


TECHBeat

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

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NLECTC  **JTIC**
National Law Enforcement and
Corrections Technology Center System Justice Technology
Information Center
A Program of the **NIJ**
National Institute of Justice

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TechBeat is the monthly newsmagazine of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System. Our goal is to keep you up to date on technologies for the public safety community and research efforts in government and private industry.

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The NLECTC System

The Justice Technology Information Center (JTIC), a component of the National Institute of Justice's National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, serves as an information resource for technology and equipment related to law enforcement, corrections and courts and as a primary point of contact for administration of a voluntary equipment standards and testing program for public safety equipment.

JTIC is part of the realignment of the NLECTC System, which includes the Justice Innovation Center for Small, Rural, Tribal, and Border Criminal Justice Agencies, which focuses on the unique law enforcement challenges faced by those types of agencies; the National Criminal Justice Technology Research, Test and Evaluation Center, which provides technology-related research and testing and operational evaluations of technologies; and the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence, which supports technology research, development, testing and evaluation efforts in forensic science. In addition, a Priority Criminal Justice Needs Initiative exists to assess and prioritize technology needs across the criminal justice community.

For information, visit www.justnet.org or contact (800) 248-2742.



NCJRS is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to support research, policy and program development worldwide.

For information, visit www.ncjrs.gov.

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ONLINE GLOSSARY

Helps Professionals "Speak the Same Language" About

SEXUAL ASSAULT

By Becky Lewis

Conference after conference, peer review after peer review, committee after committee, the conversation remained the same: "Is that what that term means? I always thought it meant...."; "We've been sitting on the same working group for years, and I just learned that a lawyer uses that term differently than nurses do."; "I've never heard it called that before!"

In November 2016, the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) Forensic Technology Center of Excellence (FTCoE) launched an online *Multidisciplinary Sexual Assault Glossary* that will help medical, law enforcement, forensic and legal professionals "speak the same language" when discussing sexual assault. Produced in cooperation with the Center for Nursing Excellence International (CFNEI), the glossary was developed with input from multidisciplinary subject-matter experts who suggested terms, as well as writing and reviewing definitions. The FTCoE and CFNEI used a consensus model to approve content and definitions.

the study of terms

terminology

[tur-muh-nol-uh-jee]

noun, plural "terminologies"

1. the system of terms belonging or peculiar to a science, art, or specialized subject; nomenclature
2. the science of terms, as in particular sciences or arts.

Origin and History for "terminology"

from Terminologie (1786), 201
of Jena, from Med
(see termin

“It’s a really helpful product. I didn’t realize until we started the project just how unique and beneficial this resource would be,” says Jeri Roper-Miller, FTCoe director. “Professionals from the various disciplines involved in investigating sexual assault often hear terms of art, with very specific meanings, used interchangeably, and they don’t always understand differences in how they are intended.”

Rachell Ekroos, chief executive officer and founder of CFNEI, explains that when she entered the forensic nursing field in 2000, she discovered that finding reliable resources for terminology and definitions that she could use to communicate with advocates, prosecuting attorneys and law enforcement proved quite a challenge.

“It kept coming up at every conference that we needed a resource, we needed a glossary. A group of us started a spreadsheet and built on it, but we could never figure out how to get that out to the masses,” Ekroos says.

In 2014, the FTCoe received direction from NIJ to begin an initiative focusing on sexual assault response, and a conversation between Roper-Miller and Ekroos at a conference led to the conclusion that development of the much-needed glossary fit perfectly within that initiative. Although by fall 2016 the team had enough terms to go live, adding terms to the database is a project that never really reaches completion.

“It will continue to be updated on an ongoing basis,” Roper-Miller says. “If you look for a particular term and it’s not there, there’s a portal right there on the database page where you can submit suggestions for inclusion. And we’ll continue to solicit suggestions from the field at conferences, through meetings and through social media.”



Use the box below to search for a term. It's okay if you don't know the exact spelling of the term, just click **SEARCH** and we'll do our best.

We are actively adding terms to our glossary. Our database currently contains 971 terms.


Search for a term

Customize your search:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forensic Medical/Nursing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forensic Science
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z


Can't find a term? Recommend it here!




