

TECHBeat

Dedicated to Reporting Developments in Technology for Law Enforcement, Corrections and Forensic Sciences

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NLECTC
National Law Enforcement and
Corrections Technology Center

A Program of the **NIJ**
National Institute of Justice

TechBeat is the bimonthly newsmagazine of the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System. Our goal is to keep you up to date on technologies for the public safety community and research efforts in government and private industry.

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The National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center wants to know your technology needs and requirements as a law enforcement or corrections professional. Use the form at https://www.justnet.org/tech_need_form.html to describe tools that would enhance the safety and effectiveness of your job. This information from practitioners is used to inform the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) research, development, testing and evaluation process and to make recommendations on prioritizing NIJ's investments across its various technology portfolios.

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PROGRAM EMPHASIZES SAFETY TRAINING *to* REDUCE OFFICER DEATHS

By Michele Coppola

A free training program is available that stresses common sense safety measures for police officers in order to reduce the number of line-of-duty deaths.

The Below 100 initiative is a nonprofit, volunteer effort started in the fall of 2010. The name stems from the goal to reduce the number of annual line-of-duty deaths to below 100, a number not seen since 1944, according to Dale Stockton, the organization's director.



“It’s important to stress that no line-of-duty death is deemed acceptable,” Stockton says. “What Below 100 does is set a goal that is achievable by focusing on areas under an officer’s control and embracing a common sense approach to officer safety.”

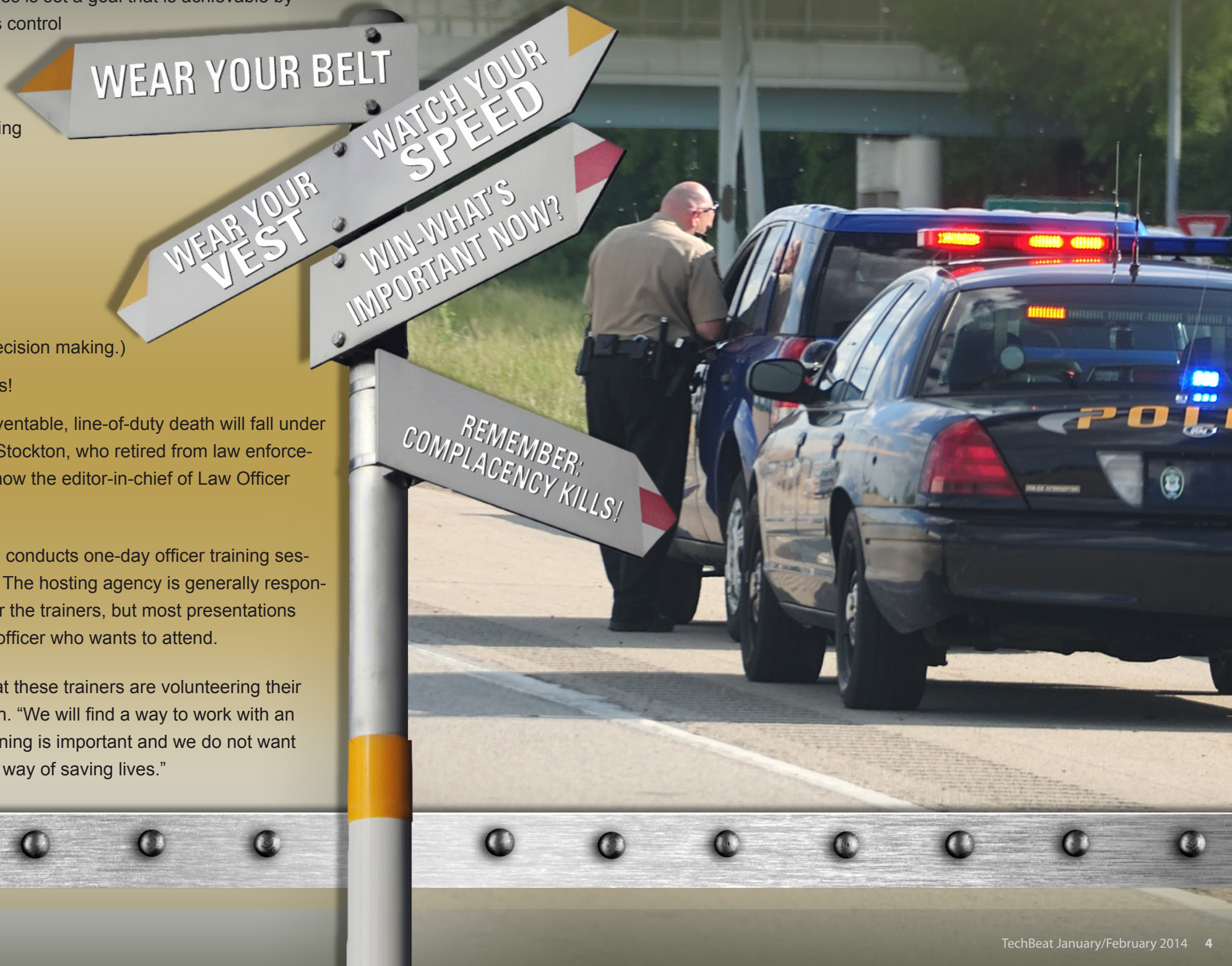
The program is based on the following five tenets:

