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OJJDP NEWS @ a Glance

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Flores Sworn in as OJJDP Administrator

On April 17, J. Robert Flores was sworn in as Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. His nomination had been confirmed by the U.S. Senate on April 12.

In setting forth the goals for his tenure at OJJDP, Mr. Flores has emphasized the importance of protecting public safety and the significance of failing to prevent delinquency. "When we fail with children, the economic costs are great, but the costs in terms of lost opportunity are astronomical," he notes.

Mr. Flores envisions an expanded role for private organizations and community groups in delinquency prevention efforts and believes it is critical that these local groups receive the support they need. He also hopes to expand OJJDP's collaboration with other agencies, citing the Office of Justice Programs' Going Home: Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative as an example of what can be achieved through interagency partnerships.

Viewing the issue of disproportionate minority confinement as an important one for OJJDP, Mr. Flores is dedicated to the proposition that all individuals must receive fair and equal treatment within the juvenile justice system. He also expects OJJDP to focus on juvenile justice issues in Alaska Native and American Indian communities and will look for innovative ways to assist these communities in their efforts to reduce delinquency.

Mr. Flores brings experience in both the public and private sectors to his new position. From 1989 to 1997, he served in the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. Before joining the Justice Department, he was an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan. More recently, he served as Vice President and Senior Counsel for the National Law Center for Children and Families and as Legal Counsel to the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Mr. Flores also was a member of the congressionally appointed Commission on Online Child Protection.

His experience in juvenile justice has given Mr. Flores a respect for the accomplishments of the past and strengthened his hopes for the future. "While we have made progress, we cannot rest on our success. Young people are among our greatest resources. When the adult community makes the interests and well-being of our youth a priority, we all benefit."

Agency News

OJJDP and NCMEC Observe National Missing Children's Day

On May 23, 2002, OJJDP and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children marked the 20th anniversary of the Missing Children's Act at the annual National Missing Children's Day ceremony, held at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, DC. The theme—"20 Years of Searching To Bring Our Missing Children Home"—was underscored in remarks by OJJDP Administrator J. Robert Flores, who noted that the Nation has made significant progress in searching for missing children. Through the coordinated efforts of NCMEC and other agencies, many programs and resources contribute to the recovery of thousands of children. Examples of initiatives include Project A.L.E.R.T. (America's Law Enforcement Retiree Team), America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER), and Project KidCare.

During the ceremony, former U.S. Senator Paula Hawkins recalled the challenges encountered in passing the Missing Children's Act. Associate Attorney General Jay Stephens honored several law enforcement officers for their efforts to help missing and exploited children. NCMEC President Ernie Allen and Chairman Robbie Callaway presented Volunteer and Corporate Leadership Awards and also honored two children with Courage Awards. Mr. Flores presented Kelsey Sauerer, a middle school student from Sartell, MN, with a certificate for creating the winning poster in the 2002 Missing Children's Day Art Contest. In closing, Mr. Flores urged communities to implement KidCare ID programs to help law enforcement agencies recover missing children.

For details of the ceremony, including a list of award winners, visit ojjdp.ncjrs.org/about/press/ojp020523.html. To learn about NCMEC, visit missingkids.com. To host a Project KidCare event, visit www.polaroid.com/kidcare. Share information on related community efforts by contacting Ron Laney, Director of OJJDP's Child Protection Division (e-mail laney@ojp.usdoj.gov).



OJJDP Administrator J. Robert Flores presents Kelsey Sauerer with a certificate for her award-winning Missing Children's Day poster, with Associate Attorney General Jay Stephens and NCMEC President Ernie Allen looking on.

Coordinating Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Activities

Every day there are countless programs at work and national policies in place to serve the Nation's youth. Who keeps track of these programs and policies? Who ensures that they are responsive to the Nation's needs? Given the multiplicity of agencies, activities, and individuals involved, a mechanism is needed to monitor the scope and policy implications of these efforts. The Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Council) is that mechanism.

Established by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as amended, the Council is an independent body within the executive branch of the Federal Government. It has nine members representing Federal agencies and nine practitioner members representing disciplines that focus on youth. The list of participating Federal agencies suggests the Council's scope: the Department of Justice (the Attorney General serves as chairperson, the Administrator of OJJDP as vice chairperson); the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Labor; the Office of National Drug Control Policy; the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service; and the Corporation for National Service.

