

JRSA Electronic News

A monthly briefing for members

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SAC News

Ed McGarrell is Named Director of the Michigan SAC

Edmund ("Ed") McGarrell is the new Director of the Michigan Statistical Analysis Center (SAC). He is also the Director and a professor at the School of Criminal Justice at Michigan State University (MSU), which is where the SAC is housed. Dr. McGarrell's primary research interest is in communities and crime and the development of evidence-based strategies for violence reduction. Since 2002 he has led an MSU team that served as the national research partner for the U.S. Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program. In addition to this national research, Dr. McGarrell and colleagues are working with criminal justice officials and community partners in Detroit (Ceasefire and PSN), Flint (MI-Youth Violence Prevention Center), Lansing, and with the Michigan State Police. His involvement with data-driven, focused deterrence strategies was shaped by his experience in Indianapolis where he served as the research partner and co-coordinator of the Indianapolis Violence Reduction Partnership (IVRP). Related research examined the impact of restorative justice conferences as an alternative to traditional juvenile justice processes.

More recently Dr. McGarrell has begun to collaborate with an interdisciplinary group of MSU colleagues involved in the Conservation Criminology Program focusing research on pollution, wildlife, and natural resource crime. He serves on the Environmental Crime Committees of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and INTERPOL. He received both his master's and doctoral degrees at University at Albany, SUNY.

Dr. McGarrell is excited about the opportunity to work with criminal justice agencies throughout Michigan as well as the national network of SACs. He is particularly excited about the collaboration with the Michigan State Police where Michigan's statewide NIBRS data are stored, offering outstanding opportunities for mutually beneficial research and analysis.

Long-time Michigan SAC Director Dr. Tim Bynum remains active on the faculty at Michigan State University and continues to serve as Director of the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. Dr. Bynum serves as an invaluable resource for the new Michigan SAC team.

GA CJCC SAC Announces Release of Human Trafficking Victims Needs Assessment

The Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, where the Georgia SAC is housed, announced the release of "Assessing the Scope and Availability of Services for Human Trafficking Victims Among Georgia's Victims' Services Providers," which attempts to capture the number of victims served for human trafficking offenses as well as the services they received. The study also discusses who is currently serving human trafficking victims, how agencies are identifying human trafficking victims, the number of victims served in Georgia during the 2012 Calendar Year, the services available to human trafficking victims, and the training that providers currently serving victims are receiving. The report is available at <http://1.usa.gov/1qfhBnh>.

JRSA News

Toolkit Created to Promote the Use of Evidence-Based Practices in the SAAs

JRSA, the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) have produced the first in what will be a series of "toolkits" on promoting the use of evidence-based practices in State Administering Agencies (SAAs). The toolkit, [An Introduction to Evidence-Based Practices](#), includes a [briefing paper](#), an [executive summary](#), and a slideshow. The slideshow can be tailored by SAAs to highlight their own efforts in promoting evidence-based practices in their state. Additional toolkits are currently being developed based on feedback from SAA directors.

JRSA, NCJA, and the IJIS Institute to Hold the 2014 National Criminal Justice Forum

Conference registration is now open for the [2014 National Forum on Criminal Justice](#), which will be held in Breckenridge, Colorado, August 10–12. Building on last year's momentum, this year's conference will continue to focus on the integration of policy, research, and technology to improve public safety. Sponsored by the [Justice Research and Statistics Association](#) (JRSA), the [National Criminal Justice Association](#) (NCJA), and the [IJIS Institute](#), the Forum is the only national conference that brings leaders from federal, state, tribal, and local criminal justice agencies together with top criminal justice researchers and information specialists from companies providing technological solutions to justice agencies. Workshop sessions will feature speakers from each discipline to showcase innovative programs and highlight how research and technology help drive good policy. Skill-building [postconference seminars](#) on a variety of topics will be held on Wednesday, August 13. More information is available at the Forum website.

Publications

Most Recent Issue of JRSA Newsletter Available

The latest issue of the [JRSA Forum](#) is available on JRSA's website. The feature article, "National Crime Victimization Survey Subnational Program," was written by the Michael Planty, Chief, Victimization Statistics, and Lynn Langton, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and describes the different methods BJS is considering to generate subnational estimates of victimizations. Other articles reported on a panel convened by the National Academy of Sciences, and sponsored by BJS, on modernizing the nation's crime statistics; recent JRSA webinars, all of which are posted on the JRSA website under "Resources"; and news about the SACs.

BJA Releases Fact Sheet on Evidence-Based Strategies for Working with Offenders

The Bureau of Justice Assistance released [Evidence-Based Strategies for Working with Offenders](#). This fact sheet, which was written by Michael Rempel, Research Director at the Center for Court Innovation, seeks to distill a growing body of research about five areas of evidence-based strategies for reducing recidivism among criminal offenders: (1) assessment, (2) treatment, (3) deterrence, (4) procedural justice, and (5) collaboration.