- Wear Your Belt.
- Wear Your Vest.
- Watch Your Speed.
- WIN-What’s Important Now?
(Situational awareness and decision making.)
- Remember: Complacency Kills!

“Any predictable, and therefore preventable, line-of-duty death will fall under one or more of these tenets,” says Stockton, who retired from law enforcement after serving 32 years and is now the editor-in-chief of Law Officer Magazine and LawOfficer.com.

Using volunteer trainers, Below 100 conducts one-day officer training sessions throughout the United States. The hosting agency is generally responsible for covering the travel costs for the trainers, but most presentations have been presented free to every officer who wants to attend.

“I am incredibly proud of the fact that these trainers are volunteering their time to get this done,” says Stockton. “We will find a way to work with an agency to meet their need. This training is important and we do not want concern over money to stand in the way of saving lives.”



A Below 100 program consists of a general morning session that presents the core training with the number of students limited only by the size of the training venue. The afternoon is dedicated to a train-the-trainer session for a smaller group of 25 to 30 individuals who were in the morning session and must have prior training experience. More than 40 train-the-trainer sessions have been conducted since April of 2011. During 2013, Below 100 held training sessions in Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin.

“We confront participants with the facts of where we are losing officers,” says Stockton. “For example, during 14 of the last 15 years, we’ve lost more officers in vehicle-related incidents than we have to gunfire. And we know that half of those fatal crashes involved only the officer’s vehicle. When it comes to seatbelts, we know from extensive review that 50 percent of officers don’t wear their seatbelts when they’re on patrol.”

“We’re also losing officers in shooting situations where body armor would have saved a life, if only it had been worn,” Stockton adds. “The bottom line is that we’re losing officers to things totally under the officers’ control — preventable incidents — and we need to change that.”



“For train-the-trainer, the whole concept is that we educate on the problem and then provide all the instructional materials through flash drive or Web download,” Stockton says.

“We even provide sample policy and a straightforward risk assessment tool. Those who go through the training are not just trainers; they become change agents and help to instill a culture of common-sense safety.”

Some who attend the training have gone well beyond their own agency in carrying the message to other officers. A lieutenant from a town in Iowa with a nine-person police department is now delivering the training throughout the state with the support of his chief.

“And we’ve got a sergeant from a California agency who is doing the same thing,” says Stockton, “plus a law enforcement coordinator for a U.S. attorney in Alabama who has been delivering Below 100 throughout the South.”

In 2013, line-of-duty deaths totaled 105, down 14 percent from the previous year, and the lowest in more than 50 years, according to preliminary statistics on the Officer Down Memorial Page, <http://www.odmp.org/>. The two leading causes of death were vehicle-related incidents and gunfire. The site recorded 31 deaths due to gunfire, down 34 percent from 2012, and vehicle-related deaths totaled 45. Other causes included heart attacks, training accidents and falls.

During 2011, 177 officers died in the line of duty, according to ODMP. In 2012, the number dropped to 123. Deaths due to gunfire fell from 67 in 2011 to 47 in 2012, and vehicle-related deaths decreased from 62 to 48, according to ODMP.

“I’m not trying to say that Below 100 deserves all of the credit, but I am absolutely convinced we are making a difference,” Stockton says.

In fiscal year 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice began requiring that in order to receive funds from the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program for the purchase of body armor, jurisdictions must certify that all law enforcement agencies benefitting from the BVP program have a written mandatory wear policy in effect.

A survey funded by the Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice and conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum between October 2010 and May 2011 found that most officers (92 percent) work at agencies that require the use of body armor. However, fewer (78 percent) reported that their agency had a written body armor policy.