The Council works to promote a national agenda for children and to foster positive youth

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New Publications

All publications may be viewed and downloaded at OJJDP's Web site. (Visit the "Publications" page at ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/jipubs.html for access to alphabetical and topical listings of titles, with links to content summaries and full-text files.) The publications may also be ordered from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736, 410-792-4358 (fax), and online at puborder.ncjrs.org. Be sure to check the Web site's "New Releases" page at ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/new.html for the latest news on OJJDP publishing activity.

Burglary Cases in Juvenile Court, 1989-1998. Provides information on burglary cases handled by juvenile courts between 1989 and 1998.

Fact Sheet. May 2002. 2 pp. FS 200208.

Juvenile Offenders in Residential Placement, 1997-1999. Presents selected findings from the second wave of data collection for the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP), reporting on juveniles in residential placement facilities as of October 27, 1999, and including comparisons to 1997.

Fact Sheet. March 2002. 2 pp. FS 200207

Modern-Day Youth Gangs. Compares the characteristics of youth gangs in jurisdictions where gang problems began before 1991 with those in jurisdictions where gang problems began more recently, drawing on data from the 1996 and 1998 National Youth Gang Surveys to explore whether modern-day gangs differ significantly from their predecessors.

Youth Gang Series Bulletin. June 2002. 12 pp. NCJ 191524.

In the Publications Pipeline

OJJDP always has a number of publications in the production pipeline. This article highlights a major publication that is nearing completion.

International Parental Kidnapping: A New Resource for Law Enforcement Intervention

The harmfulness of parental kidnapping has been recognized in recent years. Laws have been enacted by Congress and the States to deter parental kidnapping, facilitate location and return of children, and prosecute abductors.

OJJDP soon will publish *A Law Enforcement Guide on International Parental Kidnapping (Guide)*, providing detailed, practical information to help local, State, and Federal law enforcement authorities intervene quickly and effectively in international

parental kidnapping cases. These cases involve the wrongful removal of a child from the United States or wrongful retention in another country by a parent or family member. Although the international dimension makes them challenging, international parental kidnapping cases can be brought to satisfactory conclusion with timely and informed action.

To assist law enforcement in these cases, the *Guide* will:

- Explain applicable laws.
- Define agency roles and responsibilities.
- Describe criminal and civil remedies.
- Examine methods for prevention and interception.
- Discuss important issues and procedures to be addressed during an international parental abduction case. ■

Teleconference Videotapes Available

OJJDP teleconference videotapes are now available for only \$15—a savings of more than 60 percent. Designed to help juvenile justice professionals address key issues pertaining to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, the interactive satellite videoconferences featured in these videos bring together leading experts in the field. During each teleconference, the assembled experts provide critical information and answer questions of importance to practitioners. Visit ojjdp.ncjrs.org/hlights/telecon.html#video to learn which topics are still available and how you can order.

Agency News: Coordinating Council
(continued from page 2)

development. Its primary function is to coordinate all Federal programs and activities related to juvenile delinquency prevention, the care or detention of unaccompanied juveniles, and missing and exploited children. It has a number of other mandated responsibilities and also engages in building collaborations, disseminating information, and other activities. This article highlights some examples.

Special Initiatives

In recent years, the Council has focused on a variety of special initiatives. For example, it proposed a youth component program for Weed and Seed (a comprehensive, community-based crime prevention initiative of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs) and encouraged research on youth in American Indian/Alaska Native communities. Interdepartmental collaboration spurred by recent Council meetings has addressed issues such as career enrichment for at-risk youth, juveniles and the death penalty, child maltreatment and delinquency, and school safety.

Web Resources

The Council supports two unique Web sites:

Parenting Resources for the 21st Century (parentingresources.ncjrs.org) offers information on a wide range of parenting issues—from child care to drug abuse to college scholarships—to help families meet the formidable challenges of raising

a child. The site catalogs parenting resources that are available through the Internet and provides links to approximately 800 organizations that offer information about parenting.

Children With Disabilities

(childrenwithdisabilities.ncjrs.org) was recognized by *Forbes* magazine as one of the "Best of the Web." The site contains material on an array of developmental, physical, and emotional disabilities and provides links to a variety of resources. It includes a State-by-State index of organizations that offer relevant services and information.

