

JRSA Electronic News

A monthly briefing for members

June 2007

SAC News

Pennsylvania SAC Director Doug Hoffman has retired after 25 years with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), and many years of service to JRSA. Deborah Almoney will serve as the SAC Contact until a new director is appointed.

For the most current contact information for SAC directors, go to the JRSA Web site at www.jrsa.org and click on "State SACs."

Conferences and Training

The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention \(OJJDP\)](#) issued a [Call for Presentations](#) for its upcoming national Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) conference. *Reducing Disproportionate Minority Contact in Juvenile Justice by Making the Right Connections* will be held in Denver, Colorado, on October 25–27. Proposals are especially desired for presentations that will discuss such DMC-related topics as: organizational strategies and structures that facilitate DMC-reduction efforts; best practices and promising programs to reduce DMC; and rural solutions to reduce DMC in small communities. The deadline for submitting proposals is **July 20, 2007**. For more information, including additional DMC-related topics for presentations, go to <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/dmc/resources/callforpresentations.pdf>.

On August 12–14, OJJDP will sponsor the first [National Juvenile Information Sharing Symposium](#). The symposium, which will be held in Washington, DC, will provide a unique venue for youth service and other professionals to explore new guidelines, cross-agency collaboration, confidentiality, technology advancements, and other matters related to juvenile information sharing. Registration is limited to 100 participants, so [early registration](#) is recommended. To access additional information and to register online, visit <http://www.juvenileiis.org/symposium.asp>.

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is holding its [Annual Juvenile Probation and Justice Management Conference](#) on September 9–12, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Funded by OJJDP, the conference will include sessions on: methamphetamine, mental health and drug abuse, youth suicide, tribal youth, juvenile sex offenders, programming for girls, and detention alternatives. To benefit from the early payment rate, [register](#) by **August 10**. For more information and to register online, visit <http://www.ncjfcj.org/content/view/980/315/>.

The [Office for Victims of Crime \(OVC\)](#) is offering a series of specialized training workshops to help victim service providers enhance their capacity to better serve crime victims. Workshops begin in September 2007. Class size is limited to ensure an interactive learning environment and workshops are expected to fill quickly. Visit the [OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center Web site](#) for OVC's Fall/Winter 2007 training schedule, to register and pay online, or to download the OVC Training Schedule Registration Form. OVC Professional Development Scholarships provide up to \$1,000 for individuals and up to \$5,000 for multidisciplinary teams of victim service professionals who are looking for continuing education opportunities. [Determine whether you or your team is eligible for a scholarship](#). For more information, call OVC TTAC at 1-866-OVC-TTAC (1-866-682-8822) (TTY 1-866-682-8880).

Publications

According to a new report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), there were about 1.1 million full-time state and local law enforcement employees in the United States, including about 732,000 sworn personnel as of September 30, 2004. *Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 2004*, reports the results of a census, conducted every four years, of all state and local law enforcement agencies operating nationwide. The report provides the number of employees of state and local law enforcement agencies as of September 2004, including state-by-state data for sheriffs' offices, local police departments, state police and highway patrol agencies, and special jurisdiction police. For more information, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/csllea04.htm>.

Another BJS publication, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2006*, reports that during the 12 months that ended June 30, 2006, the nation's prison and jail populations increased by 62,037 inmates (up 2.8 percent) to total 2,245,189 inmates. State and federal inmates accounted for 70 percent of the increase. At midyear 2006, two thirds of the nation's incarcerated population was in custody in a state or federal prison (1,479,179), and the other one third was held in local jails (766,010). This report presents data on prison and jail inmates collected from National Prisoner Statistics counts and the Annual Survey of Jails, 2006. More information is at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/pjim06.htm>.

Medical Examiners and Coroners' Offices, 2004, is a special report describing the medicolegal investigation of death in the United States. It provides an overview of the personnel, budgets, and workload of these offices by type of office and size of jurisdiction. It also includes information on the number of unidentified human decedents handled by medical examiner/coroner offices. The report examines record keeping practices and use of national databases for unidentified remains. Detailed data tables on topics covered in this report are available on the BJS website. For more information and a copy of the report, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/meco04.htm>.

The Center for Court Innovation released its latest domestic violence research publication, *Court Responses to Batterer Program Noncompliance: A National Perspective*. The study, conducted in collaboration with the social service agency VCS Inc., examines how criminal courts respond when domestic violence offenders fail to comply with a mandate to a batterer program. In particular, do courts hold such offenders accountable by imposing further sanctions, up to and including jail? The study is based on a national survey of courts, batterer programs, and victim assistance agencies in all 50 states. The results demonstrate overwhelming support for the goal of "accountability" in theory, but also suggest a gap between theory and practice, as most courts indicated that they do not always or often impose sanctions on noncompliant offenders. To download a free copy, go to http://www.courtinnovation.org/_uploads/documents/Court_Responses_March2007.pdf. For questions about the Center for Court Innovation or their work with domestic violence courts, contact Liberty Aldrich at aldrichl@courtinnovation.org or (212) 373-8085.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), in partnership with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), has produced a new resource guide titled *Building An Offender Reentry Program: A Guide for Law Enforcement*. Through law enforcement-involved program profiles, the guide presents key strategies, components, and results of law enforcement participation in offender reentry efforts. The guide is available at <http://www.theiacp.org/profassist/reentry/ReentryProgramGuide.pdf>.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov) (CDC) has published the report *Fatal Injuries Among Children by Race and Ethnicity—United States, 1999–2002*. The report analyzes data for fatal injuries among children by race and ethnicity and compares

disparities in rates by race during 1999-2002 with disparities in the 1980s and 1990s. To access this CDC report and related information, visit http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/disparities_childhood_injury.htm.

The CDC published *Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Within Youth-serving Organizations: Getting Started on Policies and Procedures*. Designed to assist youth service organizations in adopting strategies to prevent child sexual abuse, this guide identifies six key components of child abuse prevention and describes goals and strategies for each. This guide is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/PreventingChildSexualAbuse.pdf>.

Announcements

The Office for Justice Programs (OJP) is seeking nominations for the **Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor**, the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. The medal is awarded by the President to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage in protecting or saving human lives. Applications are due **July 31**. More information is available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/medalofvalor/>.