SUGGESTIONS

Enter your term here:

Add a description (Optional):

☐ I'm not a robot 

NIJ National Institute of Justice
STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

 **IRTI**
INTERNATIONAL

The glossary currently contains more than 1,000 terms, synonyms, acronyms and terminology variations, plus a growing number of illustrations, images and links. The website tells users to check back often for updates, Roper-Miller says, and the team has plans to create an email list so that users can receive notification when significant updates occur.

“We didn’t want to put it up with only a few hundred terms, and find that users are getting bored with it and not coming back. We wanted it to be substantial enough that professionals would find it useful right away,” she says.

In addition to adding more terms, Ekroos says she would like to see additional acronyms, cross-references to variants of the same term, illustrations, and sample sentences indicating how terms would be used in the various professional disciplines.

“My goal is to create a Web-based resource that bridges the language gap between the disciplines,” she says.

For her part, Roper-Miller looks for expansion into terms related to areas such as human trafficking and drug-/alcohol-incapacitated sexual assault, and even street terms and slang. In the early part of 2017, plans call for adding terms on

Ropero-Miller looks for expansion into terms related to areas such as human trafficking and drug-/alcohol-incapacitated sexual assault, and even street terms and slang.

strangulation, prostitution and LGBTQ. Ekroos adds she would eventually like to see a further expansion to take in other areas related to violence across the life cycle, including child and elder maltreatment and collective violence. That way, no matter what type of violence an incident involves, there could be effective communication among multidisciplinary professionals.

In the meantime, the FTCoe and CFNEI will promote the existing glossary through social media, the Internet, conferences and other means of outreach. Because of the project’s soliciting input from the field, professionals knew about the glossary’s existence before it went live, and they were more than ready to begin looking up terms on activation.

“We have received extensive feedback about its usefulness and ease of access,” says Ekroos, “including hearing good things from rural providers, prosecutors and investigators who don’t do this full-time and are anxious to make sure they use terms correctly. If we’ve heard anything that could be called at all negative, it’s ‘When will you have more?’ ”

To access the FTCoe Multidisciplinary Sexual Assault Glossary, visit <https://www.forensiccpe.org/Our-Impact/Focusing-on-Special-Initiatives/Sexual-Assault/The-Multidisciplinary-Sexual-Assault-Glossary>. For more information on the programs of the FTCoe, contact Jeri Ropero-Miller at jerrimiller@rti.org. For more information on forensics programs of the National Institute of Justice, contact Gerald LaPorte, Director, Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences, at Gerald.LaPorte@usdoj.gov.

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JUSTICE INNOVATION CENTER

Produces Report on **AGENCY NEEDS**


Small, rural, tribal and border (SRTB) criminal justice agencies account for three-quarters of the total in the United States. Because these agencies are widespread and have relatively few employees, they lack a centralized voice to influence the development of technologies and other solutions to address their unique challenges, and to date, relatively little research has examined the needs of such agencies.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has given the Justice Innovation Center for Small, Rural, Tribal, and Border Criminal Justice Agencies (JIC) a mission to change that, and the publication of *Identifying the Needs and Challenges of Criminal Justice Agencies in Small, Rural, Tribal, and Border Areas* in fall 2016 has begun to close that knowledge gap.

This 164-page report, available at <https://www.justnet.org/about/jic-reports.html>, includes a literature review, in-depth interviews with nearly 150 practitioners and topical experts, and a focus on discussions with an advisory panel of expert practitioners.

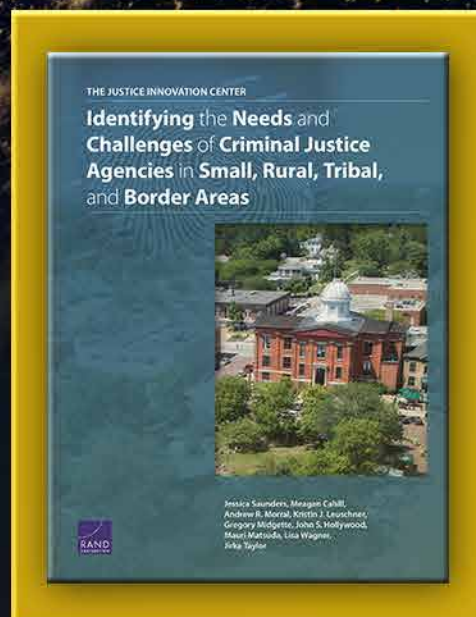
“There’s a whole section on geographical challenges, which is an issue that’s pretty specific to the SRTB community,” says Jessica Saunders, lead researcher on the report. “Geography poses challenges not only in that agencies have long drive times, but they also must drive over difficult terrain and through areas with dead zones where sometimes there’s no cell coverage. Interoperability issues are not unique to SRTB agencies, but it’s exacerbated because there are so many small agencies that need to share data and information.”