For more information on Below 100 and to learn where classes are being offered, visit the Below 100 website at <http://below100.com/> or contact Dale Stockton at editor@lawofficer.com. For information on the National Institute of Justice body armor standards and compliance testing program, visit https://justnet.org/body_armor/index.html or contact NIJ Program Manager Michael O’Shea at michael.oshea@usdoj.gov.



Below 100 and Body Armor

Wear Your Vest is one of the key messages of the Below 100 program. Director Dale Stockton relates that a 2013 training participant who has been with the Florida Highway Patrol for 36 years noted that when he got into law enforcement, the agency didn’t use body armor and he had never worn it during his career. That officer changed his mind after attending a Below 100 training session.

“He realized he had an obligation to be a role model for people who go through his agency’s training and recognized he was sending the wrong message by not wearing armor,” Stockton says. “Two weeks after the training, the Below 100 trainer got an email from the Florida officer with a photo of him proudly wearing body armor. He wanted the trainer to know that he was following through on his commitment.”



Minnesota POLICE DEPARTMENT *Finds Ways to* EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY

By Michele Coppola

A Minnesota police department is staying abreast of technology developments by taking advantage of state and county programs and developing initiatives in-house.

Sgt. Robert Salter provided an overview of current technologies used by the Richfield Police Department and plans for the future during the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice 2013 Technology Institute for Rural Law Enforcement. Richfield, a suburb of Minneapolis with a population of 34,439, sits in a 7-square-mile area. Its police force has 45 sworn officers.

“I think the purpose of my presentation was to show that with a little bit of initiative and support, departments can use some of the cutting-edge technology. There are things we can do with the resources we have available.”

Salter’s responsibilities in the department include officer training, traffic enforcement, canine units, special investigative units (narcotics/vice) and technology, which includes computer and cellphone forensics.

Most of the electronic initiatives are generated by either the county or the state, which the department has adopted, according to Salter. During the past few years,

the department has instituted initiatives, for example, electronic ticket writing, electronic police reports and electronic DWI charging and booking. Salter says that prior to electronic initiatives, it could take an officer three hours to complete a DWI arrest and paperwork, noting that with electronic implementation, “some officers have it down to 30 minutes.”

“Our department and the city embrace technology and we usually are one of the first departments to participate in these initiatives,” Salter says. “There are a lot of things going on, and locally the county and state are trying to do away with paper. These electronic initiatives are

generated by a consortium consisting of county, state and city representatives. We make recommendations and proposals, and they assign project officers to work it out. It takes a little while but we get it done.”

“When considering technology, we make an assessment of what is available and decide on what is best for the officers in terms of efficiency and use, for the benefit of the community,” Salter adds. “The officer doesn’t have to spend as much time filling out reports in the office. Having the technology gives the officer a chance to get back on the road sooner.”





The state has implemented an employee fingerprint swipe identification system that detectives, city attorneys and judges use as an electronic signature on documents.

For suspects, the department uses a portable Integrated Biometric Identification System in patrol cars, which allows officers to take a suspect's fingerprint at the crime scene. The information is compared to local, state and federal records to check the person's identity and for outstanding warrants.

Salter has been performing computer and cellphone forensics for more than a decade. It saves the department from outsourcing the work to state or county facilities. On its own, the department developed an intranet that provides officers with a central location for information and access to include information on training, court schedules, policies and procedures, forms, and criminal and traffic codes.

"The department intranet has improved operations tremendously. We want to ensure information is shared so that everyone has a good idea of what is going on. All the information on the intranet is accessible from the squad car and department computers."

Future plans include expansion of the intranet content, addition of an automatic number plate recognition system, and replacement of squad car laptops with tablets, which will increase the amount of workable space in the cars.

For more information, contact Sgt. Robert Salter at rsalter@cityofrichfield.org or (612) 861-0499.



Maryland Uses Managed Approach
to Making
Cellphone Service in Prisons

“DISAPPEAR”

By Becky Lewis

Sheltering the glow from the cellphone with his body in the late hours of the night, he’s amazed by what he sees: five bars! Five, instead of the weak signal he usually sees inside his prison cell. But tonight, the calls won’t reach the drug dealer outside the prison or his girlfriend in another state, in spite of those five bars. That strong signal comes not from a commercial carrier, but from the managed access system the facility implemented that day.

The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services implemented a managed access project in the Metropolitan Transition Center in downtown Baltimore in April 2013, and according to Correctional Operations Information Technology Manager Jay Miller, immediately began to notice a drop in the number of contraband cell-phones that its security sweeps located.

