



# Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Newsletter

May 2009

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) is committed to keeping the people of Massachusetts informed about critical homeland security, emergency management, personal safety, and criminal justice issues. The EOPSS newsletter is published monthly for the purpose of sharing current information on events, publications, and funding opportunities among public safety professionals.

## Contents

### EOPSS Funding Opportunities

- Foundation Center Offering Funding for Neighborhoods to Improve Pedestrian Safety
- FFY2009-2010 Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Moped-Type Safety Enforcement and Equipment Grants
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini-Grant Program
- 2008-2009 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant Program

### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Opportunities

- OJJDP FY 09 Recovery Act Internet Crimes Against Children Research Grants
- Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, Local
- Recovery Act: Evaluation of Internet Child Safety Materials Used by ICAC Task Forces in School and Community Settings
- Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance

### Other Funding Opportunities

- Court Statistics Project
- Design of 2009 National Private Security Survey
- OVC FY09 SART Conference 2011
- OJJDP FY 09 Child Abuse Training for Judicial and Court Personnel
- Second Chance Act Mentoring Grants to Nonprofit Organizations
- OJJDP FY 09 Field Initiated Demonstrated Program
- Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act (STOP Act) Grants
- 2009 Census of Publicly Funded Forensic Crime Laboratories
- Survey of Inmates in Prisons and Local Jails: Design and Testing Phase Solicitation
- Conversion of Criminal History Records into Research Databases Solicitation
- OJJDP FY 09 Mentoring Research Program
- OJJDP FY 09 Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Discretionary Program Training and Technical Assistance
- OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors
- OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals
- OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers Subgrant Program
- OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers Membership and Accreditation Program

### Research and Publications

- Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2008
- OJJDP Highlights of the 2007 National Youth Gang Survey
- Sex Offender Registration and Notification: Research Finds Limited Effects in New Jersey

### Conferences and Trainings

- Underage Drinking Prevention Conferences
- 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual IACP LEIM Training Conference and Exposition
- 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Massachusetts Suicide Prevention Conference
- Fifth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference
- National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Conference 2009
- National Center for Victims of Crime's 2009 National Conference
- Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy: "A Model for the Nation"

### News

- Mass. Lawmakers Looking to Pass Tougher Seat Belt Law
- Police Unions Roll up Votes to Restore Bonus
- Cop Cadets' Meal Ticket
- Springfield Coalition to Fight Youth Drinking with Compliance Checks

### Announcements

- Federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)
- Recovery Act: STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program
- Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, State

## **EOPSS Funding Opportunities**

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

### **Foundation Center Offering Funding for Neighborhoods to Improve Pedestrian Safety**

#### **Application Deadline: May 29, 2009**

Grants of \$2,000 will be awarded to government agencies, nonprofits, and community groups working to improve the pedestrian safety and walkability of their neighborhoods.

For more information: [http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp\\_item.jhtml?id=247900022](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=247900022).

### **FFY 2009-2010 Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Moped-Type Safety Enforcement and Equipment Grant**

#### **Application Deadline: June 7, 2009**

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), Highway Safety Division (HSD) announces the availability of up to \$100,000 in funding for federal fiscal years 2009-2010 for grants to police departments and/or municipalities to develop or enhance an effective pedestrian, bicycle and/or moped-type enforcement effort to reduce the incidences of fatalities and injuries in these areas. The grant award amount per applicant will range from \$5,000- \$10,000.

For more information: the application will be posted at [www.mass.gov/highwaysafety](http://www.mass.gov/highwaysafety) by May 7, 2009 or contact Dan DeMille at 617-725-3341 or [Daniel.DeMille@state.ma.us](mailto:Daniel.DeMille@state.ma.us).

