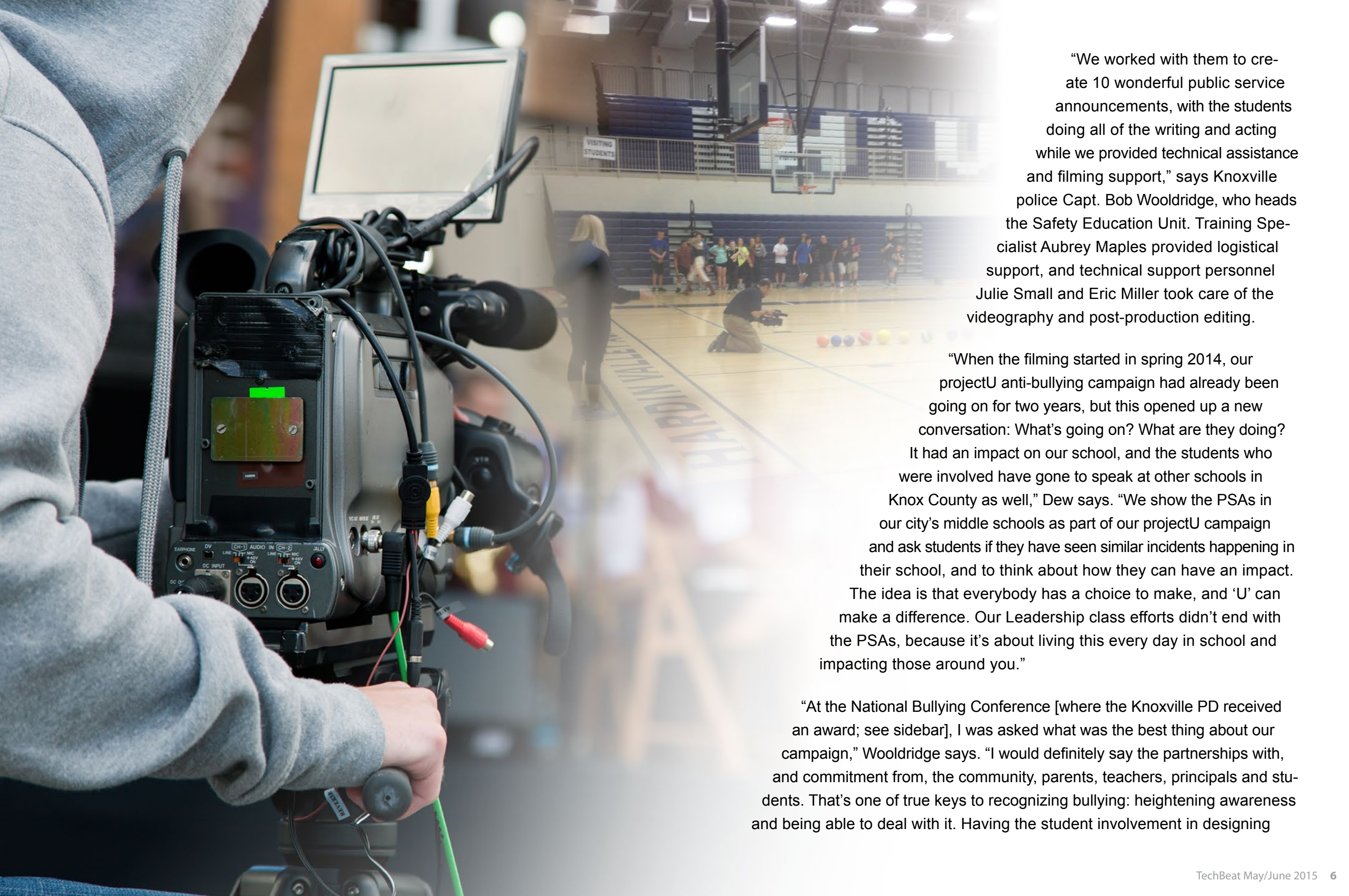
on topics such as the abuse of drugs and alcohol, self-esteem and recognizing bullying. Officers also use a pre- and post-training survey developed by the University of Tennessee. It will continue beyond the life of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant.

"BOO AT THE ZOO" AND SUMMERTIME BOOTHS AT THE KNOXVILLE ZOO. Officers and staff greet visitors and hand out anti-bullying literature and giveaway items, including the popular "Take a Stand Against Bullying" wristbands. This project will continue beyond the life of the BJA grant.

OTHER GIVEAWAY ITEMS AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS. This effort included miniature "Take a Stand Against Bullying" footballs tossed into local high school crowds by cheerleaders and booths at various community events, including National Night Out. These efforts will continue beyond the life of the BJA grant.

"I'm just so proud of our officers and our training staff. Our partnership with Knox County schools has been wonderful," says police Capt. Bob Wooldridge. In addition to receiving the SSAC award, the Safety Education Unit received an internal unit commendation for its efforts.

"None of this would have been possible to achieve at this level without our community partnerships. We always say we can't do it alone," Wooldridge says.



“We worked with them to create 10 wonderful public service announcements, with the students doing all of the writing and acting while we provided technical assistance and filming support,” says Knoxville police Capt. Bob Wooldridge, who heads the Safety Education Unit. Training Specialist Aubrey Maples provided logistical support, and technical support personnel Julie Small and Eric Miller took care of the videography and post-production editing.