“When we turned it on, the number of contraband cell-phones located dropped immediately, and it has continued to drop,” Miller says. “The number of searches remained consistent, it wasn’t like we were searching less. And at the same time, the number of calls being made through the inmate phone system increased. We monitor a lot of

statistics and they all show it's doing what it's supposed to do."

Managed access systems are scaled-down versions of all cellular carrier technologies in the area. Cellular power is transmitted within the perimeter of the facility, forcing cellphones to sync with the system. It permits only calls from authorized cellphones and all 911 calls to go through. It works by using the International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI), cellular phone number, mobile device hardware ID and electronic serial number (ESN).

According to Miller, fluctuating cellular power at any given tower presents one of the biggest challenges that a managed access provider faces: cellular providers frequently make minor adjustments in power and are under no obligation to inform managed access vendors.

"There are a number of towers in downtown Baltimore, and our managed access vendor has to walk a fine line to balance the levels," Miller says. "There may be an area in the yard where signals get through at times, but for an inmate to take a phone



out of a cell and try to find a weak spot, it's not worth the risk of being caught. The safest place for an inmate to use a phone has been in the cell, after count, when no one is going to be around for a while, and we're sure there's no access now in the housing units. We do test it by sending officers out once a month to try to make calls from various areas."

Cellular power is transmitted within the perimeter of the facility, forcing cellphones to sync with the system. It permits only calls from authorized cellphones and all 911 calls to go through.

Maryland correctional officials researched a number of different technologies before selecting a managed access vendor.

"We decided that making the phones completely inoperable was the best approach," Miller says. "Using a passive technology would take a lot of staff resources, because you have to immediately go out and find them as soon as you detect them. Theoretically, with managed access, you stop them immediately and you can go find them later, but we've found that the inmates are getting

rid of them on their own. The inmates are deciding it's not worth keeping them just to take pictures."

Miller discussed the project at the National Institute of Justice August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections. Maryland has enough confidence in the project at the Metropolitan Transition Center that when a number of problems surfaced at the nearby Baltimore City Detention Center, the department did an emergency procurement to start managed access at that facility. Miller says that the bulk of contraband cellphones found in the state come from those two facilities, and that in the rural western and eastern areas of the state, it's a far different story.

"You really have to look at the return on your investment to decide if it's worth it. If you have a rural facility where you find three cellphones a year and cell service may be spotty anyway, it's probably not worth the cost."

For more information on Maryland's use of managed access, contact Jay Miller at (443) 250-4695 or jemiller@dpscs.state.md.us.



video

This article is one of a series of articles to appear in TechBeat focusing on information presented at the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) August 2013 Technology Institute for Corrections, which brought together administrative-level corrections professionals to learn about contraband cellphone interdiction. For information on the Institutes, contact Jack Harne, NIJ corrections technology program manager, at jack.harne@usdoj.gov.

Police Preventing

OPIATE DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS

By Michele Coppola

Alarmed by an increase in opiate drug overdose fatalities, officers in some police departments are carrying and administering antidotes on the scene to stem drug deaths in their communities.

Described below are successful programs in Quincy, Mass., and Suffolk County, N.Y., whose police officers have been using naloxone hydrochloride, also known as Narcan, to counter the effects of opiates and save lives.

Quincy, Mass.

One program that has garnered much attention is in the Quincy Police Department. In 2010, under a pilot

program, Quincy began requiring officers to carry Narcan, which is used to reverse overdoses from opiates. Opiates include heroin and prescription painkillers such as oxycodone and Percodan. Naloxone can be administered through injection, but police carry and administer the nasal spray form and are trained in its use.

Police are often the first on the scene of an emergency, and in Quincy, police respond to every medical emergency call. Prior to Quincy police carrying nasal Narcan, the communities of Quincy, Braintree and Weymouth experienced a surge in heroin use and had 99 overdose deaths due to





The success of the pilot led to all 200 officers in the Quincy Police Department being required to carry nasal Narcan, whether they are in a police cruiser, the booking unit, the marine unit or community police officers on bicycles. The program has not only saved lives but has eased the relationship between the police and the community. The outreach has paid off in citizen trust of police officers and a more open perception of law enforcement.

“Once the program caught on, the public saw us in a different light and it reduced their fear of calling 911,” Glynn says. “Slowly, we were able to change the perception of the public. The officers represent a chance of a future life without drugs.”