### **Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini- Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through June 2009**

Funded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the Massachusetts Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Mini-grant Program, "Using Prevention Strategies ... Empowering SADD Students to Improve Their Schools and Communities (UPS)," addresses the core issues of underage drinking, impaired driving, and traffic safety. The goal of the mini-grant program is to raise awareness about these issues and create sustainable youth and adult behavior changes to reduce the risks associated with engaging in these activities. All Massachusetts middle schools, high schools, and youth groups are eligible to apply for a \$600 mini-grant from SADD. Each group or chapter selected to receive a mini-grant may utilize the grant award in one of two focus areas: traffic safety or underage drinking and impaired driving prevention. Within the focus area selected, the group will then opt to concentrate on policy and enforcement or education and collaboration.

For more information: <http://www.sadd.org/sresources.htm>.

### **2008-2009 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Grant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: Open Enrollment through August 2009**

The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announces the availability of approximately \$3.2 million in federal funds for high visibility traffic enforcement and equipment grants through September 2009. Funds are available for local police and campus police departments to conduct mobilizations entitled "Click It or Ticket," "Road Respect," and "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest." In addition, participating grant departments will be eligible to purchase traffic safety equipment, signage, and materials after July 1, 2009 upon successful completion of selected 2009 enforcement mobilizations.

For more information: [www.mass.gov/eopsfunding](http://www.mass.gov/eopsfunding) (click on Highway Safety) or contact Caroline Hymoff, Highway Safety Division at 617-725-3334 or [Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us](mailto:Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us).

## **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Opportunities**

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the landmark American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the "Recovery Act"). As one of its many elements, the Recovery Act provides the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) with funding to assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement (including support for hiring), to combat violence against women, to fight internet crimes against children, to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to assist victims of crime, and to support youth mentoring. DOJ is committed to working with our national, state, local and tribal partners to ensure this funding invests in the American workforce.

For general information about American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding available through DOJ, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryact.html>. Following is information about some of the grants that will be made available. For more updates on EOPSS Recovery Act funding, please see the Announcements section of the newsletter.

### **OJJDP FY 09 Recovery Act Internet Crimes Against Children Research Grants**

#### **Application Deadline: May 14, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding to provide research and data to help state and local law enforcement agencies develop effective responses to online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases. Through this program, OJJDP seeks to encourage innovative and independent research and data collection to further our understanding of the scope and prevalence of technology and internet-facilitated crimes against children and to enhance the administration of justice through improved investigation of crime

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/ARRAICACResearch.pdf>.

### **Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program,**

#### **Local**

#### **Application Deadline: May 18, 2009**

The U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics has determined that 147 of the Commonwealth's cities and towns are eligible to apply directly to the U.S. Department of Justice for funding. Some cities and towns must apply collectively under one application on behalf of their respective county. The allocations for which these cities and towns are eligible to apply may be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryJAG/recjag/MA.xls>. EOPSS encourages all eligible cities and towns to apply for this funding.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryJAG/JAGrecoveryLocal>

**Recovery Act: Evaluation of Internet Child Safety Materials Used by ICAC Task Forces in School and Community Settings**

**Application Deadline: May 18, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications to fund an evaluation of internet child safety materials used by Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task forces that receive funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) under the Recovery Act. Specifically, the successful grantee will conduct a multi-site evaluation of internet child safety materials used by ICAC task forces in school and community settings to examine the effectiveness of these materials and identify gaps that may exist in this field. The information is needed to help ICAC task forces make informed decisions about the best materials available to meet their mission of promoting public awareness and prevention.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/s1000875.pdf>.

**Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance**

**Application Deadline: May 18, 2009**

The National Institute of Justice seeks applications for funding research and evaluation that supports the purposes of several OJP Recovery Act competitive grant programs. Targeted areas include: increasing the capacity of state and local criminal justice systems; developing data-driven strategies that provide information to law enforcement to help prevent and combat rural crime; and improving efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement in combating criminal narcotics activity along or stemming from the Southern border. Evaluation proposals should explain how the particular program or strategy being proposed for evaluation was selected and demonstrate that the program has reached a sufficient level of stability for evaluation purposes.