“When the filming started in spring 2014, our projectU anti-bullying campaign had already been going on for two years, but this opened up a new conversation: What’s going on? What are they doing? It had an impact on our school, and the students who were involved have gone to speak at other schools in Knox County as well,” Dew says. “We show the PSAs in our city’s middle schools as part of our projectU campaign and ask students if they have seen similar incidents happening in their school, and to think about how they can have an impact. The idea is that everybody has a choice to make, and ‘U’ can make a difference. Our Leadership class efforts didn’t end with the PSAs, because it’s about living this every day in school and impacting those around you.”

“At the National Bullying Conference [where the Knoxville PD received an award; see sidebar], I was asked what was the best thing about our campaign,” Wooldridge says. “I would definitely say the partnerships with, and commitment from, the community, parents, teachers, principals and students. That’s one of true keys to recognizing bullying: heightening awareness and being able to deal with it. Having the student involvement in designing



“Having the student involvement in designing and writing these PSAs helps the community make a difference when it comes to bullying.”

-Capt. Bob Wooldridge, Knoxville Police Department

and writing these PSAs helps the community make a difference when it comes to bullying. We’ve put the videos out on our website for everyone to see, and I hope they go viral, because they’re a tool that law enforcement agencies and schools across the country can use. I’d like to see it help students across the country see that bullying is everywhere and they can ‘Take a Stand.’ ”

“ProjectU isn’t a specific curriculum, because the needs and culture of every school is different,” Dew says. “It’s about getting students involved in responding to needs and making a change. I would love to be able to help other schools do something like this. Teaming up with KPD has helped my students learn that it

takes a collaborative effort, and many different entities need to be involved in order for a project like this to succeed. ”

You can view the PSAs on the Safety Education Unit’s YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuAyjRulcNhHi6Gcib3Chdw>. For more information on the project and how you can do something similar in your community, contact Capt. Bob Wooldridge at (865) 215-1514, email bwooldridge@cityofknoxville.org, or Ramona Dew at (865) 594-3735, email Ramona.dew@knoxschools.org.

For more success stories like this and other school safety resources, visit the National Institute of Justice’s SchoolSafetyInfo.org website.



Developing The Next Generation
STAB RESISTANT
BODY ARMOR STANDARD

By Michele Coppola

Correctional officers face danger and challenges to their safety on the job. Inmates are creative and inventive in fashioning improvised stab and slash weapons from everyday objects or materials they have access to within a facility. These weapons may be wooden, plastic or metallic and can be used to attack an officer. Examples of weapons recovered from correctional facilities include handmade spikes, shanks and blades, and even toothbrushes can sharpened for stabbing or reshaped to hold razor blades for slashing.



To better address current stab and slash threats faced by U.S. correctional officers, the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is developing an update to the 2000 NIJ standard for stab-resistant body armor, *Stab Resistance of Personal Body Armor, NIJ Standard-0115.00*, which was adapted from a United Kingdom standard that primarily addressed the threat from commercially made knives.

The revised standard, which is in draft with the working title of *Stab and Slash Resistance of Personal Body Armor, NIJ Standard 0115.01*, specifies minimum requirements for stab- and slash-resistant torso armor and includes testing specific to armor designated as female armor. The draft standard addresses body armor panels that are intended to provide protection against stab (knife and spike) and slash threats.



As envisioned, the draft standard will provide two performance categories for stab/slash-resistant armor based on mission requirements and threats anticipated within the operational environments:

