



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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120 South Riverside Plaza • Suite 1016 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

## Memorandum

**To:** Authority Members

**From:** Janice A. Cichowlas, Associate Director  
Research and Analysis Unit

**Date:** May 16, 2005

**Re:** Research and Analysis Unit Report – June 3, 2005 Authority Meeting

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This memorandum highlights some of the work performed by staff of the Research and Analysis Unit since the Authority's last quarterly meeting. This quarter, Dr. Janice A. Cichowlas joined the Research and Analysis Unit as the new Associate Director.

### **I. ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

#### **A. Publications**

Since the last Authority meeting, the Research & Analysis Unit has published:

- The Impact of Methamphetamine on Illinois Communities: An Ethnography 2005
- Annual Report: Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS)
- 2004 Annual Report: Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council
- ICJIA 2004 Annual Report
- Program Completion, Behavioral Change, and Re-Arrest for the Batterer Intervention System of Cook County Illinois
- The Extent and Nature of Adult Crime Victimization in Illinois, 2002: A Report on the Findings from the Illinois Crime Victimization Survey, 2002
- CLEAR and I-CLEAR: A Status Report on New Information Technology and its Impact on Management, the Organization and Crime-Fighting Strategies

Other publications releases slated for completion before the meeting include:

- Methamphetamine: Quick Facts – Trends in measures of methamphetamine activities in Illinois' First Judicial Circuit

- o Elder abuse in Illinois – An analysis of data from the Illinois Department on Aging.

Finally, from time to time R&A staff publish work outside of the Authority. During the second quarter of FY05, R&A staff wrote the following publications:

- o The 356-page book, *Violence Against Women and Family Violence: Developments in Research, Practice and Policy*, was published by the National Institute of Justice. The chapter, "Risk Factors for Death or Life-Threatening Injury for Abused Women in Chicago," by Carolyn Rebecca Block, appears on pages II-4-1 to II-4-9. This chapter is an overview of risk factors for death, found in the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS), a collaborative study coordinated by ICJIA. The book can be accessed on the web.
- o An analysis of "Barriers to Domestic Violence Help Seeking" results of the CWHRS (Chicago Women's Health Risk Study), written by CWHRS collaborators Michelle Fugate, Leslie Landis, Kim Riordan, Sara Naureckas and Barbara Engel, was published in the March 2005 edition of the journal *Violence Against Women*.
- o "Risk factors for femicide/suicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multi-site case-control study," by Jane Koziol-McLain, Daniel Webster, Judith McFarlane, Carolyn Rebecca Block, Yvonne Ulrich, Nancy Glass and Jacquelyn C. Campbell was submitted to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

## **B. Office of Public Information**

The Office of Public Information (OPI) designs, edits and publishes the Authority's written materials including: press releases, the agency's annual report, *The Compiler*, the agency's quarterly newsletter, and other publications, such as Research Reports, Research Bulletins, and Program Evaluation Summaries. OPI staff also respond to information and assistance requests from the public, the media, and others.

**Press Releases.** OPI staff published three (3) press releases since the last Authority meeting. The releases, which are available on the Authority's website, are summarized below:

- o **March 9, 2005: ICJIA announces release of the 2004 Illinois County Profiles**  
CHICAGO - The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) announces the release of the 2004 Illinois County Profiles. These profiles detail recent and historical levels of criminal and juvenile justice system activities in each of Illinois' 102 counties.
- o **March 14, 2005: ICJIA announces two of every five were crime victims in 2002**

CHICAGO - The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) announces the release of the 2002 Illinois Crime Victimization Survey final report. The survey was the first of its kind in the state, aimed at gauging the extent and nature of crime victimization among residents age 18 and older.

- o **March 28, 2005 - Governor announces creation of state police elder abuse squad**

CHICAGO - Gov. Rod Blagojevich today announced the creation of a special, statewide unit dedicated to fight financial exploitation and abuses against the elderly.

*Also drafted and released to all media outlets:*

- o **May 4, 2005 - OP ED: Proposed federal funding cuts could wipe out victim services and paralyze the criminal justice system**

Drastic federal funding cuts proposed in the president's 2006 budget could have a devastating impact on the administration of criminal justice in Illinois.

*Other releases that are slated for publication before the meeting include:*

**Governor announces \$15,000 for Harvey police cadet program**

**Governor announces \$235,000 for Chicago victims of domestic violence**

Other OPI activities:

- o Completed compilation, drafting, editing, design, and distribution of ICJIA FY04 Annual Report.
- o Edited and designed five balanced and restorative justice guidebooks. Project is undergoing Executive Staff review and final edits.
- o Edited the CJ Dispatch, e-mailed twice monthly to ICJIA website users.

Webmaster Chris Schweda has taken on an editorial role supporting both R&A and OPI staff. This quarter he completed preliminary edits on:

- o Research Report: "Comparison of official and unofficial sources of criminal history record information in Illinois."
- o Program Evaluation Summary: "The Chicago Police Department's Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (CLEAR) System."

A new publication has been initiated entitled *Research at a Glance*. These concise, one-page reports will cover the key points of our longer, more in-depth research publications.

