



WINTER 2005

# Justice Resource UPDATE

NCJRS: Connecting You to Justice Information

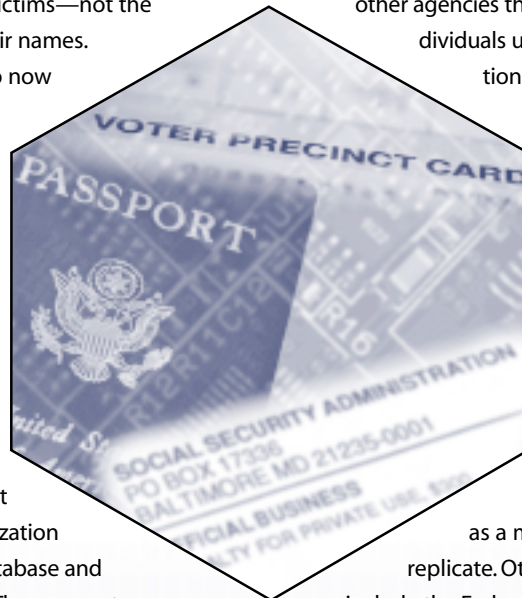
## Helping Victims of Identity Theft



For victims of identity theft, one of the most frustrating aspects of their victimization is that it is difficult to prove that they are the victims—not the criminals who are using their names.

But victims who live in Ohio now carry a “passport” card to prove their victim status, thanks, in part, to funding from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).

**Ohio’s solution.** Under the Ohio Attorney General’s Identity Theft Verification Passport program, victims who report identity theft to law enforcement personnel have their victimization entered into a statewide database and receive the “passport” card. The passport program provides identity theft victims added assurance and protection from further identity crimes and safeguards these victims from false accusations by positively identifying and “verifying” them as victims using biometric technology to electronically capture the victim’s thumbprint, signature, and photograph.



In addition, this database system forwards the information to the department of motor vehicles and other agencies that are in a position to spot individuals using identification information that is not their own. Victims

also receive step-by-step instructions about how to alert creditors and simple fill-in-the-blank affidavits to send to them.

**Evaluation.** The first-of-its-kind program will be evaluated by both OVC and the National Institute of Justice, and, if successful, may be recommended as a model for other States to replicate. Other sponsors of the project include the Federal Trade Commission, Buckeye State Sheriffs’ Association, Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, Ohio Department of Public Safety, and the National Notary Association.

**For more information, go to [http://www.ag.state.oh.us/site\\_map/id\\_theft.htm](http://www.ag.state.oh.us/site_map/id_theft.htm)**

**NCJRS**  
National Criminal Justice  
Reference Service

Administered by the Office of Justice Programs,  
U.S. Department of Justice

www.ncjrs.org  
1-800-851-3420

## Featured Resources

### COPS zeroes in on identity theft

Identity theft is a new crime, aided by established crimes such as forgery and check and credit card fraud, among others. Its salient feature is the repeated victimization of a single person. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that identity theft struck nearly 10 million Americans in 2003, with an estimated total annual cost of \$48 billion to consumers and \$5 billion to businesses. COPS has created a series of Problem-Oriented Policing Guides to help police departments best address specific problems. The *Identity Theft* guide helps police departments to analyze their local problems, measure the effectiveness of police response, and formulate coordinated community approaches to the issue.

**Identity Theft, Problem-Specific Guides Series No. 25, 78 pages**

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=1271>

### Examining underage drinking in local communities

Minimum-age drinking laws have been very effective in reducing many of the harms associated with underage drinking, such as traffic fatalities and alcohol-related injuries. This Problem-Oriented Policing Guide describes the problem of underage drinking and reviews the factors that contribute to it. It then identifies a series of questions to help police departments and those who work with them analyze local underage drinking problems. Finally, the guide reviews responses to the problem and what is known about it from evaluative research and police practice.

**Underage Drinking, Problem-Specific Guides Series No. 27, 90 pages**

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=1360>

### Analysis of FBI data reveals drop in juvenile arrest rates

In 2002, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate reached its lowest level since 1980. The rate, which grew substantially during the late 1980s and peaked in 1994, has decreased for 8 consecutive years. In 2002, it was nearly half its 1994 peak level. The juvenile arrest rates for murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault have declined steadily since the mid-1990s; for murder, the rate fell 72 percent from its 1993 peak through 2002. This bulletin provides a summary and an analysis of national and State juvenile arrest data presented in the FBI report *Crime in the United States 2002*.

**Juvenile Arrests 2002, 12 pages**

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/204608.pdf>

### For missing children, NISMART reveals no increase in problem areas

This bulletin presents results of an analysis comparing selected findings from the second National Incidence Studies of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children (NISMART-2) and its predecessor, NISMART-1. The analysis, which is based on household surveys of adult caretakers and covers victims of family abductions, runaways, and children categorized as "lost, injured, or otherwise missing," highlights trends from 1988 to 1999. The most important finding is the absence of increases in any of these problems. For some types of episodes, the incident rates decreased.