For more information: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/s1000876.pdf>.

## **Other Funding Opportunities**

The following funding descriptions are taken directly from the official applications.

**Court Statistics Project (CSP)**

**Application Deadline: May 11, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics seeks applications for funding to conduct data collection and analysis activities of the Court Statistics Project (CSP). The CSP provides a systematic means to develop a valid, uniform, and complete statistical database that details the operation of state court systems nationwide. The CSP collects and aggregates data from the trial and appellate courts of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/csp09sol.pdf>.

**Design of 2009 National Private Security Survey**

**Application Deadline: May 14, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics seeks applications for the development, design, and drafting of three plans for implementation of the 2009 National Private Security Survey (NPSS) based on ascending levels of project scope, sampling specificity, and cost, as well as an in-depth secondary analysis of extant research in the field of private security. The primary objective of the award is to produce project specifications for this multi-survey data collection on private security officers, which will ultimately serve as the counterpart to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS) collection.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/npss09sol.pdf>.

### **OVC FY09 SART Conference 2011**

#### **Application Deadline: May 14, 2009**

The Office of Victims of Crime seeks applications for funding to plan and implement the provision of state-of-the-art, multidisciplinary training to approximately 1,000 SART professional, including expert trainers and scholarship recipients, at the 2011 National SART Training Conference. The conference shall feature at minimum 80 workshops, 6 keynote addresses, and an exhibition hall of nonprofit and corporate exhibitors. All workshops must be multidisciplinary in nature and any application that provides examples of discipline-specific tracks training will be considered non-responsive. The applicant will work in close coordination and consultation with OVC in all aspects of the development of this conference.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/pdf/txt/fy09sart.pdf>.

### **OJJDP FY 09 Child Abuse Training for Judicial and Court Personnel**

#### **Application Deadline: May 19, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding to develop a model training and technical assistance program to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Program priorities include improving the operation of the child welfare/juvenile justice system and court handling of abuse and neglect cases, and enhancing collaborative efforts and outcomes among the child welfare and juvenile justice systems and other system and community partners. The technical assistance and training developed as a result of this program shall be targeted to courts selected by the applicant as demonstration sites. The model proposed should support implementation of best practices, enhance collaboration, and generate improved outcomes in participating jurisdictions.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/CATJCP.pdf>.

### **Second Chance Act Mentoring Grants to Nonprofit Organizations**

#### **Application Deadline: May 21, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance seeks applications for funding of mentoring projects to promote the safe and successful reintegration into the community of individuals who have been incarcerated. The Second Chance Act grant programs are designed to strengthen jurisdictions characterized by large numbers of returning offenders. Program components must include mentoring adult offenders during incarceration, through transition back to the community, and post-release; transitional services to assist in the reintegration of offenders into the community; and training regarding offender and victims issues.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/09SecondChanceMentoringSol.pdf>.

### **OJJDP FY 09 Field Initiated Demonstration Program**

#### **Application Deadline: May 26, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding that address a broad range of juvenile justice-related issues that support its mission. The agency is particularly interested in proposals that enlist diverse multidisciplinary agency and community involvement in solving problems and delivering services. The purpose of this program is to foster innovations and advancements in juvenile justice-related practice at the local, state, and tribal government levels. The program's goal is to demonstrate the practical implications for policy and practice of innovative programs that enhance juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/FIDO.pdf>.

### **Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act (STOP Act) Grants**

#### **Application Deadline: May 26, 2009**

The STOP Act was created by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to strengthen collaboration among communities, the federal government, and state, local and tribal governments; and to enhance intergovernmental cooperation and coordination on the issue of alcohol use among youth. It is also intended to serve as a catalyst for increased citizen participation and greater collaboration among all sectors and organizations of a community that first demonstrates a long-term commitment to reducing alcohol use among youth; and to disseminate to communities timely information regarding state-of-the-art practices and initiatives that have proven to be effective in preventing and reducing youth alcohol use. Only public and private nonprofits that receive funds under the DFC program—and have not previously received a STOP Act award—can apply. SAMHSA anticipates giving out approximately 20 grants of up to \$50,000 a year.