### **C. Briefings/Presentations**

Since the last Authority meeting, R & A staff made presentations at, and/or attended meetings of the:

- National Institute of Corrections Evidence-Based Programming Initiative.
- Illinois Association of Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Professional Certification Association Annual Training Conference.
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.
- Illinois Governor's Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group.
- Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board.
- Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative.
- Sheridan Correctional Center Immersion Training.
- Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council.
- AOIC's Evidence-Based Programming Initiative Statewide Policy Group.
- AOIC's Evidence-Based Programming Initiative Research Subcommittee.
- Evidence-Based Practices for Supervising Domestic Violence Offenders in the Community Workshop.
- 2005 Probation and Court Services Managers' Symposium.
- Mayor Daley's Policy Caucus on Prisoner Reentry.
- Chicago's Citywide Balanced and Restorative Justice Group.
- Illinois Going Home project executive committee.
- Office of the Attorney General Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee research working group.
- Office of the Attorney General Victim Assistance Academy Faculty Workshop.
- Southern Illinois Methamphetamine Awareness Conference.
- Statewide Epidemiologic Workgroup of the Strategic Prevention Project.
- IJIS Summit Publicity and Promotions Committee.
- Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Committee.
- Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and Grant Review Committee.
- Crime Analysts of Illinois Association meetings.
- Chicago Crime Commission Child Exploitation and Prostitution Coalition Meeting.
- Illinois State Police's Electronic Recording of Interviews Training.
- Office of the Attorney General Illinois Youth Court Association Advisory Board.
- Chicago Public Schools Peer Jury Training.
- Chicago Public Schools Advisory Board.
- Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Terrorism Private Sector Subcommittee.
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives grant sites meeting.
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives partners meeting.
- Chicago Women's Bar Association brown bag lunch introduction to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

~ On April 1, Esther Jenkins of the Chicago Community Mental Health Council and Carolyn R. Block presented a paper, "Factors Related to the Risk of Death and Serious Injury for Battered Black Women," at the National Research Conference on

Urban Living and Mental Health, sponsored by the Center for Urban Mental Health Research, Minority-Research Infrastructure Support Program (M-RISP), Chicago State University.

~ In March, a paper on "Battered Women Seeking Help: Police Contact and Experiences," by Kim Davies of Augusta State University, Jacquelyn Campbell of Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and Carolyn Rebecca Block was accepted for presentation at the annual intensive workshop of the Homicide Research Working Group. The Workshop will be held from June 3-6.

#### **D. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse**

The Authority serves as a statewide clearinghouse for statistics and other information about the criminal justice system. Between Jan. 1 and March 31, R&A staff responded to 351 requests from people seeking information — an average of 117 requests per month. Most came from other governmental agencies (38 percent) and the general public (25 percent). Other requests came from private agencies (15 percent), researchers (6 percent), students (9 percent), news media representatives (4 percent), and prison inmates (3 percent). About 15 percent of the requests originated in the Chicago metropolitan area. Fifty-one percent originated in other parts of the state. All other requests for information were received from outside Illinois (16 percent) and unknown areas (17 percent). R&A distributed 16,909 Authority publications during this period. *[TABLE 1 (attached) provides statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

#### **E. Website development**

R&A staff continued development of the Authority's website ([www.icjia.state.il.us](http://www.icjia.state.il.us)). We expanded the criminal justice data and information available on the site. *News Digest Summary* and *National Law Enforcement and Corrections Training Center News* have been added to the publications section of the website and provide visitors a variety of links to other criminal justice articles and publications. In addition, CJ Tips were added to the site's front page, featuring frequently updated tips and criminal justice-related information. We also continue to actively gather user satisfaction information and other feedback online. The site averaged more than 1,892 daily user sessions during this period, and 1,777 registered users currently receive the e-mailed CJ Dispatch, automatically alerting them to the latest information added to the site. Staff continue work on database applications and new software for the site, which will allow visitors to download, display, and graph data in a variety of formats. *[Table 2 (attached) presents website statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

The Authority's website administers the CWHRS Forum, focusing on research and policy issues related to the risk of intimate partner homicide. The CWHRS Forum has 78 registered users. The forum requires little staff time, but members say that it is very useful to them.

## **F. FSGU support efforts**

Upon request, R&A staff review and comment on proposed program narratives submitted by potential grantees to FSGU. The focus of R&A comments are in the areas of proposed objectives, goals, and performance measures. FSGU staff also request R&A assistance in the development of data reports for proposed programs. During the third quarter of FY05, R&A staff continued to work with FSGU staff responsible for the VAWA and JAIBG funds to develop data reports for grantees that include the federally mandated performance measures. This effort will allow federal agencies to improve their reporting of the performance of these grant programs at the state and federal level. R&A staff has also assumed responsibility for the computerization of some program performance data and, upon FSGU request, produced program status reports and/or profiles assessing performance over a given period of time. Research staff also accompany FSGU staff on grant monitoring site visits provide training to VOCA grantees on objectives, performance measures and design data reports to capture that information. *[Table 3 (attached) presents FSGU support statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

## **G. Technical Assistance**

R & A staff are frequently asked to provide a variety of technical assistance on extra-agency research and evaluation, and program implementation projects. Since the last Authority meeting:

- Staff continued to provide limited assistance to several third-party research projects involving studies of individuals' criminal history records.
- Staff continued working with the Illinois Department of Correction's Going Home Program's Reentry Steering Committee.
- Staff provided technical assistance to Illinois' Disproportionate Minority Contact coordinator regarding the collection and interpretation of juvenile justice criminal history record information.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (IJDAI) regarding the collection of performance measurement data from IJDAI pilot sites.
- New Idaho strangulation legislation was based in part on results of the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study. According to Idaho Deputy Attorney General Melissa Moody, ICJIA technical assistance was a key factor behind Senate Bill 1062, signed into law April 6. The bill makes attempted strangulation of a household member, dating partner, or former dating partner a felony, punishable by 15 years in prison. Deputy Attorney General Moody said, "It is the toughest piece of legislation of its kind in the country. I believe it will save lives." The Attorney General's office provided CWHRs results to the state legislators, and the results are cited in the "statement of purpose" section of the bill, which may be viewed at: <http://www3.state.id.us/oasis/S1062.html>.