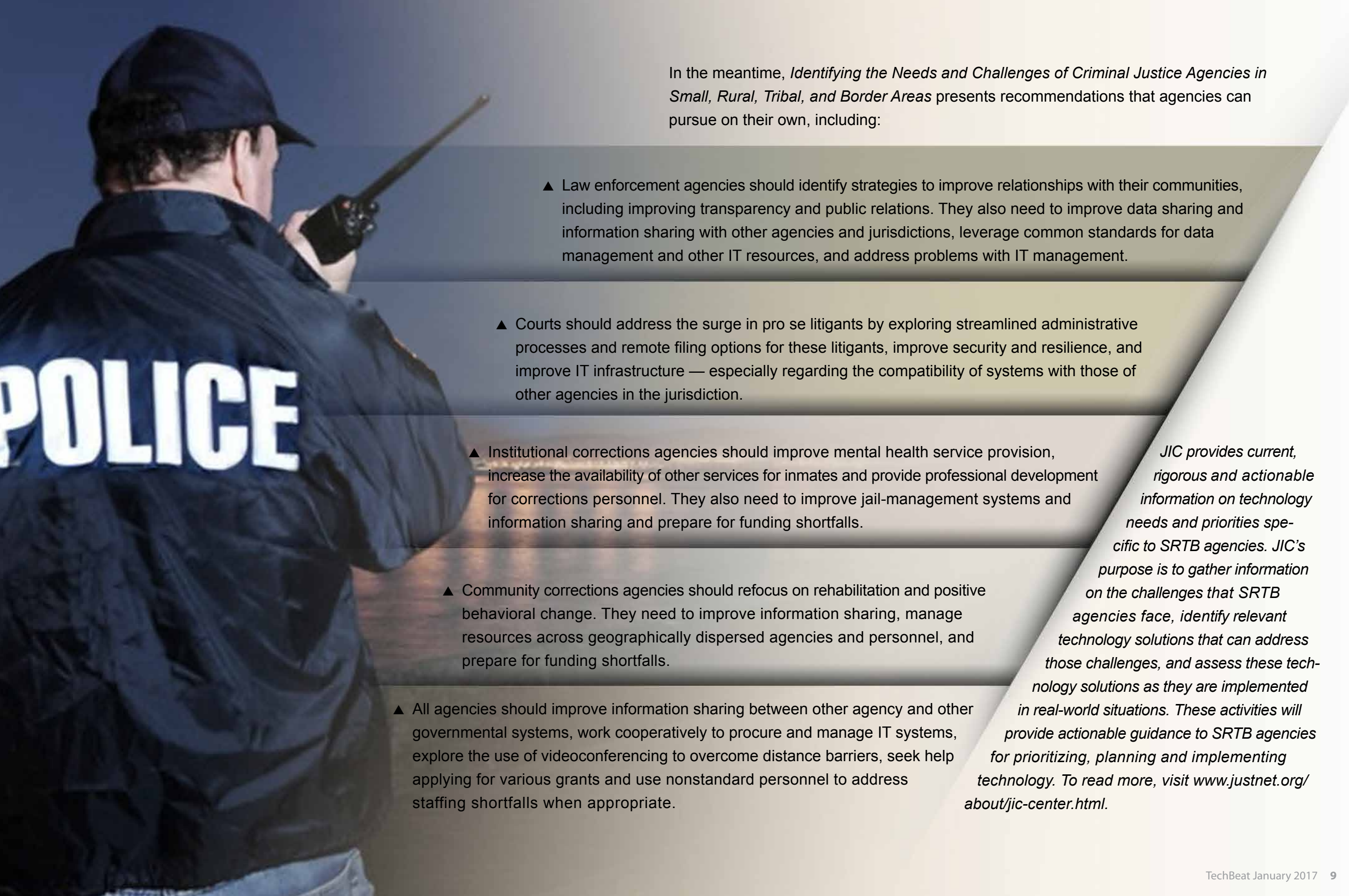


Other challenges identified in agency interviews include funding, social service provisions, personnel issues, resistance to technology, and legal and policy issues. According to the report, each agency type has unique concerns related to agency operations:

