



February 2011

In the Spotlight

Conference Helps Prepare Youth for Law Enforcement Leadership Careers

BJA was a proud sponsor of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) Ninth Annual Youth Leadership Conference in 2010. The Youth Leadership Conference, for youth aged 13-18, is designed to expose Black youth to issues faced by law enforcement in combating crime and promoting public safety, while helping to prepare the youth for successful leadership careers in law enforcement and other professions. The 250 attendees typically include youth from the local host community of the NOBLE Annual Conference at no cost (instead the youth must submit a written application including an essay).

For the Ninth Annual Conference, youth from Baltimore and the surrounding communities attended this 3-day conference. The theme was "Building a Foundation...One Step at a Time." Workshops focused on helping build tomorrow's leaders and included banking executives who taught about opening and managing bank accounts, human resources executives who discussed job interviewing skills, and college admissions officials who provided tips on completing successful college applications. A highlight was a session taught by ATF Agent Warren Harding, Jr. about decision-making and BJA's Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program.

The Tenth Annual Conference, [NOBLE Youth: 10 Years of Positioning for Success](#), will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, July 17-20, 2011. BJA looks forward to continuing our support of NOBLE and building tomorrow's leaders in law enforcement and other professions.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) 2009 statistics reveal that in 2009, there were 7,789 reported offenses as a result of bias toward a particular race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity/national origin, or physical or mental disability.¹ Congress has found that such violence disrupts the tranquility and safety of communities and is deeply divisive. In October 2009, the Obama Administration enacted the [Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act of 2009](#) named for two men who were brutally murdered because of bias-motivated hatred.

¹ [Hate Crime Statistics, 2009](#), published by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, includes data from hate crime reports submitted by law enforcement agencies throughout the nation.

FEATURED PROGRAM

Training Helps Enhance Skills in Understanding Cultural Diversity, Ethics, and Values

BJA has partnered with the Simon Wiesenthal Center for over a decade to develop and offer Tools for Tolerance training sessions. Over 90,000 law enforcement and other criminal justice professionals have participated in the training. The training is highly experiential and interactive, and includes *National Institute Against Hate Crimes and Terrorism, Leadership Initiatives for Command Staff, Perspectives on Profiling*, and the 1-day *Tools for Tolerance® for Law Enforcement* components. More recently, some of these sessions have been designed for probation, parole, and other corrections professionals. BJA's grant funds have helped defray costs for participants attending the sessions at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. For more information, visit the [Museum's web site](#).

News You Can Use

Hate Crime Prevention Act Training Available

DOJ's Civil Rights Division, along with DOJ's Community Relations Service, has conducted a number of training sessions and panel discussions across the country regarding the [Shepard/Byrd Hate Crime Prevention Act of 2009](#). For more information about upcoming trainings, contact Barbara Kay Bosserman, Senior Legal Counsel, with DOJ's Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section, at 202-305-1113.

Save the Date!

The 2011 National Forum on Criminal Justice and Public Safety will take place July 31–August 2, 2011, in Jersey City, New Jersey. The theme of this year's forum is "*Vision of the Future of Justice: Better, Smarter, Safer.*" [More>>](#)

New Online Training Available

The BJA-supported Cost-Benefit Knowledge Bank for Criminal Justice (CBKB) now offers a two-part training on cost-benefit analysis and justice policy. The training materials—including recorded webinars, PowerPoint slides, and handouts—are now [available online](#).

Grants & Funding

The following competitive solicitations are open:

- [Capital Case Litigation Initiative](#)
Applications due March 17, 2011
- [Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation \(CTAS\)](#)
Applications are due April 21, 2011
- [Second Chance Act Adult Mentoring Grants to Nonprofit Organizations](#)
Applications are due April 21, 2011
- [Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification \(SAVIN\) Program](#)
Applications are due March 24, 2011

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. 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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