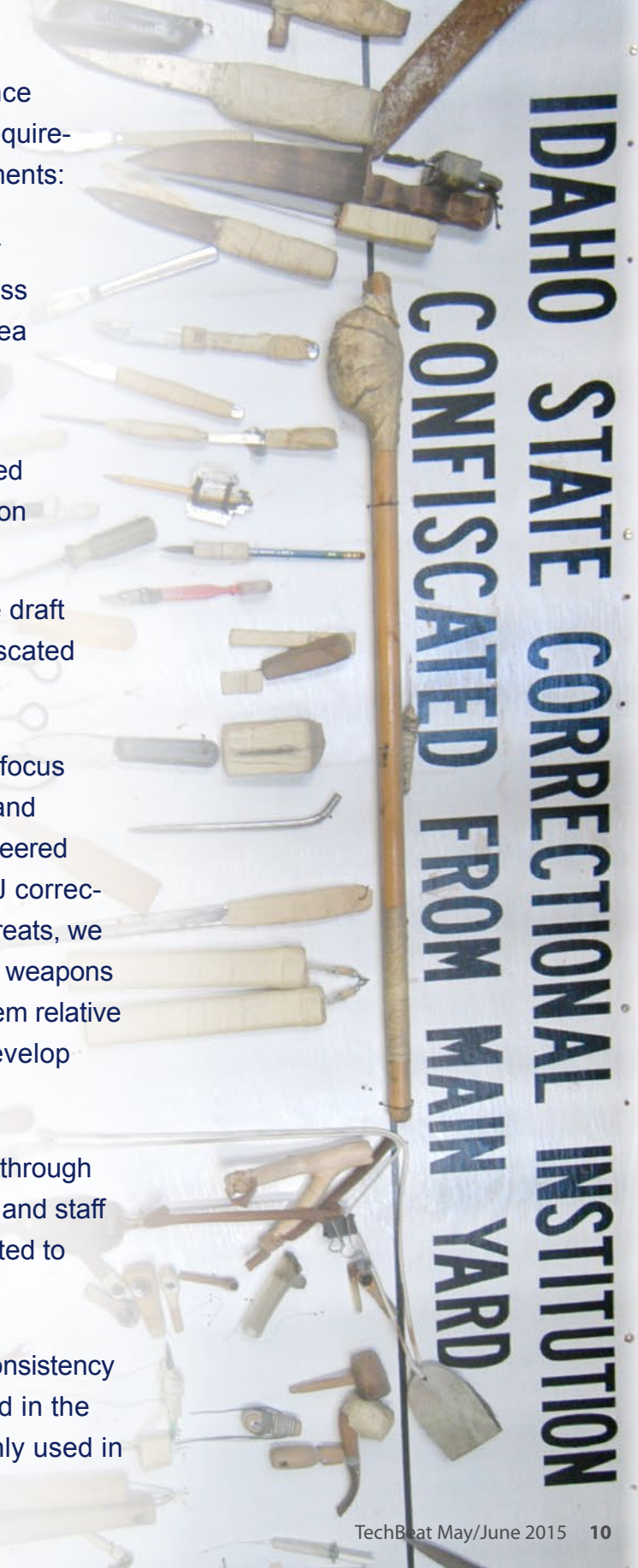
- ◆ Commercially made weapons, typically encountered outside of controlled access facilities, but including the jail intake area and public areas.
- ◆ Improvised, or inmate-made weapons, typically encountered inside of controlled access facilities, including jails, detention centers and prisons.

Development of the type of test weapons (exemplars) for the draft standard is based on the types of improvised weapons confiscated or found within correctional facilities.

“Typically in a standard development process, first we hold a focus group with practitioners to discuss needs and requirements, and correctional officers were asking if the armor could be re-engineered to be lighter and more breathable,” explains Jack Harne, NIJ corrections technology program manager. “To assess the types of threats, we reached out to corrections agencies and collected about 1,500 weapons made by inmates within corrections facilities, and assessed them relative to composition, hardness, sharpness and other criteria to develop exemplars to use for testing in the standard.

“We also included a slash test component due to the fact that through research we discovered that many of the assaults on inmates and staff were of a slashing motion with slash-type wounds, so we wanted to include a slash testing protocol in the standard.”

Although the test weapons are specially designed to ensure consistency in testing procedures, they reflect many of the features found in the commercial knives or homemade instruments most commonly used in



attacks. Test knife and spike exemplars representing commercially made weapons are similar to those used in the 2000 standard. Under the draft standard, stab-resistant body armors, whether designed to protect against improvised threats or commercial threats, will need to provide stab, spike and slash protection.

It is hoped that the end result will be protective armor for correctional officers that will be more applicable to the environments they work in, without burdening officers with protection against threats that are not applicable to their area of work.

“The exemplars that are characteristic of the improvised weapons made by inmates are more representative of those found in the working environment,” Harne says. “Although we do not engage in designing armors, it is hoped that industry will be able to tailor armors to meet the new threats and hopefully improve comfort of the equipment,” Harne says.

In addition, armor models designed specifically to accommodate the female physique would undergo additional testing to ensure adequate protection, particularly in areas that have been formed to fit the female bust area.

The standard also covers labeling requirements, which is important to practitioners because they need to know what the armor can do and what it protects against. The ability to continue to read the label as the armor is worn and used over time is significant for a number of reasons, including needing to know pertinent information such as model number in the event of a recall, and protection level.

NIJ held a workshop on the effort to revise the stab-resistant body armor standard at the annual American Jail Association conference in April 2015 in Charlotte, N.C.





Standards Development Process

A standard provides a level of confidence that equipment is fit for use and allows comparison of products based on common testing and minimum requirements. NIJ develops voluntary standards that specify minimum equipment performance requirements for equipment and define test methods to assess performance.

The agency develops standards using Special Technical Committees (STCs), which are composed of federal, state and local law enforcement or corrections practitioners and subject matter/technical experts. STC members collaborate to produce a voluntary performance standard, a compliance/certification program requirements document, and a selection and application guide, which is a less formal document that explains the standard and is written for correctional officers, administrators and purchasing agents.

The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center-National (NLECTC) supports NIJ's standards development and implementation and administers its Compliance Testing Program, under which equipment is evaluated and subject to a series of tests described in NIJ standards to determine if it meets minimum performance requirements. Body armor models that comply with the standard are added to the Compliant Product List posted on the NLECTC website, www.justnet.org.

For more information on the effort to revise the stab-resistant armor standard, contact Jack Harne, NIJ corrections technology program manager, at jack.harne@usdoj.gov.

This article also appeared in the March/April 2015 American Jails magazine.