- ▲ Law enforcement agencies find it difficult to support specialized positions and assignments, recruit and retain qualified personnel, and manage positive relationships with the communities they serve.
- ▲ Courts need help applying innovative tools to case processing and need to improve access to justice.
- ▲ Institutional corrections agencies are challenged to provide sufficient quality mental health and substance-use treatment training, and have difficulty with staffing and turnover.
- ▲ Community corrections agencies see the biggest challenges in managing electronic files, conducting supervised substance-use testing and effectively managing offices with limited personnel.



“This first report identifies the most pressing needs, and we’re currently working on testing different solutions in the field,” Saunders says. “We’re working on case studies with specific agencies and should have results to publish in fall 2017.”



In the meantime, *Identifying the Needs and Challenges of Criminal Justice Agencies in Small, Rural, Tribal, and Border Areas* presents recommendations that agencies can pursue on their own, including:

- ▲ Law enforcement agencies should identify strategies to improve relationships with their communities, including improving transparency and public relations. They also need to improve data sharing and information sharing with other agencies and jurisdictions, leverage common standards for data management and other IT resources, and address problems with IT management.
- ▲ Courts should address the surge in pro se litigants by exploring streamlined administrative processes and remote filing options for these litigants, improve security and resilience, and improve IT infrastructure — especially regarding the compatibility of systems with those of other agencies in the jurisdiction.
- ▲ Institutional corrections agencies should improve mental health service provision, increase the availability of other services for inmates and provide professional development for corrections personnel. They also need to improve jail-management systems and information sharing and prepare for funding shortfalls.
- ▲ Community corrections agencies should refocus on rehabilitation and positive behavioral change. They need to improve information sharing, manage resources across geographically dispersed agencies and personnel, and prepare for funding shortfalls.
- ▲ All agencies should improve information sharing between other agency and other governmental systems, work cooperatively to procure and manage IT systems, explore the use of videoconferencing to overcome distance barriers, seek help applying for various grants and use nonstandard personnel to address staffing shortfalls when appropriate.

JIC provides current, rigorous and actionable information on technology needs and priorities specific to SRTB agencies. JIC's purpose is to gather information on the challenges that SRTB agencies face, identify relevant technology solutions that can address those challenges, and assess these technology solutions as they are implemented in real-world situations. These activities will provide actionable guidance to SRTB agencies for prioritizing, planning and implementing technology. To read more, visit www.justnet.org/about/jic-center.html.



CRANFORD COMMUNITY *Embraces* ANTI-DRUG *and* ALCOHOL ABUSE MESSAGE

By Becky Lewis

For more than 35 years, the phrase “Just Say No” has been part of the American consciousness as the cornerstone of numerous anti-drug and alcohol abuse programs and curricula. But as the opioid epidemic continues to grow and concerns about adolescent and preadolescent substance abuse remain, communities have begun searching for other approaches. In Cranford, N.J., the police department’s school resource officers have taken the lead in what has become a communitywide effort based not on “Just Say No,” but rather on “Why do people keep saying ‘Yes?’ ”



Although Cranford's Project A.L.E.R.T. (Adolescent Learning Experience Resistance Training) had its origins with a published curriculum, Det. Sgt. Matt Nazzaro and Det. Kelly Rieder, the department's school resource officers, have refined and expanded the program, taking ownership of a community-wide effort that only starts with sixth-grade education classes that have replaced the existing D.A.R.E. program.

Nazzaro explains that when James Wozniak took over as police chief in 2014, he reviewed existing programs, including D.A.R.E.