For more information: [www.samhsa.gov/Grants/2009/sp\\_09\\_007.aspx](http://www.samhsa.gov/Grants/2009/sp_09_007.aspx).

### **2009 Census of Publicly Funded Forensic Crime Laboratories**

#### **Application Deadline: May 29, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics seeks proposals to develop, design, and administer the 2009 Census of Publicly Funded Forensic Crime Laboratories. The goal of this project is to generate accurate and reliable national statistics about the approximately 400 publicly funded forensic crime labs serving federal, state, and local jurisdictions. The census will be conducted in 2010 and collect information on the 2009 workload and operations of crime labs, including the types of analyses performed, staff levels, budget expenditures, and backlogs for forensic services. The selected applicant, in cooperation with BJS and experts in the field, will design, test, and administer the collection instrument.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cpffcl09sol.pdf>.

### **Survey of Inmates in Prisons and Local Jails: Design and Testing Phase Solicitation**

#### **Application Deadline: May 29, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) seeks applications for a collection agent to design and field test a survey for administration to inmates in a national sample of prison and jail facilities, known as the Survey of Inmates in Prisons and Local Jails (SIPLJ), and to prepare a national implementation plan to field the SIPLJ in 2012. BJS seeks to create a single instrument that is adaptable to inmates housed in prison and jail settings and administered using an Audio Computer-Assisted Self Interview (ACASI) mode. The recipient will also design and test an alternative mode of administration for use in facilities where ACASI is not feasible.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/siplj09sol.pdf>.

### **Conversion of Criminal History Records into Research Databases Solicitation**

#### **Application Deadline: May 29, 2009**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) seeks applications to obtain a data processing agent through a cooperative agreement to convert criminal history records into research databases to support recidivism studies. This project aims to convert the information recorded on national criminal history records (i.e., “rap sheets” derived from information housed in individual state repositories) into a database supportive of ongoing recidivism research. In addition, as a pilot test of the data conversion process, this project will produce a research database for use in a study of the recidivism of persons released from prison in 2005.

For more information: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/cchrrd09sol.pdf>.

**OJJDP FY 09 Mentoring Research Program**

**Application Deadline: June 2, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks proposals to evaluate the effectiveness of paid versus volunteer mentors within an existing mentoring program. The evaluator will conduct both a process and an outcome evaluation measuring the success of both paid and volunteer mentor programs in preventing delinquency. While mentoring appears to be a promising intervention for disadvantaged youth, more evaluation work is needed to determine the components of a mentoring program that are necessary for bringing about positive youth development.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/MentoringResearch.pdf>.

**OJJDP FY 09 Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Discretionary Program Training and Technical Assistance**

**Application Deadline: June 4, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding to provide training and technical assistance support to state and local Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Programs and other entities. Since 1998, the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program's training and technical assistance initiative has supported state and local efforts to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors and the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors, defined as persons under 21 years old.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/EUDLDiscretionaryTTA.pdf>.

**OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Prosecutors**

**Application Deadline: June 8, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention seeks applications for funding to operate a national training and technical assistance program for attorneys and others involved in prosecuting child abuse in state or federal courts to enhance the effectiveness of the investigation and prosecution of such crimes. The successful applicant will be responsible for developing and disseminating publications and promoting methods to provide project assessment and increase coordination among VOCA programs.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/VOCATTAProsecutors.pdf>.

**OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Training and Technical Assistance for Child Abuse Professionals**

**Application Deadline: June 8, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks applications for funding to develop and operate a model national training and technical assistance program for child abuse professional to enhance the coordinated multidisciplinary investigation and response to child abuse and to improve the judicial system's handling of child abuse and neglect cases. The successful applicant will be responsible for providing training and technical assistance, developing and disseminating publications, and promoting methods to provide project assessment and increase coordination among VOCA programs.