- Staff continued to serve on an advisory board for the National Violent Injury Statistics System (NVISS), Harvard University, and Centers for Disease Control, consulting on how to make NVISS data accessible to a practical audience.
- Staff continued to collaborate with FSGU staff on the research, development and testing of alternative funding formulas for the allocation of federal monies to Illinois' multijurisdictional drug enforcement units, and National Criminal History Record Improvement program funds.
- Staff continued to participate with and support the Illinois Attorney General's Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee's Research Working Group.
- Staff continued to serve on an advisory committee for the Illinois Violent Death Reporting System, a joint project of the City of Chicago Mayor's Office, the city's Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Public Health, Chicago Police Department, and Cook County Medical Examiner's Office to develop better data regarding violent deaths in Illinois.
- Staff have joined the Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Panel, a joint project of the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Attorney's Office, Illinois Attorney General's Office, Illinois State Police, Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, Illinois Sheriff's Association, Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, and Illinois Drug Officer's Association to discuss the growing threat of methamphetamine abuse in Illinois.
- Staff participated on the advisory board for the evaluation of the Domestic Violence Helpline, administered by the City of Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence.
- Staff continued to advise users of the Social Support Network (SSN) Scale, developed in the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study. A large study of children and their mothers, being conducted by Harvard Medical School, is utilizing the SSN. The SSN has been accepted for inclusion in an archive of scales, the HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments) database.
- Staff continued to advise users of the Chicago Homicide Dataset and the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study dataset, both of which are archived in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.
  - Staff served as chair of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems Arrest Booking/Rap Sheet Improvement Committee.
  - Staff served on the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County Tina Ball Memorial DUI Taskforce.

## **H. Deaths in Custody Reporting**

The Deaths in Custody Reporting Act (DICRA) (P.L. 106-297, effective Oct. 13, 2000) requires states to compile and report quarterly to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) the number of deaths, and the circumstances surrounding the deaths, of people in local jails, state prisons, juvenile correctional facilities, and law enforcement custody. Until recently, the information requested by BJS was limited to deaths in local jails, state prisons, and state juvenile facilities. Collection of DICRA information was expanded to include deaths that occur while a person is in police custody or in the process of arrest. Information on deaths that occur while a person is in police custody will supplement the annual data on prison inmate deaths that BJS already receives from the Illinois Department of Corrections as part of the National Prisoners Statistics Program and the National Corrections Reporting Program. In March 2004, the Research & Analysis Unit accepted the responsibility for quarterly submission of this information. This was due, in part, to the Authority's role as Illinois' administering agency for the Violent Offender Incarceration / Truth in Sentencing (VOI/TIS) federal grant program. VOI/TIS requires states accepting VOI/TIS funds to participate in the Deaths in Custody reporting program. R&A staff began in July 2004 collecting specific information requested by BJS for all deaths in Illinois that occur while the person is in police custody or in the process of arrest by local, county, and state law enforcement agencies regardless of cause of death. For reporting purposes, the data will include:

- Deaths occurring when an individual is in the physical custody, or under the physical restraint, of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest.
- Deaths that occur by natural causes, while in the physical custody, or under the physical restraint, of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest.
- Those killed by any use of force by law enforcement officers prior to booking
- People who died at a crime/arrest scene or medical facility prior to booking.
- Deaths occurring in transit to or from law enforcement facilities.
- Deaths of those confined in lockups or booking centers (facilities from which arrestees are usually transferred within 72 hours and not held beyond arraignment).

Retrospective summary data on deaths in law enforcement custody during the period of January 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004 were submitted to BJS in the fall of 2004. Reports for the first quarter of 2005 were the most recent submitted.

## **II. CURRENT PROJECTS**

### **A. County Profiles**

This short-term project was completed during the past quarter and resulted in the production of reports detailing recent and historical criminal and juvenile justice system activity levels across the components of the justice system (i.e., law enforcement, courts, and corrections) for each of Illinois' 102 counties.



## **B. Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Implementation Guides**

R&A staff are finalizing a series of profession-specific BARJ implementation guides for law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and probation officers. These five guides will be published by ICJIA in Spring 2005. Additional guides for community-based agencies, victim advocates, offender advocates, governmental agencies, youth and schools are planned.

## **C. Commitments to the Juvenile Division of the Illinois Department of Corrections**

This is a short-term research project intended to describe the characteristics of youth who have been committed to Illinois Youth Centers in 2004. Data analysis is under way and a Research Bulletin is planned for publication in Summer 2005.