"We wanted to retain the positive and proactive interaction between 'the cops and the kids,'" Nazzaro says. "We had a strong relationship with the Cranford Board of Education and we worked closely with the board in developing a creative approach that continued our presence in the classroom, working with health teachers to present our message."



Starting with classes geared toward students in the sixth grade, Project A.L.E.R.T. sessions meet twice a week for five weeks to cover topics related to the use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol, focusing on how to deal with internal and external pressures coming from peers and the media, both mainstream and social. Students receive additional instruction in the eighth grade, and the Cranford Police Department and the Cranford High School Student Assistance Counselor developed an original course called High School 101 for incoming freshmen, in which the officers team up with high school counselors to reinforce the lessons learned in the lower grades. The whole community of approximately 24,000 residents has gotten involved through projects such as a Red Ribbon Week carnival against drug abuse, a townwide barbecue hosted by the Cranford Municipal Alliance, and other projects to keep reinforcing the message during the summer months.

“All the stakeholders come together to try to complement our efforts. It’s not just something that happens in the classroom, it’s a philosophy that prevails throughout our township,” Nazzaro says. “One of my favorite parts of the project is a premeeting with all the sixth-grade parents to familiarize them with what we’ll be talking about. I show them slides of the different drugs, and I tell them about an individual we arrested in town who was selling all kinds of marijuana and its derivatives to our youth. Then I tell them he was only 16 years old. I’ve had parents tell me afterward that they couldn’t get that story off their minds, and it helps them realize that although for them underage drinking may have been a rite of passage and they turned out fine, things are a lot different today.”

Those differences include a demanding routine of classwork, homework and afterschool activities, generating a pressure-filled schedule that Nazzaro says he couldn’t have coped with as a teen.

“It’s not just peer pressure, it’s internal pressure,” he says. “Kids are so overwhelmed and so tightly wound they say they need a way to decompress and relax. They’re growing up faster, they have to deal with social media, and there’s an overabundance of substances that weren’t available when I was growing up and when their parents were growing up.”

The classroom curriculum does not use a lecture format, instead employing a variety of activities such as skits and role play that generate involvement between the students and the officers. The published materials target use by teachers, but the Cranford Police Department saw the value in using officers as instructors instead. Both officers work with health teachers, who reinforce the message the next day in class, and homework includes fostering an honest discussion between students and their parents by requiring the children to ask how their parents how they dealt with peer pressure and substance abuse. The preprogram meeting includes tips for parents on how to handle the questions they'll face during the discussion.

One of those parents approached Nazzaro at a Police Athletic League football game to tell him how much his child enjoyed the program. When Nazzaro asked why, the parent told him it's because of the way the curriculum relates to real life, such as asking the students to find examples in their daily use of Twitter, television, Pandora or other media of tobacco-, drug- and alcohol-related advertising.





**DRUG-
FREE
SCHOOL
ZONE**

“Deploying the curriculum in the right way ties it all together,” Nazzaro says. “We educate the students and we connect with the community. The students are engaging in a positive relationship with law enforcement, and we hope this will help combat the divide between law enforcement and the communities they serve, and allow them to see us as a valuable resource in the community. Time will tell if we’re able to cause the paradigm to shift in our town so that our kids make informed decisions about risky behaviors. We’re proud of what we’ve started, and having strong support from the community and the township makes my life easier.”

“One of my top priorities when I took over as chief was to implement a school resource officer program,” Wozniak says. “We needed to fill a void that existed between the youth of Cranford and our officers. Sgt. Nazzaro and Det. Rieder have bridged that gap, and we have achieved a great amount of success with our SRO program to include a fantastic relationship with teachers and school administrators. This is something we are very proud of.”

For more information about how the Cranford Police Department has worked to engage the community in education and discussion about drug and alcohol abuse, contact Det. Sgt. Matthew Nazzaro at m-nazzaro@cranfordnj.org.

TECHshorts

Technology News Summary

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.

Note: The mentioning of specific manufacturers or products in TECHshorts does not constitute the endorsement of the U.S. Department of Justice, NIJ or the NLECTC System.

New Resources on Use of Video in the Justice Arena

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Two recent Bureau of Justice Assistance publications related to the use of video in the justice community are available.

