



July 2012

In the Spotlight

BJA Welcomes Kristen Mahoney



Kristen Mahoney being sworn in on July 9, 2012

BJA is excited to announce that Kristen Mahoney was sworn in as the new Deputy Director for Policy on July 9. Kristen most recently served as the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the State of Maryland and as President of the National Criminal Justice Association. She is a longtime friend of BJA and a champion of state, local, and tribal efforts to improve criminal justice in communities across the country. She brings tremendous knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm to her new position. Kristen has worked with staff in

BJA's Programs, Planning, and Policy Offices and PSOB for a number of years, and understands the importance of BJA's work to the communities we serve. Kristen has also served as Chief of the Technical Services Division of the Baltimore Police Department, as a Senior Policy Advisor in the COPS Office, and as the State Administrative Agent for Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds for many years. She has worked at the local, state, and federal levels of government and brings a wealth of leadership and criminal justice policy experience to BJA. Kristen is looking forward to working with all of our partners in the field!

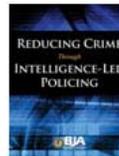
News You Can Use

"Improving Criminal Justice System Planning"

Read BJA's and the Justice Management Institute's white paper, which outlines key challenges that local governments and their Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils face in the second decade of the 21st century.

Reducing Crime Through Intelligence-Led Policing

BJA, through a competitive grant program, sought ideas for innovative methods to address violent crime through the use of intelligence-led policing. This report describes some of these initiatives that experienced demonstrable successes.



Grants & Funding

All FY 2012 BJA grant applications received are currently under review. BJA expects to announce all grant awards by October 1, and awards will be posted on our [web site](#).

For other funding opportunities available through the Office of Justice Programs, visit www.ojp.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

This Month in Law Enforcement

NW3C Training Helps Puerto Rico Investigator

Despite Hurricane Irene, the [National White Collar Crime Center](#) (NW3C) was able to conduct Financial Crimes training in San Juan, PR in late August 2011. One of the persons attending the training, an investigator for the Puerto Rico Commissioner of Financial Institutions, reported that she was able to use what she had learned during the training to help a jury understand the concept of "the intention to defraud" during a recent criminal case.



The case resulted from misrepresentations and lies made by a skilled con artist during the sale of "securities" to multiple investors, with the intent to defraud the investors of more than \$1 million. Subsequent charges also included the "uttering and passing of coins intended to be used as legal money." As a result of information presented at the training, the investigator, while testifying during the trial, was able to clearly explain the misrepresentations and omissions made by the perpetrator to the investors and help the jury fully understand the complex elements of this type of fraud, resulting in the jury finding the perpetrator guilty of multiple felony charges. The NW3C Financial Crimes training was funded by BJA and coordinated through the Puerto Rico Governor's Office.

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](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

BJA, in conjunction with our partners at Advocates for Human Potential (AHP), AdCare, and Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC), convened the first-ever Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) National Conference, "Empowering Practitioners to Improve Client Outcomes: Employing What Works to Improve RSAT Delivery," in Chicago, Illinois, on July 20-21. BJA Director Denise E. O'Donnell kicked off the conference with opening remarks, which you can view on the [RSAT web page](#).

FEATURED PROGRAM

Delaware to Enact Justice Reinvestment Legislation

The Delaware Criminal Justice Council was selected as a BJA Justice Reinvestment Phase I site in FY 2011. To ensure that all important stakeholders in the state were involved, Delaware Governor Jack A. Markell convened the Delaware Justice Reinvestment Task Force in July 2011 to develop data- and research-informed consensus recommendations for the purpose of increasing public safety, reducing recidivism, and generating savings. The Governor signed [Executive Order 27](#) to establish the Delaware Justice Reinvestment Task Force as a bipartisan, inter-branch coalition of criminal justice agencies and stakeholders.

BJA's technical assistance (TA) partner, the Vera Institute of Justice, assisted the Task Force with analyzing data and reviewing corrections and community supervision policies and practices in order to develop a package of reforms that would protect public safety and manage the correctional population. The TA partner helped the Task Force conduct an extensive review of Delaware's sentencing and corrections data, review policies and practices at state criminal justice agencies, and consult a wide range of stakeholders to identify the factors sustaining Delaware's prison population.

New [legislation](#) will be enacted in August that implements the recommendations of the Justice Reinvestment Task Force. The legislation will promote informed decisionmaking in the criminal justice system by institutionalizing the use of evidence-based practices in decisions concerning bail, rehabilitation, and probation supervision and helps ensure scarce resources are focused on higher-risk offenders.

For more information, contact Drewry N. Fennell, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Council at, drewry.fennell@state.de.us.

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