BJS Announces Long-Awaited Report on Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 2005

An estimated two-thirds (68 percent) of 405,000 prisoners released in 30 states in 2005 were arrested for a new crime within three years of release from prison, and three-quarters (77 percent) were arrested within five years. These findings are based on a BJS data collection, [Recidivism of State Prisoners Released in 2005](#), which tracked a sample of former prison inmates from 30 states for five years following their

release in 2005. The report examines the five-year post-release offending patterns of the former inmates by offender characteristics, prior criminal history, and commitment offense, and provides estimates on the number and types of crimes former inmates commit both prior to their imprisonment and after release. The report includes different measures of recidivism, including a new arrest, court adjudication, conviction, and incarceration for either a new sentence or a technical violation. It also documents the extent to which the released prisoners committed crimes in states other than the one that released them. The findings are based on prisoner records obtained from the state Departments of Corrections through the National Corrections Reporting Program (NCRP) and criminal history records obtained through requests to the FBI's Interstate Identification Index (III) and state repositories via the International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets). In the accompanying [press release](#), the authors warn against comparing the findings of this recidivism study to the [2002 BJS study](#) on prisoners released in 1994 in 15 states due to changes in the demographic characteristics and criminal histories of the U.S. prison population, an increase in the number of states in the study, and improvements made to the quality and completeness of the nation's criminal history records since the mid-1990s.

New BJS Report Presents Estimates on Nonfatal Domestic Violence from 2003 to 2012

According to a new report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 2003–2012, domestic violence accounted for 21% of all violent crime. [Nonfatal Domestic Violence, 2003–2012](#) focuses on the level and pattern of domestic violence over time, highlighting selected victim and incident characteristics. Incident characteristics include the type of violence, the offender's use of a weapon, victim injury and medical treatment, and whether the incident was reported to police. The report provides estimates of acquaintance and stranger violence for comparison. Data are from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which collects information on nonfatal crimes reported and not reported to police. <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4984>

Publication Cites Successful Legislation for Reducing Number of Incarcerated Youths

States across the country have seen huge reductions in the number of youth incarcerated in detention halls, camps, and state secure facilities. One major reason for the reductions is successful legislation developed by advocates and legislators on both sides of the aisle. [Using Bills and Budgets to Further Reduce Youth Incarceration](#) lists five components of successful legislation and gives examples from several states of specific legislation that helped reduce youth incarceration. This publication is part of an [eight-part series of information sheets and reports](#) developed from a national study on de-incarceration conducted by the [National Council on Crime and Delinquency](#).

Conferences and Webinars

Applications Being Accepted for Leadership Institute on Juvenile Justice

The International Association of Chiefs of Police, with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, will host a Law Enforcement Leadership Institute on Juvenile Justice to be held September 16–18, in Seattle, Washington. The Leadership Institute will offer participating law enforcement executives the tools to improve their agency's response to juvenile offenders and at-risk youth and to engage in effective collaboration on juvenile justice reform in their community. As many as 30 executives will be selected to attend this free, interactive training program to develop agency-specific action plans to implement upon their return home. The application deadline is May 20. For more information on the agenda or how to apply, go to <http://www.theiacp.org/jjleadershipinstitute>.

JRSA to Offer Postconference Seminars at National Criminal Justice Forum

JRSA is offering three skill-building seminars in conjunction with the [2014 National Criminal Justice Forum](#) in Breckenridge, Colorado. The Forum will be held August 10-12, and the seminars will be on August 13. **Seminar I** is on *Performance Measurement* and is open only to SAA and SAC staff. **Seminar II, Research and Policy Analysis Using Administrative Records**, will focus on the development of partnerships with criminal justice and other state and local public sector agencies to acquire and maintain public sector administrative data, and then provide specific examples of data sets and instruction in how researchers can employ them. **Seminar III, Implementation Science 101 - Why Good Programs Fail and What You Can Do to Facilitate Success**, will introduce the concepts and practical applications of implementation science, with an emphasis on fidelity measurement and criminal justice system examples that illustrate how implementation science can be used to achieve positive outcomes that are scalable and sustainable over time. Click [here](#) for more information on these seminars and the instructors.

Announcements

Recent JRSA Webinars are Available for Viewing

If you missed any of JRSA's recent webinars, all of them have been posted on the [JRSA website](#) and are available for viewing. Recent topics include *The Use of Incident-Based Data as an Analytical Tool to Address Policy*, *BJS Update on National Crime Victimization Survey Sub-National Estimates*, and *Uses of Administrative Data from Jails: Virginia's Local Inmate Data System*. The next webinar will be on May 28 and feature Tennessee SAC Director Jackie Vandercook, who will discuss the Tennessee Crime Statistics Online Database, a user-friendly, web-based system available for accessing the state's incident-based reporting system (TIBRS) data.