Video Evidence: A Primer for Prosecutors, was developed to educate prosecutors on the numerous sources of video evidence, the benefits of its use in court, and challenges faced by prosecutors' offices in the handling of video evidence. A sample process flow is included as step-by-step guidance on the procedures a prosecutor may follow when preparing and handling video evidence. This process flow corresponds to a typical case flow, from receipt of evidence through the trial. The primer also includes a glossary of terms and list of recommended resources for further reading. Download the primer at <https://www.it.ojp.gov/GIST/1194/Video-Evidence--A-Primer-for-Prosecutors>.



The Public Safety Primer on Cloud Technology is a high-level primer for law enforcement and public safety communities regarding video and the cloud environment. With the quantity of video evidence now available, storage is a significant problem for record management systems and bandwidth capability. Obtaining video from a major event is often problematic for law enforcement and public safety agencies without the capability to request and store public video submissions. Agencies are turning to cloud environments as a solution for emergencies and major incidents to address video-related issues including storage, cataloging, conversion and real-time analysis.

The primer was developed as an easy-to-read frequently asked question guide. It features information on the services that cloud environments can provide and guidance for agencies considering contracts with cloud vendors. It also includes a glossary of cloud terminology, a list of recommended resources for further reading, and information on privacy, security and data ownership. Download primer at <https://www.it.ojp.gov/GIST/1195/Public-Safety-Primer-on-Cloud-Technology>.

