

that decisions and practices in one part of the system have for other components in the system or on system processes. There are studies of jail and prison overcrowding and of early release as a result of judicially mandated standards for maintaining correctional facilities, but little is known about their consequences for the criminal careers of offenders who have been released early. Likewise, there is little research on the effect of sentence length or a given type of sentence for any given offense.

Relatively little is known about how different kinds of crime are detected and selected by social service and other agents and the processes by which they are referred to law enforcement. NIJ seeks research addressing these broader issues.

Research Areas of Interest

Listed below are examples of research topics that could advance criminal justice knowledge under Goal V of the NIJ Research Plan. Individuals are encouraged to suggest their own topics of interest. Research is encouraged in, but not limited to, the following areas:

Law Enforcement

Note: NIJ is not receiving applications for policing research against the June and December 1995 deadlines. Instead, researchers should await the special solicitation to be issued in 1995, as noted above.

Prosecution, Defense, and Adjudication

Issues at the Pretrial Stage. Effective release and detention decisions, charging decisions, and diversion decisions. Effective responses to witness intimidation. Impact of variations in discovery policy.

New Approaches. Specialized courts, e.g., domestic violence, firearms offenses. Community courts. Restorative justice. Community-based prosecution and defense services.

Drug Courts. **Note:** NIJ is not receiving applications for research on drug courts under the June and December 1995 deadlines. Instead, researchers should await the special solicitation to be issued in 1995, as noted above.

Juvenile Justice. (In coordination with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention) Juvenile case processing, emphasizing waiver to adult courts. Diversion to noncriminal justice programs. Postarrest preconviction programs for chronic, serious juvenile offenders.

Community and Institutional Corrections

Boot Camps. **Note:** NIJ is not receiving applications for research on boot camps under the June and December 1995

deadlines. Instead, researchers should await the special solicitation to be issued in 1995, as noted above.

Sanctions and Punishments. Operating community-based sanctions as a system. Prosecutors' role in intermediate sanctions. Innovative programs in domestic violence, child abuse, firearms.

Meeting Offender Needs. Offenders with mental health and drug addiction conditions. Creating parity in services for incarcerated women. Coordinating transitional care and community reintegration.

Preserving Safety. Planning and managing "super" maximum security prisons. Managing juvenile offenders in adult facilities. Correctional officer health and safety risks.

Managing Change. Understanding the impacts of prison expansion. Correctional management of changing inmate populations. Inmate and correctional officers' safety. Managing offenders in the community.

Systemwide Issues

Consequences of Decisions on System Responses. The impact that reforms or major resources changes in one part of the system may have on another. Perceived fairness of the criminal justice system, particularly in minority communities, and appropriate responses by criminal justice professionals.

Sentencing. Costs and benefits of various State sentencing reforms. Impact of sentencing policy changes on prosecution, defense, and the courts, e.g., "truth in sentencing" and "three strikes" legislation, abolition of parole, mandatory minimums, enhanced sentencing schemes for juvenile offenders.

Illegal Aliens. U.S. policy toward arrested illegal aliens. Impact on local criminal justice system. Links with immigration. Management of foreign language populations in correctional settings.

White Collar and Organized Crime. For White Collar Crime, research on the prevention and control of health care fraud, insider insurance fraud, and environmental crime, including regulatory issues, detention, investigation, and prosecution. For organized crime, research on the criminal justice response to international organized crime networks and enterprise, and organized crime corruption of legitimate industries and markets.

Contact

Applicants are encouraged to contact NIJ program managers to discuss topic viability, data availability, or proposal

content before submitting proposals. To obtain specific information on the programs described under this goal, potential applicants may contact:

Lois Mock, (202) 307-0693, and Winifred Reed, (202) 307-2952, for policing
Bernard Auchter, (202) 307-0154, for adjudication
Laurie Bright, (202) 616-3624, for prosecution and defense
Voncile Gowdy, (202) 307-2951, for corrections and sanctions
Richard Titus, (202) 307-0695, for illegal aliens and the criminal justice system
Lois Mock, (202) 307-0693, for white collar and organized crime

Goal VI: Develop New Technology for Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice System

Purpose

The purpose of this solicitation is to encourage technological development projects that will improve the operational efficiency of the criminal justice system. Through this solicitation the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) expects to support research that will enhance the safety and effectiveness of law enforcement and correctional officers and other officers of the court.

Background

Science and technology programs cut across the entire range of criminal justice issues and goals at NIJ; programs already in progress or in the early stages of planning and development promise to provide significant benefits in the 21st century. The Institute's science and technology mission is accomplished through three major program areas: The collection and dissemination of technical information, the development of standards and operation of an equipment testing program, and a research and development grants program.

To strengthen the collection and dissemination of technology information, NIJ is developing the capabilities of the National Law Enforcement Technology Center (NLETC) (the former Technology Assessment Program Information Center) and establishing regional law enforcement technology centers. The purpose of these centers is to provide criminal justice professionals with information on available technology, guidelines and standards for these technologies, and technical assistance in implementing them. These centers will be linked through a Technology Information Network (TIN) to provide Federal, State and local agencies with