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/VOCATTAProfessionals.pdf>.

### **OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers Subgrant Program**

#### **Application Deadline: June 8, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks applications for funding to operate a national grants program, funded by OJJDP, for local Children's Advocacy Centers, state chapters, and multidisciplinary teams that provide a coordinated investigation and comprehensive response to child abuse. Specifically, the successful applicant will release requests for proposals, as necessary and approved by OJJDP, based upon identified national needs and a clearly defined funding strategy. The successful applicant will offer training and technical assistance around funding opportunities and provide oversight and award administration,

For more information: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/VOCASubgrant.pdf>.

### **OJJDP FY 09 VOCA Children's Advocacy Centers Membership and Accreditation Program**

#### **Application Deadline: June 8, 2009**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks applications for funding to support a national membership and accreditation organization for children's advocacy center programs. Children's Advocacy Centers provide a coordinated response to victims of child abuse through multidisciplinary teams composed of representatives from the statutorily mandated and other involved agencies. The funding will enable the successful applicant to provide services to a national membership body and to implement standards for program accreditation.

For more information: [http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/VOCAMembership Accreditation.pdf](http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2009/VOCAMembershipAccreditation.pdf).

## **Research and Publications**

### **Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2008**

A joint effort by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the National Center for Education Statistics, this annual report presents an analysis of data drawn from several federally funded collections including the National Crime Victimization Survey, Youth Risk Behavior Survey, School Survey on Crime and Safety, and School and Staffing Survey. The report includes data on school crime and safety collected through surveys from students, teachers, principals, and members of the surrounding communities. Also included are statistics on the nature of crime in schools, school environments, and responses to violence and crime at school.

Access full text at: <http://www.ojp.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/iscs08.pdf>.

### **OJJDP Highlights of the 2007 National Youth Gang Survey**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention recently published this fact sheet which provides a brief overview of the results of the 2007 National Youth Gang Survey. Using a nationally representative sample of various types of law enforcement agencies, this report examines the presence and characteristics of local youth gang problems. Recipients were asked to specifically report on youth gang. Motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, and exclusively adult gangs were excluded from the survey.

Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/225185.pdf>.

### **Sex Offender Registration and Notification: Research Finds Limited Effects in New Jersey**

This National Institute of Justice “In Short” examines the findings of an independent scientific assessment of the effects of “Megan’s Law” in New Jersey. Researchers analyzed state and county data from before and after Megan’s Law was enacted in New Jersey. Megan’s Law is the name for legislation that requires the public to be notified of the presence of sex offenders in their community. Access full text at: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/225402.pdf>.

## **Conferences and Trainings**

### **Underage Drinking Prevention Conferences**

#### **May 11, 2009 in Brockton, MA**

Four Massachusetts District Attorney’s Association offices have been awarded federal funds through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security-Highway Safety Division to host one-day conferences. These conferences will bring together a variety of stakeholders in children’s lives to prevent underage drinking. Attendees may include parents, school personnel, health-care professionals, state and local law enforcement representatives, and others.

For more information, please contact: Worcester County- Karen McGrath, [Karen.mcgrath@state.ma.us](mailto:Karen.mcgrath@state.ma.us), Norfolk County- Michael Jackman, [Michael.p.jackman@state.ma.us](mailto:Michael.p.jackman@state.ma.us), Berkshire County- Carol Mulcahy, [Carol.a.mulcahy@state.ma.us](mailto:Carol.a.mulcahy@state.ma.us), Plymouth County- Ed Jacoubs, [Edward.jacoubs@state.ma.us](mailto:Edward.jacoubs@state.ma.us).

### **33rd Annual IACP LEIM Training Conference and Exposition**

#### **May 18-21, 2009 in Dallas, Texas**

Sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, this conference will focus on best practices and lessons learned in the use of technology to combat criminal activity and improve departmental efficiency and efficacy. Specific topics include: joint communications and technology, criminal justice information systems, and communications and technology.