Kiosk Supervision Guidebook

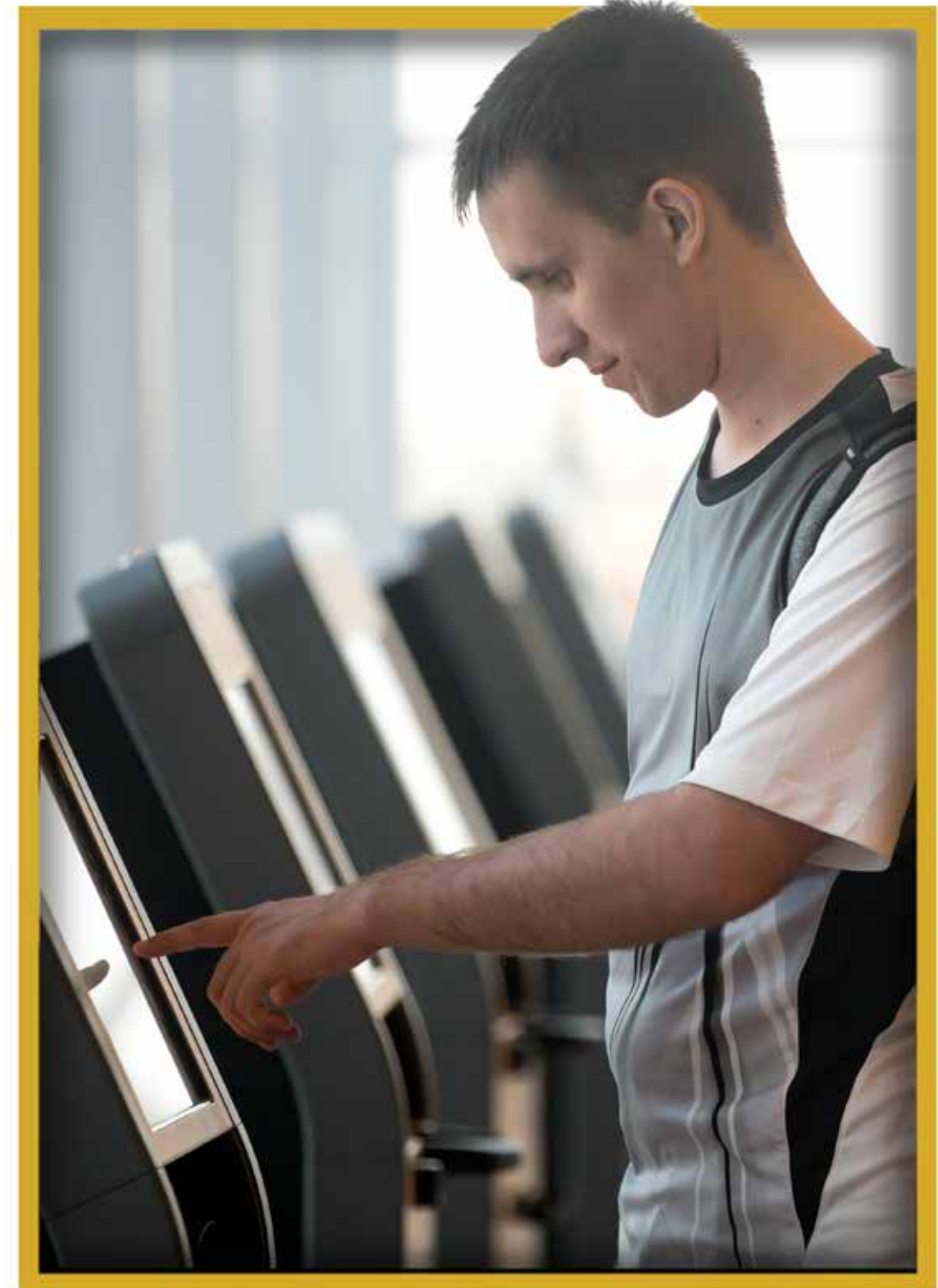
National Institute of Justice

A guidebook is available that provides community supervision agencies with an overview of automated kiosk reporting systems. *Kiosk Supervision: A Guidebook for Community Corrections Professionals*, provides a practical framework for community supervision agencies to assess whether kiosk reporting may be a safe and cost-effective alternative to traditional officer supervision for some of their populations under community supervision.

A reporting kiosk is a device, typically a computer or automated teller-like machine, which individuals under community supervision can use for all or part of their regularly scheduled reporting, as an alternative to reporting in-person to a probation/parole officer.

The guidebook is based on the findings of a study on the use of automated kiosk reporting systems. The study found that kiosk reporting is as effective as officer supervision and telephone reporting with Interactive Voice Response in producing successful probation completion for low-risk offenders. The research also found that kiosk reporting can help community supervision agencies to manage high caseloads of low-risk clients more cost-efficiently and without adverse public-safety consequences.

The guidebook covers the prevalence of kiosk supervision; factors associated with successful kiosk adoption and implementation; challenges faced and lessons learned from agencies currently operating kiosks; and how kiosk costs, staffing, operations, data, performance, satisfaction and outcomes vary across jurisdictions. Access the guidebook at <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250174.pdf>.



PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY

JUSTNET

In The News

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

Orwigsburg Police Get New Gear for Protection

Republican Herald, (01/10/2017), Amy Marchiano

The police department in the Pennsylvania borough of Orwigsburg has new protective equipment paid for by donors in the community. The department received ballistic helmets, entry shields and battering rams in December. The borough has four full-time and six part-time police officers.

<http://republicanherald.com/news/orwigsburg-police-get-new-gear-for-protection-1.2140388>

LaPorte County Law Enforcement Units Merge to Fight Drug Crimes

South Bend Tribune, (01/02/2017), Stan Maddux

Two law enforcement units in LaPorte County, Ind., have merged to form the new LaPorte County Drug Task Force to clamp down on drug crimes. Officials hope the merger between the Street Crimes Unit of the Michigan City Police Department and the LaPorte Metro Operations Unit will deter drug dealers. In November, the number of heroin-related deaths in LaPorte County for the year approached 20, despite first responders carrying the heroin antidote Narcan.

http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/publicsafety/laporte-county-law-enforcement-units-merge-to-fight-drug-crimes/article_3e-a5b785-264e-5192-a9da-ffbef798f76f.html

State Prisons Grow, Donate Produce to Fight Hunger

The News & Observer, (01/02/2017)

Twenty prisons in the N.C. Department of Public Safety prison system provided more than 36,000 pounds of fresh produce to local food banks and anti-hunger organizations in 2016. The food is donated through the Combating Hunger project with Harvest Now, a national nonprofit that works with several state prison systems. Harvest Now donates \$7,000 worth of seeds to the prisons, which work with local community colleges or agricultural extension offices for expertise and advice on planting and tending their gardens.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/johnston-county/article124134154.html>

CONTACT US

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

JUSTNET News is a service of the Justice Technology Information Center, a component of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, a program the Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice. We are always interested in our readers' comments and feedback about this service. Please send your comments, questions or suggestions to asknlectc@justnet.org.