**National Estimates of Missing Children: Selected Trends, 1988-1999, 8 pages**

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/206179.pdf>

### FBI data show patterns for child pornography offenses

This bulletin examines pornography crime and exploitation involving children and juveniles,

based on analysis of data from the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The authors provide a rudimentary profile of the nature and extent of this crime as known to police. NIBRS data suggest that approximately 2,900 crime incidents of pornography with juvenile involvement were known to State and local police in 2000; these offenses most often were committed by a lone adult male offender, occurred in a residence, and did not involve a computer.

**Child Pornography: Patterns From NIBRS, 8 pages**

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/204911.pdf>

### Helping youthful offenders reenter school

For youth offenders leaving custody, a return to school is integral to their successful reentry into the community. The Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES) in New York City has developed a model for helping youth returning from confinement overcome the barriers to reentering school. This fact sheet describes how three CASES programs (the Committee on Court-Involved Students, the School Connection Center, and the Community Prep High School) help court-involved youth continue their education and reenter their communities.

**Overcoming Barriers to School Reentry, 2 pages**

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojjdp/fs200403.pdf>



## New Online

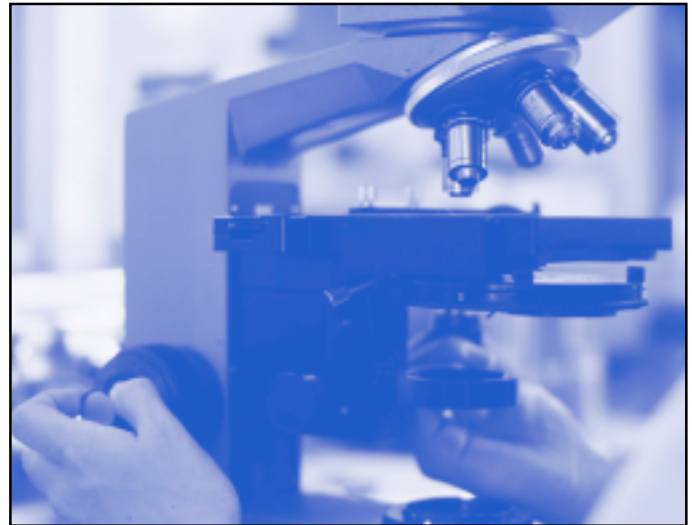
### Screening juvenile offenders for mental health and substance use disorders

This guide is a basic tool for juvenile justice professionals who screen and assess youth for mental health- and substance use-related disorders at various stages of the juvenile justice process. It includes profiles of more than 50 instruments, guidelines for selecting instruments, and best practice recommendations for diverse settings and situations. Once identified, these youth can receive the services required to improve their lives, reduce recidivism, and promote community safety.

**Screening and Assessing Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Among Youth in the Juvenile Justice System: A Resource Guide for Practitioners, 94 pages, online only**  
<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/204956.pdf>

### DNA in “minor” crimes yields major benefits in public safety

Offenders who commit property crimes have high recidivism rates. Their crimes and any accompanying violence can escalate. In addition, property crime cases often go unsolved. It has been estimated that among the top 10 percent of burglars, each one commits more than 232 burglaries per year. But several police departments in the United States are changing these trends. When police departments analyze DNA from a burglary, they get evidence that often solves several other cases as well. Police departments are finding that biological evidence collected from property



crime scenes can prevent future property crimes and more serious offenses.

**DNA in “Minor” Crimes Yields Major Benefits in Public Safety, In Short: Toward Criminal Justice Solutions series, 4 pages**  
<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/207203.pdf>

## Stay Connected

### Daniels steps down from AAG’s Office

In late January, Deborah J. Daniels left her post as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice, to return to the law firm she left upon being confirmed by the Senate in September 2001. U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft credited her leadership for playing “a vital role in the Department’s mission to protect the lives and liberties of the American people by assisting our State and local law enforcement partners in the war on terrorism and the fight against violent crime.”

As Assistant Attorney General, Daniels served as the first National AMBER Alert Coordinator. As such, she increased the number of statewide AMBER Alert programs from just 4 in 2001 to 49 today. She also coordinated OJP’s role in several other Bush administration activities, such as the President’s DNA Initiative, Citizen Corps, and Project Safe Neighborhoods.

In a farewell letter, Daniels told her staff, “Thank you all for the incredible opportunity to have worked with you for a cause greater than all of us—nothing less than the safety and well-being of the American people.”

## Balancing post-September 11 caution with community policing

This publication provides guidance to law enforcement officials who want to develop or enhance their intelligence capacity in this post-September 11 world, while preserving their hard-won community policing relationships. The guide addresses the distinction between law enforcement intelligence and national security intelligence; elucidates intelligence-led policing practices; and discusses the importance of critical secure networks based on Internet protocols and threat assessments, among other topics.

