

C^{the} Compiler



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Two counties install new data systems

With the help of federal money, state computer know-how, and support from their county boards, the Adams County Sheriff's Department and the LaSalle County State's Attorney's Office have entered the age of automation.

The agencies this summer became the first users of two new computerized information systems developed by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to increase the efficiency and speed of information management among county jailers and prosecutors.

The Adams County system, called the Correctional Institution Management Information System (CIMIS), speeds up the booking of jail inmates and maintains a variety of data about people housed in county jails. The system was installed in June at the Adams County Jail in Quincy.

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McGruff salutes Mount Prospect's award-winning crime prevention team, (left to right) Officer Dick Draffone, Chief Ronald Pavlock, Mayor Carolyn Krause, Officer Joseph Kolanowski, and Officer Gary Helfenbein.

Officials praise state and local crime prevention efforts

More than 250 law enforcement officers, business and civic leaders, and citizens from 11 northern Illinois counties gathered in Rosemont on June 19 to learn more about taking a bite out of crime — and to win some praise from state and national leaders for their efforts.

The occasion was the first of four one-day informational seminars on crime prevention sponsored by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. The seminars, which are organized around the theme *Crime Prevention is Everyone's Business*, are designed to provide law enforcement and other officials, as well as members of the private sector, with ideas on how they can prevent crime.

The three remaining seminars have been scheduled for Aug. 20 in Collinsville, Sept. 3 in Springfield, and Sept. 25 in Moline. All four seminars are sponsored by the Authority, in cooperation with the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, the Illinois Sheriff's Association, and the Illinois Crime Prevention Association (formerly the Illinois Crime Prevention Officers' Association).

In his keynote address at the Rosemont seminar, Illinois Inspector General Jeremy Margolis told the audience that police and citizens who are active in crime prevention often go unnoticed

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Information offered on bail amendment

Illinois voters will decide Nov 4 whether to amend the state Constitution to allow judges greater discretion in denying bail to some suspected felons. In response to several requests for information on the proposal, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is preparing a slide show and fact sheet for use by community groups and other organizations.

The proposed Constitutional amendment would permit judges to deny bail to suspects if they are charged with a felony offense that carries a mandatory prison sentence without conditional release and if the suspect poses "a real and present threat" to public safety if released. To become part of the state's Constitution, the proposal must be

News in brief

approved by either three-fifths of the people who vote on the question or one-half of all voters.

The Authority's materials bring together relevant research and statistics on similar bail provisions in other jurisdictions. The idea is to help citizens understand the likely impact of Illinois' proposal on the state's criminal justice system.

Community groups or other organizations interested in these materials should contact the Authority's Information Resource Center at 312-793-8550.

PIMS to expand to downstate Illinois

The Authority has earmarked \$290,000 in federal funds to expand its Police Information Management System (PIMS) to one or two multijurisdictional sites outside the Chicago area.

Thirty-two law enforcement agencies in five northern Illinois counties now use PIMS, which maintains and analyzes crime data and allows users to share information more easily with other criminal justice agencies. These 32 users access a central computer database, maintained by

the Authority at its Chicago facility, through terminals located in their offices. Under the expansion plan, a group of agencies in one or two Downstate areas would share a centrally located remote computer site.

"During public hearings last year, law enforcement officials repeatedly expressed a need for more accurate, timely information in order to make informed public-safety decisions."

Chairman Gould said Authority Chairman William Gould. "What PIMS has brought to the Chicago area in terms of better police management and efficiency, we are now offering to agencies in other parts of Illinois," he said.

The federal money is part of the \$2.3 million the state received in first-year funds from the Justice Assistance Act (JAA) of 1984, a criminal justice grant program the Authority is administering in Illinois. The JAA requires agencies that receive the federal funds to match them dollar for dollar with local money.

For more information about PIMS, contact project director Stephen Tapke at 312-793-8550.

Target repeat offenders, foundation urges

Urban law enforcement agencies could increase their productivity and reduce crime by creating special units to track down repeat offenders, a study released in July says.