FAMILIAL DNA PROJECT:

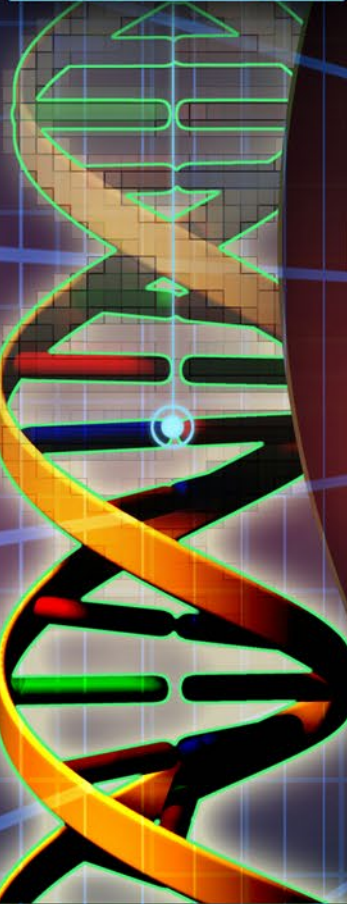
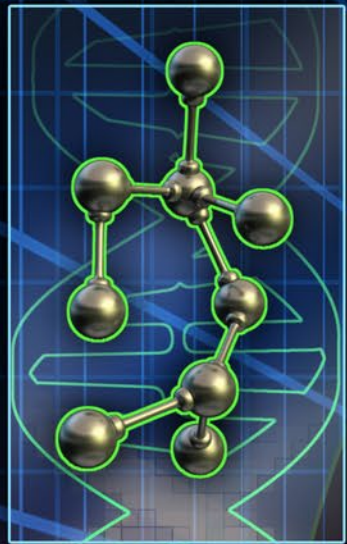
Engaging Stakeholders, Sharing Opinions

By Becky Lewis

Is it a powerful tool that can develop investigative leads? Or is it an invasion of privacy?

The answer to those questions about familial searching (FS) has puzzled professionals working in the field of DNA identification for a number of years. Thanks to a series of webinars and a report produced by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE), criminal justice professionals now have access to current information that can help them decide how their agency answers those questions.

FS is an additional search of a DNA profile in a law enforcement DNA database conducted after a routine search results in no profile matches. FS involves a two-phase process conducted to develop investigative leads for the purpose of potentially identifying close biological relatives of the source of an unknown forensic profile obtained from crime scene evidence, based on the concept that first-order relatives — such as a sibling or parent/offspring — often will have more alleles of their DNA profiles in common than those of unrelated individuals.



The first phase of FS produces a candidate list from the DNA database ranked by likelihood ratio estimates supporting the specified relationship compared with the alternate hypothesis of being unrelated. The second phase of the process typically uses additional genetic testing to confirm or refute the potential relatedness. (Adapted from *Familial DNA Searching: Current Approaches*, FTCoE, 2015, p. 2, <https://rti.connectsolutions.com/p49iz1rzbpi/>).

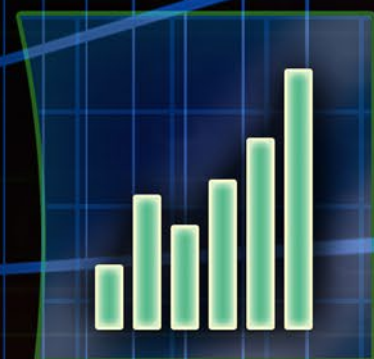
In states that allow the technique, its use has brought several investigations to successful conclusions and jury trial convictions (including that involving California's "Grim Sleeper" serial killer in 2010, http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/09/us/09sleeper.html?_r=0), wherein no legal challenges were made to its use. In addition, *Familial DNA Searching: Current Approaches* notes that data from FS conducted in Denver and California indicate that FS has a better success rate than search comparisons performed with the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) (discussed on pp. 20-21).

Opponents of FS, including the American Civil Liberties Union, have concerns that searching for suspects among the DNA profiles of relatives in a DNA database constitutes an invasion of privacy and violates the Fourth Amendment, arbitrarily creating two classes of people: relatives of convicted persons, who are subject to FS, and other people, who are not (<http://www.aclu-il.org/familial-dna-testing-raises-serious-privacy-and-civil-rights-concerns/>; <http://acluva.org/7381/aclu-wary-of-familial-dna-searches-in-virginia/>; <http://www.nyclu.org/news/grave-civil-rights-risks-plan-use-dna-evidence-%E2%80%98familial-searching%E2%80%99-nyclu-warns>). Some opponents of FS have suggested protective measures to address these concerns should FS be employed. This topic was heavily discussed within the webinar series by the panelists, including those who oppose FS.

In 2014, the FTCoE facilitated a webinar series that focused on various FS policies and practices, and took an even-handed approach to exploring both sides of this discussion.

```
begin
  comment DNA program
  print the primes less than
  1000 using the
    sieve method.;
  Boolean array
  sieve[2:1000];
  integer p, count;

  comment Eliminate the
  multiples of the argument
  prime number;
  procedure eliminate(p);
  integer p;
  begin
    integer i;
    for i := 2*p
  step p until 1000 do
    sieve[i] :=
  false
  end;
```



10111110100100
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WEBINAR

The FTCoE brought together representatives from the following communities:

Scientific

Legal

Law Enforcement

The webinars covered technical considerations, legal challenges, comparison with other types of DNA searches and implementation ramifications, resulting in the above-referenced *Familial DNA Searching: Current Approaches*, which captures the discussions and thus attempts to answer some of the policy questions.