Quarterly Meetings

Part of the Council's mandate is to make annual recommendations to Congress regarding juvenile justice policies, objectives, and priorities. To help shape these recommendations, the Council holds quarterly meetings that provide a forum for the exchange of information, ideas, and research findings. The meetings are open to the public (see "For Additional Information," below).

Other Activities

- The Council is currently updating its *National Juvenile Justice Action Plan*, a working document that provides guidance for comprehensive, coordinated action at the Federal, State, and local levels to address the needs of children.
- Through the International Visitor Program of the U.S. Department of State, justice practitioners from more than a dozen countries have

visited the Council to exchange ideas and information.

For Additional Information

To learn more about the Council, visit its Web site (ojjdp.ncjrs.org/council/index.html) or contact Bob Hubbard, Special Assistant for the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, at hubbard@ojp.usdoj.gov, 202-616-3567, or 202-307-2093 (fax). Notices of quarterly meetings appear on the Web site and in the *Federal Register*. Persons interested in attending can register electronically at ojjdp.ncjrs.org/council/meetings.html. ■

News @ a Glance is OJJDP's bi-monthly newsletter, bringing you up-to-date notices of agency activities, recent publications, funding opportunities, and upcoming events—with an emphasis on providing quick access to online sources for publications and other resources. Let us know what types of features would be most useful to you (e-mail askkj@ncjrs.org).

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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

Funding Update

This section of the newsletter highlights OJJDP's current and upcoming solicitations, recent grant awards, and other funding-related developments. Be sure to check the OJJDP Web site regularly for the latest news on OJJDP funding opportunities.

Upcoming Solicitations

OJJDP soon will solicit FY 2002 funding applications under the following programs:

- ▶ **Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program.** This program encourages communities to develop regional task forces to prevent, interdict, and investigate offenses involving the use of online technology to victimize children. To expand the ICAC program to areas that do not currently have a regional task force presence, this solicitation is limited to State and local law enforcement agencies in Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and the Greater San Francisco Bay area of California. Total funding of \$1.8 million will be available for this program. OJJDP will award six cooperative agreements (one per area) of up to \$300,000 for the 18-month project period.
- ▶ **Targeted Community Action Planning (TCAP): An Intensive Technical Assistance Program.** By providing intensive technical assistance to States, communities, and American Indian/Alaska Native communities as part of the TCAP

program, OJJDP sustains delinquency prevention efforts nationwide. The organization selected to provide this assistance will support at least 15 jurisdictions, helping them develop and deliver a targeted response to their most pressing juvenile justice issues. The assistance provided will be community based, results oriented, and the product of best practices and promising programs nationwide. OJJDP will

fund the program for three 1-year budget periods. Up to \$800,000 will be available for the first year.

For current application information, materials, and deadlines:

Visit OJJDP's Web site at ojjdp.ncjrs.org and click on the "Grants & Funding" icon, or contact the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736. ■

Final Program Plan

OJJDP published its FY 2002 Final Program Plan in the *Federal Register* on June 5, 2002. As outlined in the Plan, OJJDP's program priorities in FY 2002 include youth reentry programs, capacity building in community- and faith-based organizations, juvenile drug use prevention programs, and school violence prevention programs.

In addition, the discretionary programs OJJDP administers typically address one or more of the following goals:

- ▶ OJJDP promotes delinquency prevention and early intervention efforts that reduce the flow of juvenile offenders into the juvenile justice system, the numbers of serious and violent offenders, and the development of chronic delinquent careers.
- ▶ OJJDP seeks to improve the juvenile justice system and its response to juvenile delinquents, status offenders, and dependent, neglected, and abused children.

- ▶ OJJDP supports corrections, detention, and community- and faith-based alternatives that protect the public, incorporate appropriate secure detention and corrections options, and foster the use of community-based programs for juvenile offenders.
- ▶ OJJDP supports law enforcement, public safety, and other justice agency efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency, intervene in the development of chronic delinquent careers, and collaborate with the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of dependent, neglected, and abused children.

OJJDP received 21 letters commenting on the Proposed Plan, which was published on October 23, 2001. All comments have been considered in the development of the Final Program Plan. The Final Program Plan, with a complete list of FY 2002 programs, is available through OJJDP's Web site at ojjdp.ncjrs.org/grants/current.html. ■

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