## **D. Assessment of prior victimization and access to services among adult female inmates in the Illinois Department of Corrections**

This project is designed as an assessment of the prevalence of prior victimization, primarily domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse, among adult female inmates within the Illinois Department of Corrections. Through an examination of existing data collected during the Reception and Classification process at the Dwight Correctional Center, the research team will determine the prevalence of these forms of prior victimization, examine those inmate characteristics correlated with prior victimization (i.e., demographic, socio-economic, criminal and substance abuse history, and mental health), and gauge the access to IDOC services among those with histories of victimization. The final report on this project is scheduled for completion in December 2005.

## **E. Illinois Substance Abuse Monitoring Network**

R&A staff, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services' Office on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse established an Illinois Substance Abuse Monitoring Network. This group functions as a special workgroup to facilitate the exchange and analysis of information regarding the nature and extent of drug use, drug abuse, and drug markets in Illinois. The group has met twice and the next meeting is being planned.

## **F. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit**

The unit's Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit Center is an ADAA-funded in-house effort to continuously examine the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of this information, and to recommend strategies for its improvement.

**CHRI Audit.** Staff have completed the data collection from local agencies and the computerized criminal history record repository. Data are currently being analyzed to determine the timeliness, completeness, and accuracy of electronic reporting as well as examination of

warrant arrest reporting.

**CHRI Improvement Plan.** The CHRI Improvement Plan is necessary to meet funding requirements from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs relative to national criminal history record improvement grant funding. The CHRI Improvement Plan workgroup includes representatives from Illinois' local and state criminal justice agencies. The full report has been reviewed by the Authority's Information Systems Committee and will be presented at the regular June 2005 Authority meeting.

**CHRI Data Ad Hoc Connection.** The CHRI data ad hoc connection is an electronic connection to criminal history record information housed by the Illinois State Police. Access to CHRI data allows ICJIA to query the data housed on the computerized criminal history database. Staff are working to develop procedures and policies for data use and sharing, standardized queries, documentation of the data elements, and a publication format for the reporting of aggregate data available via the CHRI data ad hoc connection.

### **G. Chicago Homicide Dataset Update Project**

The R&A Unit maintains a comprehensive database containing information on every homicide that occurred in the City of Chicago between 1965 and 1996, and is completing an effort to update the dataset through 2000. Efforts also are under way to add 2001 and more recent data. The Chicago Homicide Dataset has been collected and maintained for many years in close cooperation with the Crime Analysis Unit, Detective Division of the Chicago Police Department. A variety of research products from this dataset have been developed and an archive version for use by other researchers has been submitted to the University of Michigan's National Criminal Justice Data Archive.

Staff also continue to collaborate on various third-party projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset. Current collaborations include "An evaluation of arson-associated homicide in Chicago," with Dallas Drake, a retired firefighter, "When elderly men and women are killed: circumstances of life-threatening violence and homicide against victims age 65 and older," with Ronet Bachman, an expert on national elderly victim data, "Street gang-related homicides in Chicago, 1965 to 2004," with Tim Lavery and Megan Alderden of the Chicago Police Department, and several publications on child homicide victims in Chicago with Kim Vogt, University of Wisconsin, including:

- ~ "Trends in Young Children's Risk of Homicide Victimization in Chicago, 1965-1995," soon to be published by ICJIA as a Research Bulletin.
- ~ "Killing little girls: homicides of girls aged infant to 14, Chicago 1965-1995," presented at the American Society of Criminology meetings. A revised version is being prepared for a Research Bulletin.
- ~ "Murder of newborns and infants in Chicago: patterns and implications for prevention," presented at the Homicide Research Working Group annual Workshop. A revised version is being prepared for a Research Bulletin.

## **H. Statewide Crime Victimization Survey**

Growing out of recommendations in the *State Criminal Justice Plan*, staff initiated a state crime victimization survey modeled on the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics' Crime Victimization Survey, and similar efforts in other states. A final report has been published and is available on the Authority website. A series of shorter and more issue-specific Research Bulletins based on these data are planned.

## **I. Managing offenders with serious mental illness**

This collaboration with University of Illinois-Chicago and Dr. James Swartz on a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation involves our distribution of a series of reports on managing offenders with serious mental illness. The first report, regarding the screening for mental illness among offenders is scheduled for publication this summer.

## **J. Program evaluation and research projects**

The R&A Unit pursues an aggressive program evaluation and research agenda through an in-house ADAA-funded grant program. Other evaluation and research efforts supported by the Authority include:

### **1. Evaluation of the Jackson County School-Based Probation Program**

Staff from the Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency and Corrections at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale completed the evaluation of this probation project in September. The report provides an overview of the project and cites a number of issues and considerations that must be addressed by jurisdictions interested in implementing school-based probation. A final report has been received and a program summary describing the findings of the evaluation is complete and awaiting final review before publication.

### **2. Evaluation of moral reconnection therapy in the Franklin/Jefferson County Evening Reporting Center Program**

Staff from the Public Administration and Policy Analysis Department at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville completed the evaluation of this probation project in October. The final report contains an overview of the implementation of the projects in the two counties and documents their respective strengths and weaknesses. It is currently available on our website. A Program Evaluation Summary of the full report is undergoing final review.

### **3. Lake County Domestic Violence Probation Program evaluation**

This is an impact evaluation of a specialized probation program in Lake County focused on domestic violence offenders, and is being carried out by Justice Research Associates. The project is a follow-up to an implementation evaluation recently completed by JRA and is focusing on the outcome differences between the program participants and a comparison group. A final report is due by the end of summer 2005.