“We did the webinars and produced the report to bring clear, concise, up-to-date information about the structure of familial DNA searching to law enforcement, to crime labs, to the whole justice community,” says Dr. Patricia Melton, FTCoE senior forensic research scientist. “Because there is a lot of confusion concerning FS, the field in general was hungry for up-to-date information and it wasn’t out there. It was important for us to research the topic and to bring to the table experts who could provide that information.”

To bring those experts to the table, the FTCoE put on one webinar per month over a four-month block beginning in May 2014. Each webinar lasted two hours and drew more than 100 participants, and was facilitated by the University of North Texas Health Science Center, with Dr. Bruce Budowle and Rockne Harmon serving as consultants and discussion leaders. Harmon, a retired California prosecutor who played a key role in that state’s adoption of the technique, has served as a subject-matter expert and consultant on the topic for the past seven years, and says he has seen little change related to FS in the forensic community during that time.



“There has been a tremendous need for information, and these webinars gave us, for the first time, an opportunity to gather people together, collect information and produce a report. We finally have something in writing that accurately reflects where we are, how we got there and how well we’re doing,” Harmon says.

Harmon, who played an instrumental role in California’s adoption of FS in 2008, says that from the beginning, the questions asked mainly related to policy — even when the questions came from the scientific community. For that reason, the FTCoE brought together representatives from the scientific, legal and law enforcement communities as webinar panelists. Panelists were a cross-section of professionals that included some who were experienced in the use of FS, some who were new to its use and some who do not use it.



ADVANCING INFORMATION MANAGEMENT RECORDS DATABASE

“We wanted to bring together diverse stakeholders so the conversation went across the entire spectrum,” Melton says. “We used an open panel discussion done through a Web-based platform that offered opportunities for a high level of engagement, and we brought together a diverse group of opinions. It was a very challenging topic and the discussion was engaged and open. I really feel that the report not only captures a synopsis of the discussion, but also lays the groundwork for states and agencies to make a critical decision.”

According to the report (p. 22), that groundwork includes the following considerations:

- For agencies who decide to apply FS, practices and policies exist that can serve as guidance models to ensure that the proper balance of personal privacy and the needs of the state can be met.
- More investigative leads can be developed based on the current demonstrated FS successes.
- Formal internal laboratory review committees should be implemented to (1) assess the statistical significance of FS results, (2) properly handle the disclosure of FS results to investigating agencies, (3) train investigators on

the meaning of the results, and (4) emphasize the legal and proper conduct restrictions on how the information can be applied in a criminal investigation.

- If no true biological relatives of the perpetrator are identified via FS, states should establish provisions in FS policies that allow laboratories to revisit the profile and perform FS again in subsequent years, as thousands of new sample profiles are uploaded to these databases.

Melton says that in conducting the webinars and compiling the report, the FTCoE brought together reliable information, including the above-mentioned considerations, which previously was not available.

“It’s concise, it’s presented well, and now states have the information they need when they’re ready to make a decision,” she says.

To access the archived webinars and the report, visit <https://forensiccoe.org/Our-Impact/Advancing-Technology/Reports/Familial-DNA-Searching-Current-Approaches>. For information on the projects and programs of the NIJ forensics technology portfolio, contact Gerald LaPorte, Director, Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences, at Gerald.LaPorte@usdoj.gov.

New Website Provides Facts *about* BODY ARMOR

STANDARDS, TESTING *and* PRACTICAL USE

By Becky Lewis and Kate Poindexter

Law enforcement and corrections officers have a new resource for determining how to purchase high-quality, life-saving equipment: PoliceArmor.org.

The new website, which features news and information on body armor that meets the standards set forth by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), is a resource provided by the people who write the standards, test the products and promote officer safety. NIJ and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), both components of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, have teamed up to offer tips on how to select, purchase, wear and care for body armor. NIJ's National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) hosts the site.



PoliceArmor.org highlights NIJ's Compliance Testing Program (CTP) and the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) funding guidelines. It also includes accounts of officers' surviving potentially deadly assaults. In addition, the site features targeted messages for chiefs and executives, and a section specific to the needs of the corrections community and female officers.

Linda Hammond-Deckard, BJA policy advisor, says the website brings a wide range of information on body armor into a central location that's easy to find, enabling officers, procurement personnel and agency administrators to find the information they need to know about body armor in one location.

"We wanted to promote the use of body armor and encourage officers to wear this lifesaving piece of equipment consistently, and provide information on body armor selection, fit and care, as well as help law enforcement agency leaders overcome some of the hurdles they've faced in dealing with mandatory wear policies and provide them with information about selection and procurement that will help them improve the safety of their officers," she says.

To meet the latter goal, the special section targeting chiefs and executives includes information on legislative actions that support mandatory wear policies, words of caution about fraudulent claims of NIJ compliance and a link to an online article for chiefs on ballistic-resistant body armor published by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (*The Police Chief*, vol. 74, no. 12, December 2007).