For more information: <http://www.iacptechnology.org/2009LEIMConference.html>.

### **8th Annual Massachusetts Suicide Prevention Conference**

#### **Connecting Communities, Sustaining Hope, Saving Lives: Suicide Prevention Across the Lifespan**

#### **May 19-20, 2009 in Sturbridge, MA**

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention, and the AdCare Education Institute, this conference consists of over 30 suicide prevention workshops aimed at preventing self-injurious and suicidal behavior across the lifespan. Participants from a range of public and private agencies are expected to attend, including public and mental health professionals, community organizations, school personnel, law enforcement, and special populations advocates.

For more information: <http://guest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=aaa3ee82-28bc-4249-8821-39bf19fa4e5b>.

**Fifth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference**

**May 27-29, 2009 in Seattle, WA**

Sponsored by the Sexual Assault Resource Service office, in conjunction with the Office for Victims of Crime, the ongoing goal of the National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference is to support both the development and improvement of SARTs across the nation. Titled “SART: Our Community, Our Investment,” the 2009 conference will focus on expanding the capacity of SARTs and will provide both basic and advanced information through case studies, interactive opportunities, research findings, survivor accounts, networking opportunities, and longer sessions that allow for more in-depth exploration of issues.

For more information: <http://www.sane-sart.com>

**National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Conference 2009**

**June 15-17, 2009 in Arlington, VA**

Sponsored by the National Institute of Justice, this conference focuses on what is effective, what is ineffective, and what research shows is promising in the field of criminal justice. Specifically, the conference will showcase innovations in forensic sciences and related policy and resource issues. Strong emphasis is placed on the advantages of researchers and practitioners working together to create and support evidence-based best practices.

For more information: [http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/nij\\_conference/welcome.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/events/nij_conference/welcome.htm)

**National Center for Victims of Crime's 2009 National Conference**

**June 22-24, 2009 in Washington, DC**

Sponsored by the National Center for Victims of Crime, in conjunction with the National Crime Victim Bar Association Conference, this conference will feature a multidisciplinary, practice-based curriculum focusing on promising practices, current research, and effective programs. The goal of the conference is to provide a forum for law enforcement, victim service professionals, allied practitioners, policy makers, and researchers to share best practices and current developments to improve resources, policies, and services for victims of crime.

For more information: [http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB\\_Training\\_Institute1160](http://www.ncvc.org/ncvc/main.aspx?dbID=DB_Training_Institute1160).

**Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy: “A Model for the Nation”**

**July 26-31, 2009 in Beverly, MA**

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance, the Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy is a 40 hour week-long program designed to give early career victim service providers an in-depth understanding of crime victims’ experiences across time and systems. Faculty will include victim service providers, academic leaders, and experts.

For more information: [www.mass.gov/mova](http://www.mass.gov/mova) or contact Jamie Ramola at [Jamie.ramola@state.ma.us](mailto:Jamie.ramola@state.ma.us).

## News

The following are excerpts from newspaper articles regarding public safety topics.

### **Mass. Lawmakers Looking to Pass Tougher Seat Belt Law**

***The Republican*, April 16, 2009**

Lawmakers are looking to toughen Massachusetts's seat belt law as reports show the state has the lowest rate of seat belt use in the nation, according to *The Republican*. The Public Safety Committee is holding a hearing on a bill that would allow police to stop drivers if they're not wearing seat belts. Currently, police may ticket drivers for the offense, but only if they're already stopped for another reason. The National Transportation Safety Board says Massachusetts' usage rate of 67 percent is well below the national average of 83 percent.

Access full text at: [http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/mass\\_lawmakers\\_looking\\_to\\_pass.html?category=Statehouse](http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/mass_lawmakers_looking_to_pass.html?category=Statehouse).