#### **4. Study of disproportionate incarceration of minorities for drug crimes**

This project is a collaboration between the Authority and Loyola University Chicago, The John Howard Association and TASC, Inc. The study is examining the impact of sentencing laws and practices on the minority community, particularly in response to convictions for drug related crimes. Research bulletins planned include reports on national trends, drug law changes, the nature of addiction and treatment, the Illinois perspective on minority incarceration and policy recommendations. The first report in the series, dealing with the national perspective on the issue, has been published. The second report, describing significant changes in state and federal statutes, is in revision based on feedback from Authority staff. The third report is being finalized and prepared for submission to ICJIA with the fourth report to follow shortly.

#### **5. Reintegration of gang offenders in the community study**

In collaboration with DePaul University's Department of Sociology, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and the Attorney General's Gang Crime Prevention Center, a small-scale, pilot study of the reintegration process is being conducted. The study is largely qualitative, examining how gang & non-gang offenders go about reintegrating into their communities of origin. A final report on the study is due in June 2005.

#### **6. Community Mobilization: Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

This project involves the development of a series of four research briefs on different aspects of the Attorney General's Gang Crime Prevention Center Community Mobilization Program. The first of four research briefs is available on the topic of resident decision making versus representativeness in the community. The remaining report topics include the evolution of program implementation, resident involvement/coalition building and integration into the surrounding community. These reports are available and staff have completed a summary report that is awaiting final review prior to publication.

#### **7. Returning home: understanding the challenges of prisoner reentry in Illinois**

The Urban Institute will carry out this project. It will involve development of a policy briefing synthesizing findings from four waves of prisoner interviews, interviews with family members, focus groups with residents, and interviews with stakeholders to present the first systematic understanding of the process of prisoner reentry and the specific

issues and challenges associated with reentry in Chicago. Past reports, available on the Urban Institute's website ([www.ui.urban.org](http://www.ui.urban.org)), include: *A Portrait of Prisoner Reentry in Illinois*, and a Research Brief entitled, *Illinois Prisoners' Reflections on Returning Home*. The most recent report, *Chicago Prisoners' Experiences Returning Home*, was made available in December 2004.

### **8. Illinois Going Home Program Evaluation**

The University of Chicago will conduct an implementation and preliminary impact evaluation of the Illinois Going Home Program. The program is a major offender reentry effort funded through a partnership of contributing federal agencies and in concert with a number of Chicago-area government, community and faith-based organizations. The evaluation will determine if the program was implemented as designed, how it worked in the field and the effectiveness of the program. Evaluators recently completed a one-year interim report in September. This report identified a number of recommendations for increasing enrollment that Going Home staff are currently implementing. The final report is due at the end of December 2005.

### **9. Circuit Court of Cook County, Department of Social Services, Domestic Violence Intervention Program**

This project was conducted by University of Illinois at Chicago under the direction of Larry Bennet and the West Side Domestic Abuse Project (WSDAP) in collaboration with the Social Service Department of the Circuit Court of Cook County. In 1999, UIC and WSDAP developed an assessment tool for batterers aimed to increase the safety of victims and improve the ability of staff to identify men who are at high risk and intervene to reduce their risk by assertive case management. This project used existing Cook County PROMIS data and supplemental data collected from case records on men participating in the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Researchers collected longitudinal data on predictors of attrition and outcomes for men who batter that can be used by policy makers and staff to improve intervention services. Researchers also contributed important information to the larger criminal justice and violence against women communities about the effectiveness of justice-based intervention with batterers. A final report on this project is on the Authority website and a Program Evaluation Summary of this report is in review.

### **10. An Evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's CLEAR Initiative – Phase II**

The third evaluation report on the status of the new information technology enterprise system under development by the Chicago Police Department (CPD) is now available on

the Authority web site. The state-of-the-art integrated criminal justice information system, "Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (CLEAR)," is designed to provide anytime, anyplace access to vast repositories of centralized, relational data. The data warehouse is the engine that powers the numerous interrelated applications that comprise CLEAR. This report describes all CLEAR initiatives, the "launch procedures" that lie behind them and their impact on policing. The report describes this ongoing process through October 2004 and details the efforts aimed at the introduction of high-priority applications, and the resources and processes needed to develop and implement the major components of CLEAR. A separate report on CPD's efforts against violent crime is forthcoming.

### **11. Analysis of datasets maintained/available through the Authority**

In addition to collaborative research projects using the Chicago Homicide Dataset or the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study, R&A staff have also collaborated with external researchers on two projects that focus on the analysis of InfoNet data. InfoNet is a database that maintains information from victim service providers and agencies.

- The first project, under the direction of Loyola University's Dr. Susan Grossman and Dr. Marta Lundy, focuses on the analysis of sexual abuse data and will provide much needed information on those that seek help and services for sexual assault in Illinois. The research questions focus on the adult survivors and victims of sexual assault and abuse and will detail the following: basic demographics and income sources, relationship between the client and abuser, characteristics of the abuser, issues and circumstances of the abuse/assault, special needs, referral sources, experience with medical services, intensity and duration of support and social services, and legal actions taken in response to the abuse/assault. In addition, this project will generate a template for victim service centers to use so that they can complete a center-level analysis based on the study's statewide and regional analyses. This report is under review.
- An additional project under the direction of Dr. Karla Fischer will focus on information on those that seek help for domestic violence in Illinois. The study will include a profile of victims, offenders and children, and the types of services they seek and ultimately receive. The profiles will be generated on three levels—the individual service providing agencies, communities and the state. The findings will aid in identifying underserved populations and unmet social service needs in the area of domestic violence services. The draft report has been received and is under review.