"NIJ has all the technical information and BJA has the direct connection to law enforcement agencies and those who develop policy, so the two agencies are able to create a good partnership. BJA wanted a simplified way to promote proper body armor, selection, care and fit, and the site does this in a way that the average officer can understand," Hammond-Deckard says.

PoliceArmor.org's simplified approach is based on "photo buttons" that take the user from the home page to the four main sections. From the home page a visitor can also go to the

"We wanted to promote the use of body armor and encourage officers to wear this lifesaving piece of equipment consistently, and provide information on body armor selection, fit and care, as well as help law enforcement agency leaders overcome some of the hurdles they've faced in dealing with mandatory wear policies and provide them with information about selection and procurement that will help them improve the safety of their officers."

*-Linda Hammond-Deckard,
Bureau of Justice Assistance*





special section for chiefs, a video gallery, recent body armor saves in the news and sections for corrections and on female fit. Links to the BVP Program and NIJ Compliant Product List are accessible from each of the website's subpages.

The four main sections — Wear Your Armor, Selection & Fit, Body Armor Care & Replacement, and Levels of Body Armor — break armor-related information into easy-to-navigate, specifically targeted topic areas. For example, under Wear Your Armor, users can find the NIJ body armor video for officers and personal stories told by officers whose lives were saved by their armor.

“I think the one save that really sticks in my mind is Lt. Brian Murphy, who was shot 17 times in the August 2012 Sikh temple incident, in Oak Creek, Wis. His voice is distorted from his injuries, but he’s alive because he was wearing that vest, which took five direct hits,” Hammond-Deckard says.

As for the other main sections, Selection & Fit explains the new ASTM standard on measurement and fit to officers and includes links to that standard and to the new NIJ *Selection and Application Guide to Ballistic-Resistant Body Armor for Law Enforcement, Corrections and*



Public Safety; Body Armor Care & Replacement offers protocols on replacing body armor and a list of Do's and Don'ts related to wear and care; and *Levels of Body Armor* links to the NIJ video on body armor procurement and explains what the various levels of armor mean relative to the specific weapons and ammunition used in NIJ compliance testing.

"I was in law enforcement in the late 1970s when officers first began wearing body armor and it was still an officer's choice," Hammond-Deckard says. "I wore a vest because I was a single parent. They didn't have armor suitable for females and I wore a chopped-down version of a male vest, which saved me from serious injury in two vehicle accidents while on patrol. I also attended the funeral of a fellow officer with whom I went to police academy who was shot

and killed. Because of my personal experiences, I feel a responsibility to encourage as many officers as possible to wear their vests, for their own sake, for the sake of their families and for the sake of their agency and the community."

BVP was established by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 and provides federal funds to state and local jurisdictions to purchase vests. For information on BVP, contact Linda Hammond-Deckard of BJA at linda.hammond-deckard@usdoj.gov.

NLECTC administers NIJ's voluntary compliance testing programs for personal body armor and provides technical support for PoliceArmor.org. For information on the Compliance Testing Program, contact NIJ Senior Law Enforcement Program Manager Mike O'Shea at michael.oshea@usdoj.gov or email asknlectc@justnet.org.

TECHshorts is a sampling of the technology projects, programs and initiatives being conducted by the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, as well as other agencies. If you would like additional information concerning any of the following TECHshorts, please refer to the specific point-of-contact information that is included at the end of each entry.

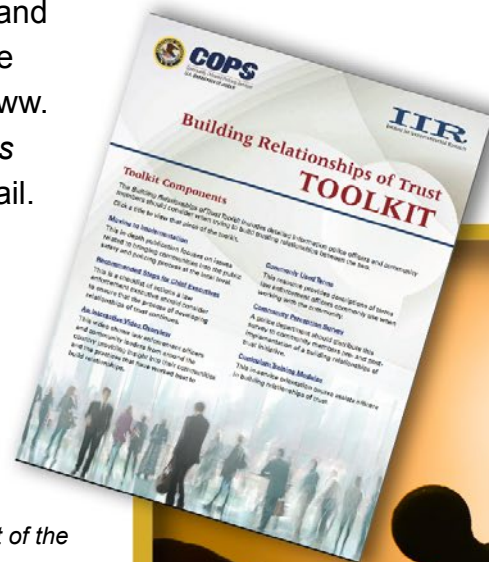
In addition to TECHshorts, *JUSTNET News*, an online, weekly technology news summary containing articles relating to technology developments in public safety that have appeared in newspapers, newsmagazines and trade and professional journals, is available through the NLECTC System's website, www.justnet.org. Subscribers to *JUSTNET News* receive the news summary directly via email. To subscribe to *JUSTNET News*, go to <https://www.justnet.org/app/puborder/subscribe/subscribe.aspx>, email your request to asknlectc@justnet.org or call (800) 248-2742.

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Building Relationships of Trust Toolkit

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services' *Building Relationships of Trust Toolkit*



includes detailed information police officers and community members should consider when trying to build trusting relationships between them. The toolkit provides links to six components such as publications, a video overview, a list of commonly used terms, a community perception survey and in-service curriculum training modules.

To view the toolkit, go to <http://ric-zai-inc.com/Publications/cops-w0735-pub.pdf>.