For example, Glynn adds, “A police cruiser was driving down Main Street and a driver behind it was flashing his lights and essentially pulled the police over because a friend was overdosing in the back seat, and the driver knew the police would help. The perception of police has changed dramatically since inception of this program.”

Massachusetts, 13 other states and the District of Columbia have laws to encourage Good Samaritans to summon aid in the event of an overdose (California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington). The laws protect from prosecution overdose witnesses who call 911 or seek help; they won’t be charged with possession of drugs.

In addition, Massachusetts law protects from liability physicians prescribing naloxone and individuals with prescriptions who administer it.

Quincy, with a population of a 93,000, is a shore community that sits about 10 miles from Boston. Any initial misgivings by Quincy officers about the Narcan program were allayed once they began administering it on the street.

opiates in an 18-month period, 47 of which were in Quincy. At the urging of citizens to address the problem, police and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health joined forces and established the pilot program.

Between October 2010 and early December 2013, Quincy police reversed 202 opiate overdoses using nasal Narcan, according to Lt. Detective Patrick Glynn, a veteran narcotics officer who heads the program. The first 18 months of the program reduced the overdose death rate by 66 percent. There have been 27 opiate overdose deaths in the past three years.

“We realized we could not arrest ourselves out of the situation,” Glynn says. “People need help.”



“You can see results in 60 seconds, they see immediate results,” Glynn says. “That was the catalyst for the officers to embrace it.”

Glynn says his department has had a number of inquiries from other jurisdictions in Massachusetts and around the United States interested in starting similar programs (e.g., Columbus, Ohio; Portland, Maine; Raleigh, N.C.; Chicago; New York City; and small towns in Kentucky and Mississippi).

“The interest really blossomed once the results began to roll in.”

The Quincy program caught the attention of federal officials, and Glynn received an Advocates for Action citation in 2013 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

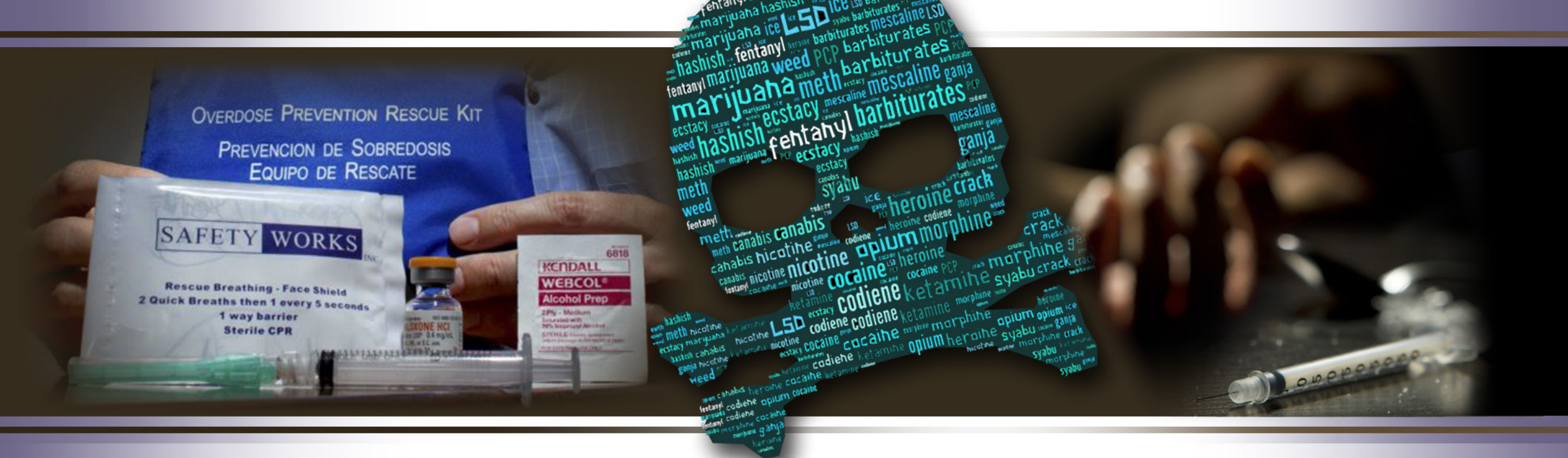
Narcan blocks the effects of opiates to the brain. Each Narcan dose costs about \$22 and is paid for by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. The Quincy program thus far has cost about \$8,000.

“We have received countless letters from people who have been reversed from overdosing,” Glynn says. “Drugs affect the user, family members, everyone in some way so we had to do something, and hopefully the end result is that we get someone into treatment. We have to keep chipping away; we can’t quit.”