Also, a request for proposals was developed for the analysis of other datasets available through the Authority. Three small-scale research projects seek to answer research questions on data from the Illinois Crime Victimization Survey and the 2000 Probation Outcome Study. They include:

- “Analysis of Crime Victimization Data – Rate and Nature of Victimization and Utilization of Resources,” by Dr. Amanda Mathias Humphrey of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. A study will be conducted of the CVS data to determine the level of victimization in Illinois, differences in victimization, reporting practices and demographic differences, use of services and demographic differences in service utilization.
- “Analysis of Crime Victimization Data – Violent Crime and Victim’s Gender,” by Dr. Callie Rennison of the University of Missouri St. Louis. This analysis will address whether individual and family level correlates of nonfatal victimization differ by gender, whether these correlates differ by type of nonfatal violent crime and whether they differ depending on the victim and offender relationship.
- “Analysis of Drug Use, Treatment and Probation Outcomes,” by Dr. Beth Hueber of the University of Missouri at St. Louis. This project will identify the characteristics of drug-involved probationers, the prevalence of participation in treatment and the effect of treatment on probation outcomes.

## **12. Safe Haven Domestic Violence Program evaluation project**

Staff are evaluating the Chicago Safe Havens demonstration site, a project funded under the Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program. The Safe Havens Program was established by the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 to provide an opportunity for communities to support supervised visitation and safe exchange of children, by and between parents, in situations involving domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The project enables custodial parents to drop off their children for court ordered visits and exchanges, without having to face the non-custodial parent. The visit with the non-custodial parent takes place at a visitation center, with social service staff observing and monitoring the visit. The purpose of the supervised visitation program is to enable custodial parents to comply with court ordered visitation, without having to fear that they or their children will be re-victimized. ICJIA research staff are serving as local evaluators for the demonstration initiative. Staff has identified four priority areas of the evaluation: interviews with visitation center directors and staff and interviews with the Local Advisory Committee members (to determine changes in practice in policy and roles as collaborators), the issue of case termination (to determine why cases come to a close and what can be done in cases where visits should continue, but do not), observation forms used by staff at visitation centers during visits (data from these forms, together with data collected through interviews can help determine how accurately these forms reflect what happens during visits), and data collection pertaining to judges (to determine what they know about supervised visitation and how they determine who is eligible or will benefit from these services.) Staff is completing IRB applications for the interviews and observation forms.

## **13. Criminal justice agencies needs assessment survey project**

Orbis Partners has been selected to conduct a criminal justice needs assessment in Illinois. The primary purpose of this study is to supply information that will demonstrate the needs of criminal justice organizations, and identify areas that need improvement. The information will also be used to guide decision-making regarding where to best allocate resources. A secondary purpose of this study is to provide information that outlines if, and how, the needs of criminal justice organizations have changed over time by comparing the data collected as part of this study to the results of a needs assessment survey conducted in 1996. Major components of the criminal justice system will be surveyed on topics such as workload demands, training needs, staff retention, information systems and programming. A project kickoff meeting between R&A staff and Orbis Partners was held in November 2004. Data collection is expected to begin in the spring 2005. The assessment and final report will be completed by December 2005.

#### **14. Chicago Public School Peer Jury Program evaluation project**

Florida Atlantic University has been selected to evaluate the Chicago Public School's Peer Jury Program and its operation and development during the 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 school years. The study will focus on three schools that implemented the program, but will also involve the collection of some general descriptive data pertaining to the program as a whole. The evaluation will assist program practitioners and technical support staff in improving the program, and assist Chicago Public School's administrative staff in making future decisions regarding the program. In addition, the study will contribute to bodies of research examining restorative justice and programming for minors.

#### **15. Evaluation of IDOC's Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program**

Research & Analysis staff are continuing to support the operation of the Sheridan Correctional Center through a process and impact evaluation. Open since January 2004, Sheridan operates as a fully dedicated therapeutic community for inmates in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan will provide all participants access to a wide array of services, including substance abuse treatment, education and vocational programming. The program will also prepare inmates for release into the community and provide access to services and support following their release. In addition to Authority staff, a number of organizations assisted in the development of Sheridan, including treatment agencies, governmental agencies, community organizations, national experts and inmates. The prison will operate at a capacity of 1,300 inmates and include males that are projected to serve between 6 and 30 months, be eligible for placement in a medium security facility and be in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan is the largest treatment prison in the county. The evaluation of Sheridan is a collaborative effort between the Authority and the Illinois Department of Corrections, and is guided by an Evaluation Advisory Committee. The process and impact evaluation involves extensive quantitative data collection and qualitative information from focus groups and interviews with staff and



participants. The evaluation will seek to measure changes in participant attitudes, beliefs and psychological functioning, in addition to participants' preparedness for release. The study will also examine the extent and nature of institutional violations and measures of recidivism after release. Employment and access to services will also be studied. A summary of the project was released in October 2003 as a Program Evaluation Summary report, and Authority staff have made numerous presentations regarding the evaluation findings.