**Law Enforcement Intelligence: A Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies, 298 pages**

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/default.asp?Item=1404>



## Looking at childhood abuse as a risk factor for violence against women

Sexual and physical abuse in childhood and adolescence are risk factors for becoming a victim of violence against women as an adult. This report combines results from two studies: one followed college women and men for 4 years, and the other followed low-income, mostly black women who had been victims of childhood sexual abuse. Each study found that child sexual abuse was a risk factor only when combined with adolescent sexual abuse. Although each study examined a narrowly defined population, taken together, both studies came to remarkably similar conclusions.

**Violence Against Women: Identifying Risk Factors, 16 pages**

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/197019.pdf>

## First census of law enforcement training academies results released

The 2002 Census of Law Enforcement Training Academies collected data on personnel, facilities and resources, trainees, and training curricula from law enforcement academies in the United States. About four in five of the 626 academies—accounting for 83 percent of all recruits—trained recruits in response to terrorism. Almost all academies addressed racially biased policing as part of basic training.

**State and Local Law Enforcement Training Academies, 2002, 27 pages**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/slleta02.htm>

### BJS STATISTICAL UPDATES

New releases of continuing series

#### Crime

**Violent Victimization of College Students, 1995–2002**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/vvcs02.htm>

**Crimes Against Persons Age 65 or Older, 1993–2002**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cpa6502.htm>

**Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2004**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/iscs04.htm>

**Homicide Trends in the United States**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/homtrnd.htm>

#### Courts

**Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2002**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/fscc02.htm>

**Tort Trials and Verdicts in Large Counties, 2001**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/ttvlc01.htm>

#### Corrections

**HIV in Prisons and Jails, 2002**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/hivpj02.htm>

**Capital Punishment, 2003**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/cp03.htm>

**Prisoners in 2003**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/p03.htm>

For more information about BJS periodic reports, visit <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/periodic.htm>.

## New Online

### Most violence against American Indians involves alcohol

Updating a previous BJS report, the current report finds that the rate of violence against American Indians was twice that of the U.S. population, and that 62 percent of violent incidents involved alcohol. *American Indians and Crime* describes victim-offender relationships, the race of those involved in violence against Indians, and the rate of reporting to police by victims. It also discusses the rates of arrest, suspect investigations and charges filed, and incarceration of Indians for violent crimes.

***American Indians and Crime: A BJS Statistical Profile, 1992–2002, 56 pages***  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/aic02.htm>

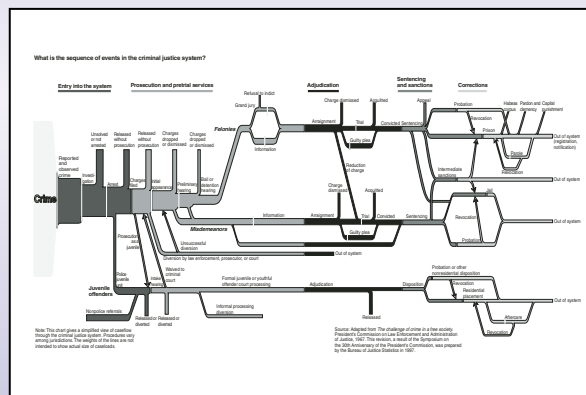


## Own a full-color poster of the criminal justice system

This flowchart of events in the criminal justice system updates the original prepared by the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice in 1967. It is a handsome educational tool for anyone who wants to describe the workings of U.S. justice—local and Federal, juvenile and adult. Use it in the classroom or the boardroom. Also available is a full-text description of how cases move from reporting to disposition to exiting the system.

The poster is available in three sizes:

- 30" x 22" with flow chart and text description (NCJ 167894)
- 33" x 20" with flow chart only, no text (NCJ 168630)
- 20" x 14" with flow chart only, no text (NCJ 168629)



Order now from NCJRS for shipping and handling, \$12.25 U.S. and \$20 internationally. For details on how to order the posters, see <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/flowchart.htm#posters>.

BJS

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## NCJRS: Connecting You to Justice Information

NCJRS is a federally funded resource offering justice and substance abuse information to researchers, policymakers, and others worldwide. Access reference and referral services and one of the largest justice-focused libraries and abstract databases. Learn more about the range of services available and about NCJRS's sponsoring agencies at [www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org). Click on "Customer Services/Subscribe" and follow a few easy steps to join thousands of your colleagues who stay informed through *Justice Resource Update*, JUSTINFO (a biweekly electronic newsletter), and periodic e-mail notices on subjects of interest.

### NCJRS Federal Sponsors

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[www.ojp.usdoj.gov](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov)

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[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA)

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs)

Community Capacity Development  
Office (CCDO)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo)

National Institute of Justice (NIJ)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij)

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)  
[www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency  
Prevention (OJJDP)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp)

Office of the Assistant Attorney General  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/aag](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/aag)

Office of the Police Corps (OPC)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/opclee](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/opclee)

Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo)

National Institute of Corrections (NIC)  
[www.nicic.org](http://www.nicic.org)

Office of Community Oriented Policing  
Services (COPS)  
[www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov)

Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP)  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp)

Office of National Drug Control  
Policy (ONDCP)  
[www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov)

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