Slideshow

For more information, contact Lt. Detective Patrick Glynn at pglynn@quincyma.gov or (617) 745-5750.



Suffolk County, N.Y.

An intranasal Narcan program in the Suffolk County Police Department has seen success similar to that experienced in Quincy, Mass.

“We began the program because opiate overdoses on Long Island and in Suffolk County are epidemic,” says Dr. Scott Coyne, medical director and chief surgeon for the Suffolk County Police Department.


Suffolk County’s overall drug overdose deaths (not just opiates) totaled 189 in 2010, 269 in 2011 and 279 in 2012. Heroin overdose deaths rose from 38 in 2010 to 83 in 2012. Oxycodone overdose deaths totaled 58 in 2010, 90 in 2011, and dropped to 62 in 2012. Coyne attributes the drop in oxycodone overdose deaths to the effectiveness of the Narcan program.

Suffolk County, with a population of approximately 1.5 million people, is the eastern-most county in the state, surrounded by water on three sides.

The pilot program in the police department, which was sponsored by the New York State Department of Health, was designed to test the ability of emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to recognize the symptoms of opiate overdose and effectively administer intranasal Narcan. The program required anyone administering Narcan to be certified as an EMT. All Suffolk County police officers have been trained as EMTs and are typically first on the scene of medical emergencies following 911 calls.

The police department rolled out the pilot program on Aug. 1, 2012 in three of its seven precincts and in the Marine Bureau, and saw immediate results. The department initially trained 460 officers during the pilot and placed Narcan in sector cars throughout those precincts.

“The program was immediately successful,” Coyne says. “In the first month we had five or six documented saves of people experiencing life-threatening effects of an opiate overdose, unconscious and barely breathing.”



At the end of 2012, citing the number of successful nasal Narcan overdose reversals, Coyne recommended that the Narcan program be expanded throughout the department, which was completed in January 2013. Officers are now trained in all precincts, the Marine Bureau and the Emergency Services section. The police department has 2,500 officers, and training has been provided throughout the Patrol Division. The program has trained and certified almost 1,100 officers.

As of early December 2013, the department had recorded 159 documented overdose saves.

“I was totally surprised. The number of opiate reversals is substantially more than we had ever expected. At this point, we are recording several saves each week,” Coyne says. “It’s been a remarkably successful program.”

Officers have embraced the program.

“There has been no resistance. I think the police officers feel great pride and increased confidence to effectively assist victims in these situations. It makes such a difference.”

Coyne notes that nasal Narcan is easy to administer and only acts on the opiate molecule and does no harm if no opiates are present. Administered directly into a person’s nostrils, it is absorbed in the nasal cavity. How quickly results are seen depends on the general physical condition of the overdose victim. “We generally teach our police offices to expect to see significant effects in three to four minutes.”

Coyne notes that the Department of Health attempts to follow up and contact all overdose victims to get them into a treatment program. Although not always successful, the department makes every attempt to follow up.

For information, contact at Dr. Scott Coyne at Scott.coyne@suffolkcountyny.gov.

Note: Departments and officers should consult with and be trained by competent medical personnel prior to using and administering intranasal naloxone hydrochloride in accordance with regional health regulations and guidelines.

TECHshorts is a sampling of the technology projects, programs and initiatives being conducted by the Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC) System, as well as other agencies. If you would like additional information concerning any of the following TECHshorts, please refer to the specific point-of-contact information that is included at the end of each entry.

In addition to TECHshorts, *JUSTNET News*, an online, weekly technology news summary containing articles relating to technology developments in public safety that have appeared in newspapers, newsmagazines and trade and professional journals, is available through the NLECTC System's website, www.justnet.org. Subscribers to *JUSTNET News* receive the news summary directly via email. To subscribe to *JUSTNET News*, go to <https://www.justnet.org/subscribe.html>, email your request to asknlectc@justnet.org or call (800) 248-2742.

Note: The mentioning of specific manufacturers or products in TECHshorts does not constitute the endorsement of the U.S. Department of Justice, NIJ or the NLECTC System.



Association Offers Training for Homicide Investigators

International Homicide Investigators Association

The International Homicide Investigators Association (IHIA) offers an annual symposium and ongoing regional training sessions to improve investigative skills and foster networking and cooperation among agencies.

The association, which has international members and representatives from all 50 U.S. states, is dedicated to the various fields of study associated with death investigation.