#### **16. The Impact of Methamphetamine on Illinois Communities: An Ethnography**

A final report by Dr. Ralph Weisheit of Illinois State University was submitted in October. The report documents site visits and interviews that examine the effects of methamphetamine in Edgar and Clark counties. The report address several research questions, including: What is the impact of methamphetamine on rural communities?; What resources in rural communities can be brought to bear on the problem of methamphetamine?; and, What additional resources might facilitate an effective response to the problem? The report was made available on the ICJIA website in December of 2004. A Program Evaluation Summary of the final report is under review.

#### **17. Evaluation of Redeploy Illinois sites**

A request for proposals was issued in November for the evaluation of two Redeploy Illinois sites. The first site, in Macon County, provides a series of services and treatments in an effort to keep juveniles in the community and out of the Illinois Department of Corrections. The second site, in the Second Judicial Circuit, also employs treatment and includes Multi-Systemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy and Aggression Replacement Training to keep youth in the community. Powered Performance, a Wheaton-based research and consulting firm, was awarded the contract to evaluate both Redeploy sites. The project was initiated in March and preliminary meetings between the evaluators and program personnel from both sites have begun.

#### **18. An evaluation of Illinois-Citizen Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (I-CLEAR)**

The evaluation of I-CLEAR was tentatively awarded to Northwestern University. The evaluation will assess the statewide implementation of the CLEAR reporting system operating under the Chicago Police Department. I-CLEAR will offer a statewide criminal justice information system that is accessible to all of Illinois' criminal justice agencies. The 12-month evaluation is scheduled to begin in May 2005.

#### **K. Externally-funded research and evaluation projects**

R&A staff have been successful in the pursuit of external discretionary grants to support research and evaluation efforts. Several current projects are or were supported by such grants:

## **1. NIJ Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRs) follow-up**

The Chicago Women's Health Risk Project is a continuing collaboration of Chicago medical, public health, and criminal justice agencies, and domestic violence experts to identify factors that indicate a significant danger of life-threatening injury or death in situations of intimate partner violence. Collaborating agencies include the Chicago Department of Public Health, Erie Family Health Center, Cook County Hospital, Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, Chicago Police Department and the Authority. Project research included detailed interviews with abused women sampled as they entered a hospital, clinic, or health center for treatment, as well as interviews with people who knew victims of intimate partner homicide. By comparing data on abused women with similar data on people who have been killed by an intimate partner, the project helps agencies develop collaborative ways to identify and respond to potentially life-threatening intimate violence situations. A follow-up study looked at the effects of community capacity to determine whether the violence stopped or declined in the abused women's neighborhoods. The research provides vital information to beat officers, clinical staff, and other decision-makers in the field. The Chicago Women's Health Risk Project was supported with grants from the National Institute of Justice, the Authority, and other agencies. A number of reports, journal articles and other publications have been developed from the research. Staff is frequently solicited for presentations and briefings on the research and project tools, and data continue to be requested for use by other researchers. Current collaborations on reports from CWHRs include:

- ~ "Risk Factors for Serious Injury or Death in Intimate Partner Violence for Latina/ Hispanic Women" (with Eva Hernandez and Sara Naureckas).
- ~ "Intimate Partner Femicide Against Older Women" (with Yvonne Campbell Ulrich, Jacquelyn C. Campbell and Linda Teri).
- ~ "Are Stepchildren in the Home a Risk Factor for Intimate Partner Homicide?" (with Todd Shackelford).
- ~ "Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy: Outcomes for Mother and Child " (with Phyllis Sharps and Kathryn Laughon).
- ~ "Forced Sex and Leaving an Abusive Relationship" (with Walter DeKeseredy and Martin Schwartz).
- ~ "PTSD in Battered African American Women" (with Esther Jenkins).
- ~ "Risk of Women Becoming an Offender in Intimate Partner Homicide" (with Esther Jenkins).
- ~ "Strangulation as a Risk Factor for Attempted and Completed Intimate Partner Femicide" (with Nancy Glass, Kathryn Laughon, Jacquelyn C. Campbell and Ginger Hanson).
- ~ "A Comparison of African-American and Latina Women's Decisions about Help-Seeking for intimate partner violence" (with Heather Bourne).
- ~ "Seeking Help from the Criminal Justice System: Battered Women's Decisions and Experiences" (with Kim Davies and Jacquelyn Campbell).

- ~ "Intimate Partner Violence and Miscarriage: Examination of the Role of Physical and Psychological Abuse and PTSD" (with Leslie A. Morland, Gregory A. Leskin, Jackie Campbell and Matthew J. Friedman).
- ~ "The Prevalence of PTSD among Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence Depends on Seriousness, Continuation and Social Support Network" (with Gregory A. Leskin and Jacqueline Campbell).

## **2. Juvenile justice system and risk factor data: 2003 Annual Report**

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, R&A staff are compiling county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data into a single data report. This report will also briefly summarize recent trends in these data over time. An additional feature of this report is an emphasis on emerging juvenile justice system issues in Illinois, including Balanced and Restorative Justice, the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Disproportionate Minority Contact, and Redeploy Illinois. The final report will be completed in June 2005.

### **L. New Projects (Clearinghouse)**

#### *Web-based Application for methamphetamine lab reporting*

Staff have begun a project to develop a web-based application that would provide technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies in Illinois to allow on-line reporting of clandestine methamphetamine laboratory seizure data.

#### *Web-based training curriculum (Breeze)*

Staff have begun a project to develop and implement a web-based application that will serve as a medium to users to present interactive training curricula for criminal justice practitioners, social service professionals, and the general public.

