

# BJA's Justice Today



BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE • OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

JAMES H. BURCH, II, ACTING DIRECTOR

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## In the Spotlight

### Philadelphia PD Pilots Crime-Fighting Strategies

The Philadelphia Police Department recently launched a pilot program, funded by BJA, to try out promising crime-fighting strategies in 60 locations across the city. In partnership with Temple University, the department was awarded 1 of 10 grants under BJA's Smart Policing Initiative. The grantee partners have divided their effort among 20 foot beats, 20 problem-solving areas, and 20 details that focus on known criminals in three- or four-block areas selected by the university. In these 60 locations, officers will identify underlying neighborhood problems—from nuisance bars to drug houses to teens with nowhere safe to go—and work with other city agencies to find solutions. The short-term benefits of this program will be improvements to the community and better relationships between law enforcement and residents. After the university determines which approach has had the most impact on violent crime, the department will seek to implement that strategy on a larger scale.



## News You Can Use

### NEW! Tribal Correctional Facilities Map

Find out how tribes are using grant funds to plan, renovate, or construct correctional facilities. BJA's [Overview of Correctional Facilities on Tribal Lands Grants map](#) provides site photos and project descriptions of the FY 2007-2009 grants.

### NEW! Calendar of Events

BJA has launched a new [Calendar of Events](#), which provides a searchable, sortable listing of upcoming criminal justice conferences. Users can search by month and filter events by topic and state.

## Grants & Funding

BJA expects to announce all FY 2010 grant awards by October 1, and they will be posted on our [web site](#).

To view grants awarded by all OJP components so far, go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/10grantawards.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/10grantawards.htm).

BJA encourages stakeholder feedback on its solicitations and award processes. Send your feedback to <http://bja.ncjrs.gov/app/contactus/contactus.aspx>.

## 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?

Every month BJA's National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) hosts a free webinar on a selected topic within the criminal justice community. Hosted on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. eastern time, each webinar provides a great opportunity for individuals and organizations to dive into a topic for 60 minutes with an expert from the field. Topics range from specific BJA focus areas (e.g., adjudication, crime prevention) to broader organizational and community needs (e.g., grant writing, online communications). More information about the Second Tuesday's Webinar Series is available at [www.BJATraining.org](http://www.BJATraining.org).



## FEATURED PROGRAM

In June 2008, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) awarded the Center for Effective Public Policy—in partnership with the Pretrial Justice Institute, the Justice Management Institute, and the Carey Group—a cooperative agreement to address "Evidence-Based Decision Making in Local Criminal Justice Systems." The goal of the initiative is to build a systemwide framework (arrest through final disposition and discharge) that will, when implemented, result in more collaborative, evidence-based decision making and practices in local criminal justice systems. The principle product of the initiative's Phase I is a document entitled [A Framework for Evidence-Based Decision Making in Local Criminal Justice Systems](#) (Framework). Now in Phase II, NIC has partnered with the Office of Justice Programs to select jurisdictions to pilot the Framework. The following seven sites have been selected to participate in the initiative: Grant County, Indiana; Mesa County, Colorado; Milwaukee County, Wisconsin; Ramsey County, Minnesota; Eau Claire County, Wisconsin; Charlottesville, Virginia; and Yamhill County, Oregon. For more information, visit [www.nicic.gov/EBDM](http://www.nicic.gov/EBDM).

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