Report Details Federal Justice Statistics

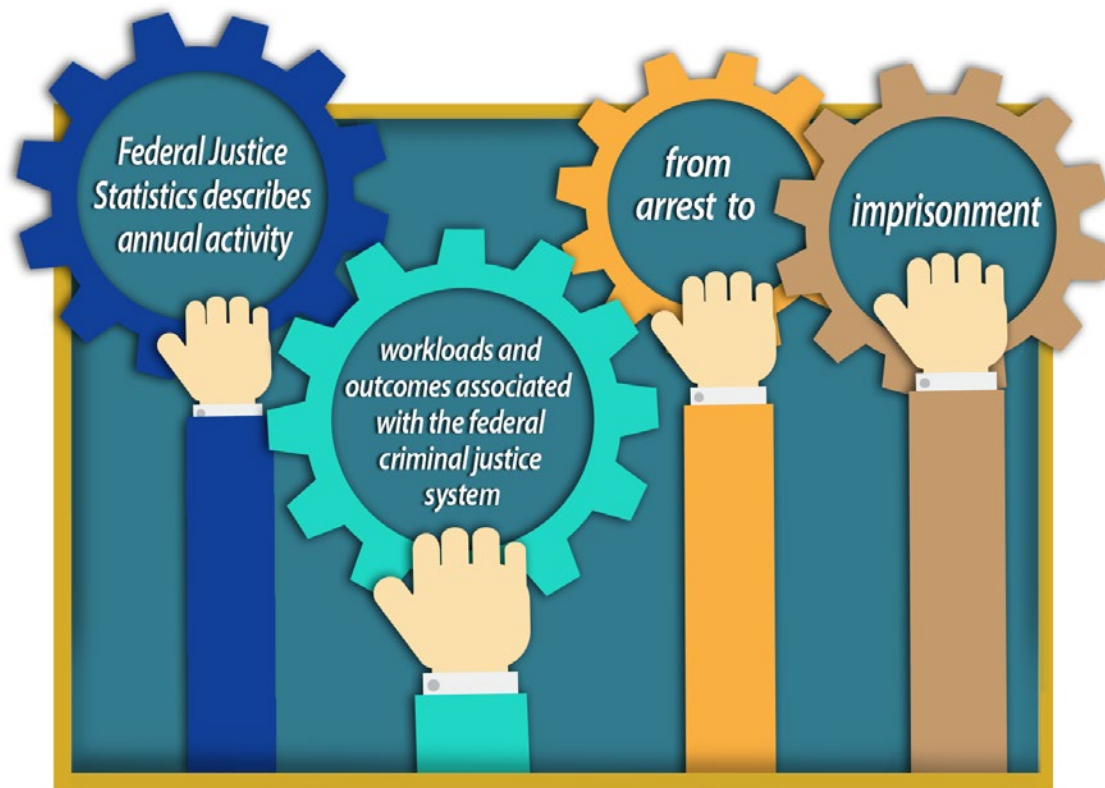
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Federal Justice Statistics, 2011-12 describes the annual activity, workloads and outcomes associated with the federal criminal justice system from arrest to

imprisonment. The report uses data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Tables and text describe arrests and investigations by law enforcement agency and growth rates by type of offense and federal judicial district. It provides the number of offenders returning to federal prison within three years of release and includes the most recently available data on sentences imposed and their lengths by type of offense.





Highlights include the following:

- At yearend 2012, 414,065 persons were under some form of federal correctional control – 62 percent were in confinement and 38 percent were under supervision in the community.
- Fifteen percent of federal prisoners released in 2010 were returned to federal prison within three years. More than half (54 percent) were returned for supervision violations.
- In 2012, five federal judicial districts along the U.S.-Mexico border accounted for 60 percent of federal arrests, 53 percent of suspects investigated and 41 percent of offenders sentenced to prison.
- Most (60 percent) of defendants in cases disposed in 2012 had a prior conviction. A third of those with a prior conviction were for a misdemeanor offense.

For more information and to view the report, go to <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=5218>.