### **III. GRANT PROPOSALS**

R&A staff routinely pursue discretionary grants to support data collection, research, and evaluation activities. Frequently these projects involve collaborations with universities and/or other criminal justice agencies.

#### *Submitted*

Staff collaborated with Dr. Kimberly A. Vogt of the University of Wisconsin on an application to the National Institute of Justice for a grant to support a study of homicides of infants and toddlers.

Staff collaborated with JRSA on an application to the National Institute of Justice for a grant to support a multi-state study of the impact of methamphetamine on local criminal justice and social service systems.

Staff are preparing two proposals in response to SAC requests for proposals which would fund research or data collection having to do with the Weed and Seed programs in Illinois and improved data collection of methamphetamine statistics in rural areas.

#### *Awarded*

Staff collaborated with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts on a grant from the National Institute of Corrections to provide research support for the AOIC's Evidence-Based Practices in Probation project. A three-year grant award from the National Institute of Corrections in the amount of \$194,232 was made to ICJIA to evaluate AOIC's Evidence-Based Practices in Probation Initiative.

#### **IV. ONGOING STAFF DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING**

- Staff continue to conduct and/or take part in a variety of staff development and training programs and projects. These include: (a) observations/site visits to several key criminal justice agencies; (b) peer review process for project development and pre-publication; (c) partnerships with the academic community; (d) development of specific training classes including ArcView mapping, multivariate statistical analysis, basic SPSS use, data availability in criminal justice, among other topics; and (e) human subject research issues/concerns and practices.
- Several R&A staff are actively pursuing advanced academic degrees in graduate programs and post-graduate programs. Some also serve as adjunct faculty in criminal justice and other social science programs.
- R & A staff participated in a peer training workshop presented by Dave Olson on tips for the use of PowerPoint in presentations.
- At each monthly R & A Unit meeting, staff present summaries of projects for which they are involved. Peer critiques are given in an effort to cooperatively learn better presentation skills and to keep abreast of current research efforts in the R & A Unit.
- Staff will attend a workshop to improve mapping skills.

- Most R & A staff members will be expected to complete a “Human Participants Protection Education for Research Teams” online course before the end of this calendar year, in order to better understand the role of the Institutional Review Board in the research process.
- Plans are being made to arrange a tour for staff of the Sheridan Prison and Cook County Morgue.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information on any of these activities.

JAC

Cc: Lori G. Levin  
Robert P. Boehmer  
Hank Anthony  
R&A Supervisory Staff

**TABLE 1. Information Request Handling Statistics**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>FIRST QUARTER 7/1- 9/30/2004</b>	<b>SECOND QUARTER 10/1- 12/31/2004</b>	<b>THIRD QUARTER 1/1- 3/31/2005</b>	<b>FOURTH QUARTER 4/1- 6/30/2005</b>	<b>FISCAL YEAR TO DATE</b>
<b>Information requests handled:</b>	329	259	351		939
<b>Monthly average number of requests:</b>	110	86	117		313
<b>Pct of requests completed within two days:</b>	87%	77%	74%		79%
<b>Geographic Origin of requesters:</b>					
Chicago metropolitan area	24%	20%	15%		20%
Other region of Illinois	40%	36%	51%		42%
U.S. other than Illinois	13%	23%	14%		17%
Outside the U.S.	4%	3%	2%		3%
Unknown	19%	18%	17%		18%
<b>Type of requester:</b>					
Government agency	35%	32%	38%		35%
Private citizen	31%	26%	25%		27%
Private agency	14%	18%	15%		16%
Researcher	10%	10%	6%		9%
Student	3%	7%	9%		6%
Media	4%	4%	4%		4%
Legislators	-	1%	-		-
Inmates	2%	2%	3%		2%
Unknown	-	-	-		-
<b>Method of request:</b>					
Telephone/fax	42%	39%	38%		40%
Mail	3%	3%	5%		4%
Email/Internet	35%	37%	37%		36%
In-person	1%	10%	-		4%
ICJIA Web site	12%	11%	20%		14%
<b>Publications disseminated:</b>					
Mailed in response to requests	11,643	28,541	16,909		57,093
Downloaded from Web Site	81,353	96,593	76,751		254,697
Total	92,996	125,134	93,660		311,790

**TABLE 2. Web Site Traffic Report**

	<b>FIRST QUARTER</b> 7/1-9/30/04	<b>SECOND QUARTER</b> 10/1- 12/31/2004	<b>THIRD QUARTER</b> 1/1-3/31/2005	<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b> 4/1-6/30/2005	<b>FISCAL YEAR TO DATE</b>
<b>Hits for Home Page</b>	1,649,239	1,866,210	2,020,352		5,535,801
<b>Number of User Sessions</b>	134,798	144,356	170,187		449,341
<b>Average Hits Per Day</b>	17,937	20,299	22,459		20,232
<b>Average User Sessions Per Day</b>	1,465	1,569	1,892		1,642
<b>Average Use Session Length</b> <i>(minutes)</i>	15	18	15		16
<b>Unique Visitors</b>	61,628	65,762	76,751		204,141
<b>Visitors Who Visited Once</b>	51,084	54,892	63,536		169,512
<b>Visitors Who Visited More Than Once</b>	10,544	10,870	13,215		34,629
<b>Persons Registered for CJ Dispatch</b> <i>(Email notification of updates)</i>	1,627	1720	1,774		1,774