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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.



WWW.JUSTNET.ORG

JUSTNET News. 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, and more.

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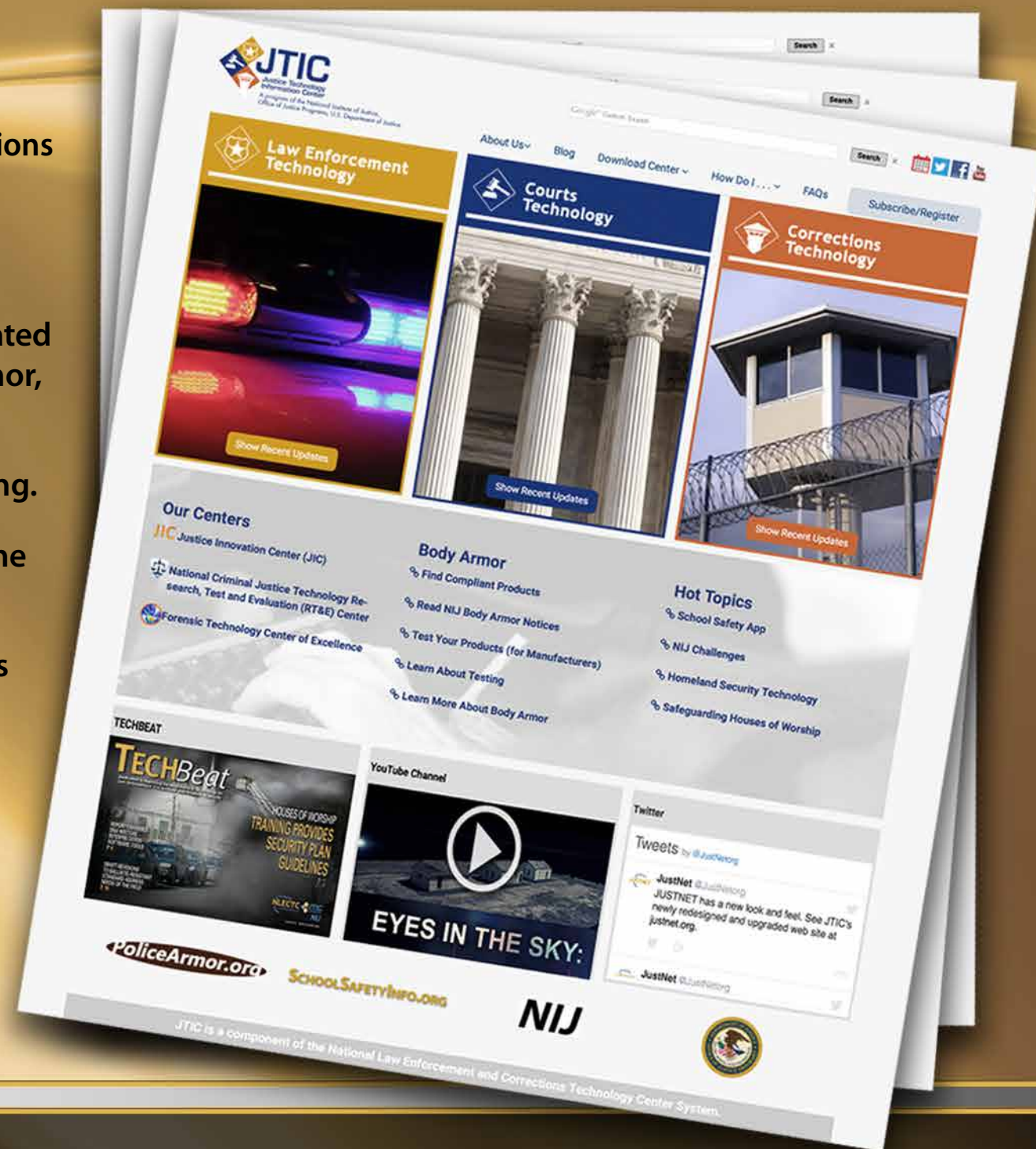
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