



## In the Spotlight

### 2013 NCJA National Forum

The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), in partnership with the IJIS Institute and the Justice Research Statistics Association, hosted the [2013 NCJA National Forum](#): "Integrating Research, Policy and Technology to Improve Public Safety" on August 4-6 in Chicago, IL. The National Forum serves as an opportunity for leading criminal justice policymakers from across the nation to convene to hear the latest in evidence-based criminal justice policy and practice and to discuss current and growing crime trends. During the first day of the forum, the participants met in regional caucuses to discuss the priorities, issues, and concerns they are facing in their respective regions. As a follow-up to the conference, NCJA will distribute a paper examining each of these issues in greater detail.

The Forum featured panel discussions on important BJA initiatives. Forum participants had the opportunity to hear presentations on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards and the upcoming compliance audit cycle. BJA participated in a panel on the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI), during which panelists described the JRI process, how JRI has been implemented in several states and localities, and the lessons learned from those experiences. Forum participants also heard from Michael Nila, who delivered a keynote on "The Nobility of Public Service," and in addition described the important BJA initiative called "Blue Courage," which provides leadership and wellness training for law enforcement officers. Lastly, BJA provided information on evidence-based violence reduction strategies featuring two local programs: the Chicago Crime Lab at the University of Chicago and "Cure Violence."



## DID YOU KNOW?

### Addressing Cyber Threats

BJA is working with the [Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Committee](#) (CICC), a working group of the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative, to help law enforcement agencies work with their respective communities to address cyber-related threats. This initiative includes partnerships with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and national stakeholders to coordinate resources targeting cybercrime, cyber espionage, and other malicious cyber activities. The ultimate goal of these efforts is to improve outreach to law enforcement and provide information about who they should contact for assistance involving prevention, response, and investigation when they encounter varying levels of cyber activities.



## News You Can Use

### Meet BJA's Visiting Fellows

Dr. Craig D. Uchida, President of Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. and a former senior executive with the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office and the National Institute of Justice, joined BJA in December 2012 as one of our first Visiting Fellows. Selected from a field of candidates during a competitive process, Dr. Uchida brings to BJA a wealth of knowledge and experience from his more than 25 years of criminal justice research and project management. The focus of his work while serving BJA is to assess "21st Century Innovations in Policing" through reviewing and analyzing the implementation and use of predictive policing strategies in use in various cities across the U.S. During the 2 years he will be at BJA, he will conduct site visits to determine how agencies are using Intelligence-Led, Smart, and Predictive policing models. For example, he will determine how agencies use predictive spatial analytics or math algorithms in predictive policing strategies and whether these methods are effective in helping them deploy staff and resources in their efforts to reduce crime and improve public safety in their communities.



### Register for These Upcoming Events

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) Webinar: "Back to School Special—NCMEC University and Beyond: The Evolution of NCMEC's Distance Learning Program" August 28, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m. eastern time  
To register, send an e-mail to [L.SIL\\_VER@ncmec.org](mailto:L.SIL_VER@ncmec.org) with your name, your agency name, and a contact number.

### National Association for Justice Information Systems 2013 Conference

September 10-12 in San Diego, CA

### IACP Annual Conference

October 19-23, 2013 in Philadelphia, PA

### Texas State University's 2013 ALERT Active Shooter Conference

October 20-23, 2013 in San Marcos, TX

### Alzheimer's Training Videos Released

IACP, in partnership with BJA, recently released a series of four roll-call type training videos, designed to prepare law enforcement officers and first responders to deal appropriately with persons with Alzheimer's disease. The videos can be downloaded from the [IACP web site](#) at no cost.



### VALOR Bulletin

Law enforcement officers: learn how to become your own advocate to protect your privacy. Read the [July/August VALOR Bulletin](#).