A five-day basic homicide investigation class covers such topics as crime scene analysis, homicide types and offender motivations, crime scene processing, laboratory capabilities and evidence processing, interview and interrogation, documentation and report writing, and media relations. The six-day annual symposium offers a variety of presentations to share innovations in technology, investigative practices and professional experiences. The 2014 annual symposium will be held in June in Philadelphia.

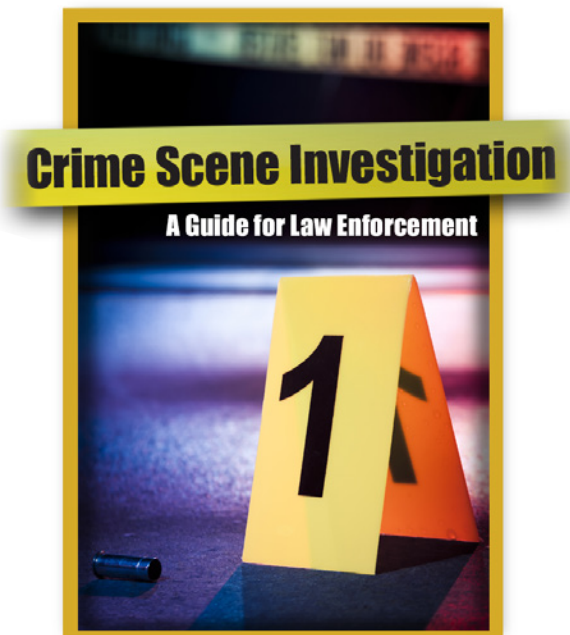
For training schedules and other information, visit www.ihia.org or contact Bill Hagmaier, IHIA executive director, at ihia@ihia.org.

Updated Crime Scene Guide Available

National Forensic Science Technology Center

An updated guide on crime scene investigation offers law enforcement practitioners step-by-step guidance. Developed by crime scene experts through the National Forensic Science Technology Center, this edition of *Crime Scene Investigation: A Guide for Law Enforcement*, is an expanded, comprehensive guide that leads users through the crucial, first phase of the justice process, covering key crime scene investigation practices in detail. Chapters cover arriving at the scene and initial response, preliminary documentation and evaluation, processing the scene, completing and recording scene investigation, and crime scene equipment.

To access the guide, go to <http://www.nfstc.org/bja-programs/crime-scene-investigation-guide/>.



Center Offers Crime Analysis Resources

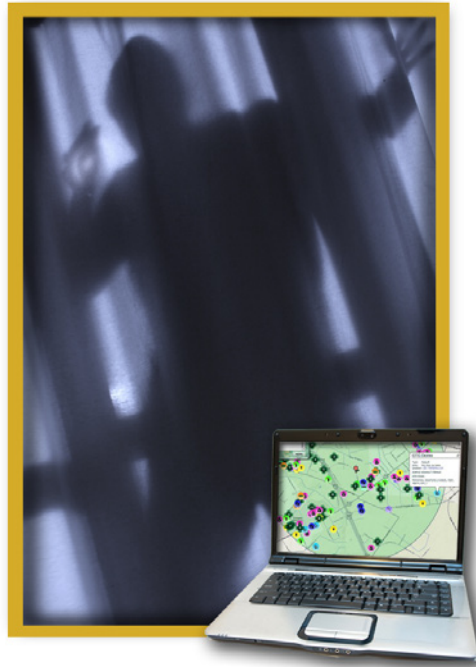
Bureau of Justice Assistance

The Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) is offering Crime Analysis on Demand training and technical assistance services to address analytical gaps and needs for crime analysts and law enforcement personnel. The program will help law enforcement agencies enhance their capabilities to analyze and use data to make informed decisions to prevent and respond effectively to crime. Support includes conducting needs assessments, providing recommendations to address analytical gaps, and offering comprehensive training for crime analysts.

NTTAC works to improve the criminal justice system by providing rapid, expert, coordinated and data-driven training and technical assistance to support practitioners in the effort to reduce crime, recidivism and unnecessary confinement in state, local and tribal communities. Other NTTAC initiatives include:

- Assisting communities in preventing and deterring crime using the crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) approach.
- Training for law enforcement, including the 7-Habits for Law Enforcement, Nobility of Policing, Policing at the Speed of Trust and Diversity Centered Leadership.
- Proving community corrections agencies with tailored resources to address challenges such as using empirically validated offender assessment tools that guide supervision and decisionmaking and implementing data-driven sanctions to reduce the likelihood of recidivism.