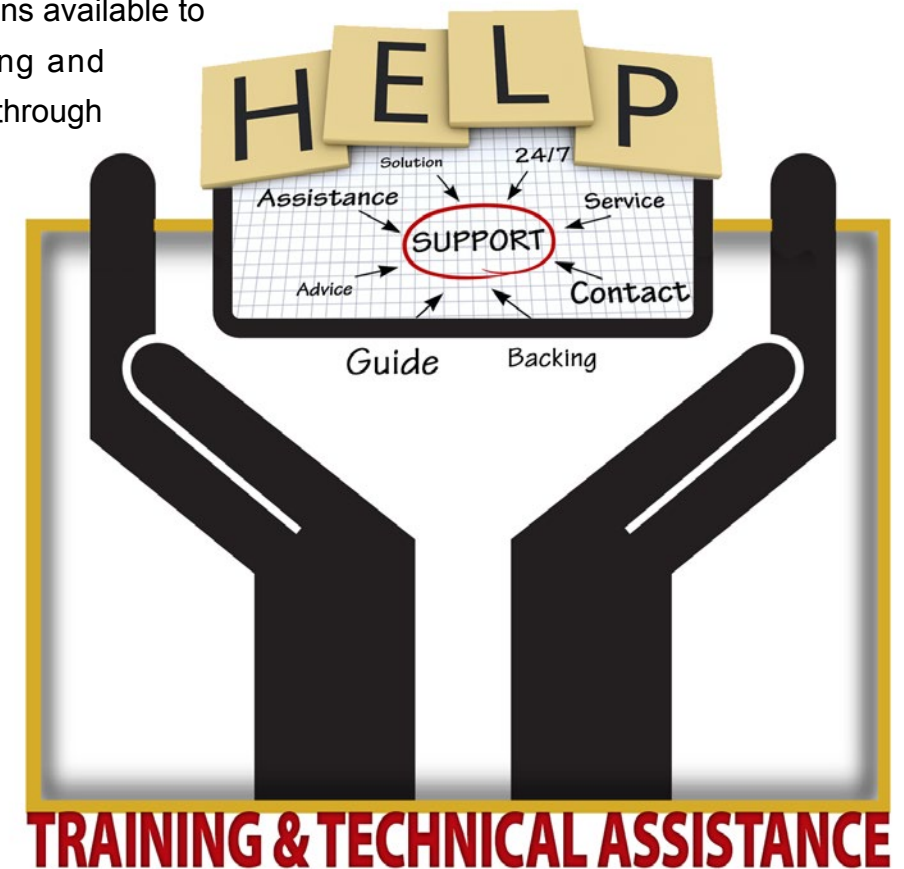
Training and Technical Assistance Provider Directory

Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) has made available the BJA Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Provider Directory. The directory can be used to access the pool of BJA provider organizations available to help address criminal justice needs.

The directory includes entries for 100 provider organizations with brief descriptions of the organizations and their specific program areas, current BJA-funded projects and contact information. The directory is accessible to practitioners in the field, TTA providers and BJA staff in order to foster collaboration. Police departments, corrections facilities and other criminal justice entities can use the directory as a guide to the organizations available to help deliver free training and technical assistance through BJA NTTAC.

To access the directory, visit <https://www.bjatrainning.org/media/news/check-out-bja-ntac%E2%80%99s-new-resource-%E2%80%93-bja-tta-provider-directory>.



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In The News

Following are abstracts on public safety-related articles that have appeared in newspapers, magazines and websites.

'ChildFirst' Helps Victims, Butler Police

TribLive, (04/18/2015), Bill Vidonic

The Butler County (Pa.) Alliance for Children has received funding from several grants to open a new Child Advocacy Center. Local investigators have received forensic training through ChildFirst Pennsylvania on how to conduct interviews with children who have possibly been victimized by child abuse. The center will open in June and having staff trained in proper forensic protocols will save both time and money; area residents previously had to travel to Pittsburgh to meet with trained investigators.

<http://triblive.com/news/butler/8169619-74/abuse-butler-county#axzz3XrAO8Ood>

Online Site Helps Police Pinch Perpetrators

UticaOD.com, (04/19/2015), Micaela Parker

Since 2013, the Utica Police Department has been using leadsonline.com, a site that secondhand shops use to record their inventories. In 2013 alone, officers from UPD recovered enough stolen items to fill a conference room, using the database to identify stolen property and often also arrest the parties responsible for the theft. One individual alone was responsible for stealing 715 items from several Wal-Mart stores.

<http://www.uticaod.com/article/20150419/NEWS/150419353/1994/NEWS>

St. Louis Police Launch Real-Time Crime Center

Government Technology, (04/17/2015)

The Real-Time Intelligence Client, launched by the St. Louis Police Department on April 16, 2015, aggregates streaming video, data analytics, resource tracking, social media, computer-aided dispatch systems and geospatial mapping information to create a common operating picture for use in the department's daily operations. The system should reduce response times and increase efficiency. In addition to implementing the new tool, the department also has begun staffing a crime center with analysts 24/7.

<http://www.govtech.com/public-safety/St-Louis-Police-Launch-Real-Time-Crime-Center.html>

CONTACT US

Call the NLECTC Information Hotline at 800-248-2742 or email asknlectc@justnet.org

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NLECTC is offering tools and assistance to help law enforcement and corrections agencies locate and apply for funding opportunities.

Federal Funding Opportunities:

See www.nij.gov or www.grants.gov.

Give Us Your Tech Ideas

We are actively seeking ideas to help us identify technology needs and requirements as part of the National Institute of Justice's Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation process.

Click here for recent public safety-related articles from the news media.



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JUSTNETNews. Includes article abstracts on law enforcement, corrections and forensics technologies that have appeared in major newspapers, magazines and periodicals and on national and international wire services and websites.

Testing Results. Up-to-date listing of public safety equipment evaluated through NIJ's testing program. Includes ballistic- and stab-resistant armor, patrol vehicles and tires, protective gloves and more.

Calendar of Events. Lists upcoming meetings, seminars and training.

Social Media. Access our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube feeds for the latest news and updates.

Do More With Less. Highlights creative programs and resources to help agencies meet challenges as budgets shrink and demands on departments grow.

Tech Topics. Browse for information on specific topics such as biometrics, cybercrime, forensics and corrections.



Public Safety Technology in the News.

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