### "Smarter Sentencing" Blog

The Justice Management Institute, funded by BJA under the "Smarter Sentencing to Reduce Recidivism Initiative," launched a [blog](#) to disseminate analysis and resources about evidence-based practice in pretrial, adjudication, and correctional settings.

## Grants & Funding

BJA expects to announce all FY 2013 grant awards by October 1. Grants that have already been awarded can be found on the [QUP web site](#).

In preparation for FY 2014, BJA encourages you to view these two informative training videos:

- Grants.gov Applicant Training Video: [Register, Find, and Apply](#)
- System for Award Management (SAM) Webinar: [Updating Your Former CCR Entity Registration Record in SAM](#)

## This Month in Law Enforcement

### BJA Campus Safety Initiatives

Incidents like the tragedies at Virginia Tech (VA) and Sandy Hook Elementary School (CT) clearly indicate that school and campus security agencies and law enforcement must be prepared to respond to such incidents. BJA supports campus/school security initiatives to coordinate, plan for, and respond to these challenges. One resource, Campus Sentinel—free mobile app for iOS and Android platforms—provides campus crime statistics, safety resources, and information for over 6,000 U.S. colleges and universities. To learn more, visit [www.campus sentinel.com](#).



BJA also funds, through [VALOR](#), active shooter response training for law enforcement, which is designed to prepare officers to respond efficiently and safely to an active shooter in places such as schools/campuses. To learn more visit [www.alert.org](#).

## Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program

Enacted in 1976, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death, disability, and education benefits to those eligible for the program.



### PSOB Program Updates

During National Police Week 2013, Attorney General Holder and the Office of Justice Programs' Acting Assistant Attorney General Leary announced several improvements to the PSOB Program following the completion of a comprehensive review of the program ordered by the Attorney General in May 2012. In the coming months, the PSOB Office will move to a paperless electronic case management system; the case process will be streamlined, consolidating legal and other functions within BJA; and duplicative documentation will be eliminated. BJA will continue to convene its series of stakeholder listening sessions to ensure transparency and a positive dialogue between the PSOB Office and its public safety partners in the field.

For details regarding these federal benefits for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders killed or catastrophically disabled in the line of duty, call the PSOB Office toll-free at 888-744-6513 or 202-307-0635, or visit the PSOB [web site](#).

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### Combating Violent Street Gangs

The National Alliance of Gang Investigators' Associations (NAGIA) consists of 20 state and regional gang associations whose mission is to provide leadership, training, strategies, and information to law enforcement, corrections, communities, and local, state, and the federal government. NAGIA works to identify the best practices in gang suppression, prevention, information sharing, and intervention methods and shares these strategies with law enforcement and communities to combat violent street gangs who try to exploit our youth. NAGIA strategic partners are BJA, the National Gang Intelligence Center (NGIC), the National Gang Center (NCGC), Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS), and the FBI.



NAGIA welcomes new initiatives, new gang associations, and additional partners to their advisory board in an effort to continue to expose gangs as violent, deadly unacceptable alternatives for our youth that threaten their safety and inhibits their ability to grow to be productive citizens. For further information, contact James C. Chavis II, BJA Senior Policy Advisor, at [James.Chavis@usdoj.gov](mailto:James.Chavis@usdoj.gov), or visit the NAGIA web site, [www.nagia.org](http://www.nagia.org).

## FEATURED PROGRAM

### RSAT National Workshop

On August 1-2, representatives from over 40 states and territories convened in Boston, MA for the [2013 RSAT National Workshop](#). The Workshop gave Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) grantees an opportunity to learn directly from their peers about important issues pertaining to their programs, while also hearing about evidence-based practices from a panel of experts. Examples of topics covered included recovery-oriented systems of care, fidelity to evidence-based programs, and implications for reentry programming resulting from the Affordable Care Act's expansion of Medicaid. BJA was also given an opportunity to provide training and gather feedback from grantees related to RSAT performance measures, which will be used to inform and improve upon the performance data gathering.



RSAT Workshop participants

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