For information, visit <https://www.bjatrainning.org/>



Survey of Eyewitness Identification Procedures

Police Executive Research Forum/National Institute of Justice

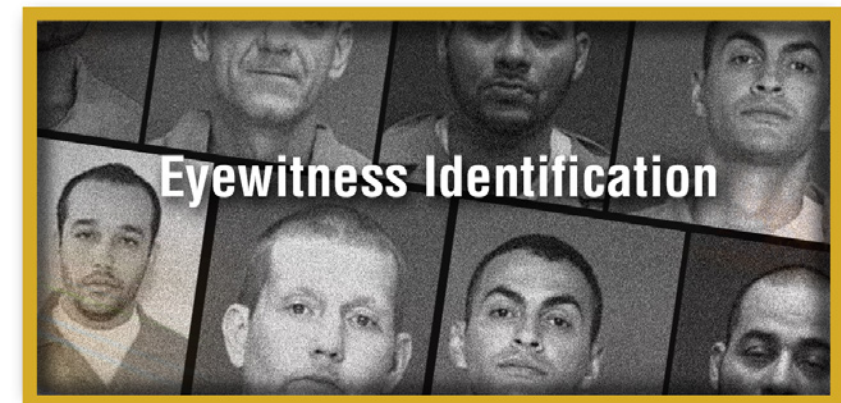
Photo lineup is the most commonly used type of eyewitness identification procedure among law enforcement agencies (94.1 percent), followed by show-ups, composite sketches, mug shot searches and live lineups, according to a survey by the Police Executive Research Forum.

The purpose of the project, funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), was to obtain the first nationwide assessment of the state of the field regarding eyewitness identification procedures used by law enforcement agencies, according to the 2013 report, *A National Survey of Eyewitness Identification Procedures in Law Enforcement Agencies*.

In addition to the survey of a stratified random sample of law enforcement agencies in the United States, researchers conducted a series of follow-up interviews with officials in 30 agencies and reviewed research literature on eyewitness identification procedures.

The study found that most police agencies have not fully implemented all of the recommendations from the 1999 NIJ guide, *Eyewitness Evidence: A Guide for Law Enforcement*, which included specific guidelines for conducting lineups and photo arrays. Many agencies adopted a few of the guidelines, but some guidelines have been adopted by less than half of the agencies, according to the report.

To read the full report, visit <http://policeforum.org/library/eyewitness-identification/NIJEyewitnessReport.pdf>. To read an NIJ Research in Brief on the survey published in Police Chief Magazine, go to http://www.policechiefmagazine.org/magazine/index.cfm?fuseaction=display&article_id=3060&issue_id=92013.



PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNOLOGY

JUSTNET

In The News

Following are abstracts on public safety-related articles that have appeared in newspapers, magazines and websites.

Harford Sheriff's Office Announces Aviation Unit

The Baltimore Sun, (12/03/2013), Krishana Davis

The Harford Sheriff's Office in Maryland has established an aviation unit with the acquisition of a \$1 million helicopter, thanks to the U.S. Department of Defense 1033 excess property program. The program allows the transfer of surplus DoD property to federal, state and local law enforcement agencies at little or no cost. The Bell-OH-58 helicopter will be used for calls involving critically missing children and adults, high risk calls for surveillance, homeland security, critical infrastructure assessment, marijuana eradication, recovery and mitigation and disaster assessment.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/harford/belair/ph-ag-sheriff-helicopter-1204-20131203,0,3207415.story>

Penn State to Add Cameras at Main Campus to Enhance Security

The Tribune-Review, (12/07/2013), Anna Orso

Penn State is installing about 450 security cameras in its State College dormitories and dining commons areas to boost security. The \$1.4 million project is expected to be completed by August 2014. Cameras will be installed in lobbies, elevators and stairwells in 60 on-campus housing units. Penn State already has dorm surveillance systems at eight branch campuses. Officials hope the cameras will curb vandalism and theft.

<http://triblive.com/state/pennsylvania/5194302-74/state-cameras-penn#axzz2n0qURFdq>

House Panel Makes School Safety Recommendations

The Times-Tribune, (12/05/2013), Robert Swift

Teachers could wear wireless pendants so they can signal trouble, panic buttons could be installed in schools' front offices, and student access to mental health services could be increased. These are among the recommendations on school safety made by a Pennsylvania state legislative committee. The report by the House Select Committee also recommends surveillance systems, locked doors and hiring retired police officers to act as screeners for visitors at school entry points.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/house-panel-makes-school-safety-recommendations-1.1596018>

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