### **Police Unions Roll up Votes to Restore Bonus**

***The Boston Globe*, April 21, 2009**

Massachusetts police unions have won enough early support in the House to restore \$50 million to the budget and protect generous pay bonuses for police officers who hold college degrees, securing a potential victory even as groups representing the homeless and disadvantaged struggle for funding, reports *The Boston Globe*. Police already have at least 81 representatives signed up to back their cause, a majority of the 160-member House, assuring a win during next week's budget debate unless House leaders try to reverse the tide. The Quinn bill, which was passed in 1970, supplies salary boosts to police officers who earn a law enforcement, criminal justice, or law degree. The officer, who must attend a college approved by the state, gets a 10 percent boost in his base pay for an associate's degree; 20 percent for a bachelor's degree; and 25 percent for a master's or law degree.

Access full text at: [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/21/police\\_unions\\_roll\\_up\\_votes\\_to\\_restore\\_bonus/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/04/21/police_unions_roll_up_votes_to_restore_bonus/).

### **Cop Cadets' Meal Ticket**

***The Boston Herald*, April 24, 2009**

In a recent article, *The Boston Herald* reported that the Boston Police Department's crew of soon-to-be-laid-off cadets soon could be slapping cars with orange parking tickets as newly hired meter maids in a bid to spare them from the unemployment line and generate cash for city coffers. Despite Mayor Thomas M. Menino's citywide hiring freeze, the 40 cadets were asked if they wanted to be parking enforcement officers for the Boston Transportation Department. Transportation Commissioner Thomas Tinlin said he reached out to the police cadets to fill his 16 parking enforcement officer openings to save time because they've already passed criminal background checks and drug tests.

Access full text at: [http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2009\\_04\\_24\\_Cop\\_cadets\\_meal\\_ticket:\\_Dodging\\_ax\\_with\\_meter\\_maid\\_slots/](http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2009_04_24_Cop_cadets_meal_ticket:_Dodging_ax_with_meter_maid_slots/).

### **Springfield Coalition to Fight Youth Drinking with Compliance Checks**

*The Republican*, April 27, 2009

According to *The Republican*, a community coalition will conduct compliance checks at liquor establishments as part of its efforts to curb alcohol sales to minors. The group, called STOP ACCESS-Springfield, has been working with local organizations and youth to combat underage drinking. The compliance checks will involve having supervised youth go into liquor establishments, such as package stores, where they will attempt to buy alcohol. In a related project, youth will conduct "shoulder-tap" surveys: they will stand outside liquor establishments and ask adults to purchase liquor for them. The coalition also conducts forums, educational programs, and has a youth advisory board.

Access full text at: [http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/springfield\\_coalition\\_to\\_fight.html?category=Springfield](http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/springfield_coalition_to_fight.html?category=Springfield).

## **Announcement**

### **Federal Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)**

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) is requesting that all local departments currently registered as BVP system users ensure that the contact information previously provided, including names and email addresses, reflects the most current information to date. DOJ will be utilizing this contact information to disseminate by email important BVP correspondence, such as new application periods and award announcements. If you are not currently registered in the federal system, you inquire should inquire about doing so.

For assistance updating, verifying, or registering your BVP contact information, please email DOJ at [vests@usdoj.gov](mailto:vests@usdoj.gov).

### **Recovery Act: STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program**

On March 24, 2009, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Commonwealth. Once the award is secured, EOPSS will make funding available in the form of grants. EOPSS will announce relevant details in the weeks to come. Please continue to monitor the EOPSS website for information and announcements.

### **Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, State**

On April 9, 2009, EOPSS submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the Commonwealth. Once the award is secured, EOPSS will make funding available in the form of grants. EOPSS will announce relevant details in the weeks to come. Please continue to monitor the EOPSS website for information and announcements.

## **Contact Information**

We welcome and encourage your comments. Please email us at: [EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us](mailto:EOPS.newsletter@state.ma.us)

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For additional information on EOPSS' grant programs or agencies please visit: [www.mass.gov/eops](http://www.mass.gov/eops)