"The system must work smarter, not necessarily harder, by removing repeat offenders from the community."

— **James Stewart**
National Institute of Justice

The Police Foundation, based in Washington D.C., analyzed the District of Columbia's Repeat Offender Project (ROP) unit, a team of officers that focuses solely on chronic offenders who average several crimes a week. Among other things, the foundation found that



Chairman Gould

persons apprehended by the ROP unit had longer and more serious criminal history records than those arrested by other officers in the department and that the likelihood of arresting and convicting repeat offenders on felony charges was substantially greater when the unit intervened. The foundation also noted that although ROP unit officers made about half as many arrests as non-unit police, they managed to apprehend and convict more serious offenders.

"The system must work smarter, not necessarily harder, by removing repeat offenders from the community," said James Stewart, director of the National Institute of Justice, which helped finance the two-year, \$216,000 study.

The report cautioned, however, that special repeat offender units are costly and their undercover tactics may threaten civil liberties if not carefully supervised.

For more information about the study, contact Susan Martin or Lawrence Sherman at the Police Foundation, 202-833-1460.

Agency's name changes

On July 1, the State's Attorneys Appellate Service Commission became the Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor. The office, whose primary responsibility is to assist county state's attorneys prosecute appeals, remains at its Springfield address, 151 Bruns Lane. The office's director, currently Kenneth D. Boyle, is an automatic member of the Authority.

People

Citing increasing demands from his duties as Peoria police superintendent, Allen H. Andrews Jr. resigned from the Authority in July. Governor James R. Thompson will name a replacement, who must be a police chief from a jurisdiction outside Chicago. . . . J. Supt. Andrews



David Coldren, the Authority's executive director, was reelected president of the

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Illinois researchers investigate criminal justice topics

By Mark Myrent, Research Analyst

Many criminal justice researchers at Illinois universities are focusing efforts on three broad topics — *decision making in the courts, the juvenile justice system, and citizen response to crime and the criminal justice system* — according to an informal survey by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Researchers are also studying various aspects of policing and are developing new criminal justice analytical methods, the survey found.

The Authority's survey, conducted this spring, covered the 11 largest universities in Illinois and is the first step in the design of a comprehensive criminal justice database, the Statistical Array Storage System (SASS). SASS, which will store several computerized data sets related to crime and the criminal justice system in Illinois, will serve Authority staff as well as outside researchers.

The purpose of the survey was to find out the data needs of criminal justice researchers throughout the state. The survey uncovered the following trends.

Decision making in the courts

- Criminal court practices in nine Illinois counties are being studied by Peter Nardulli at the University of Illinois at Champaign / Urbana (U of I). He examined court calendars, docketing, personnel deployment, jail capacities, and other factors that affect court delay, sentencing, and other judicial decisions.

- Celesta Albonetti, also at the U of I, is investigating the variables that help determine decision making in the courts. She is examining decisions at all levels relating to bail, prosecution, guilty pleas by the defense, and post-indictment decisions such as dropping charges by the prosecution, as well as the decisions made by judges.

- Research on the *not guilty but mentally ill* verdict, along with its predecessor, the *not guilty by reason of insanity*



During a July 18 visit to the Authority, Steven R. Schlesinger (seated), director of the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Joseph M. Bessette (right) BJS deputy director for data analysis, are shown new computer equipment by Authority Executive Director J. David Coldren. Addressing Authority staff and a dozen other criminal justice researchers later in the day, Director Schlesinger outlined some of the BJS's plans, which include compiling county-level victimization data for certain large jurisdictions, opening up the National Crime Survey to questions proposed by non-BJS researchers, and generating more law enforcement administration and management data.

defense, is being conducted by John Klofas and Ralph Weisheit of Illinois State University (ISU). They have done case studies of both types of verdicts in Cook County and other jurisdictions.

- Two separate studies of the plea bargaining process are underway. Jan Gorecki of the U of I has investigated the plea-bargaining system in general. Albert Alschuler of the University of Chicago (U of C) has completed a descriptive study of plea bargaining that draws on case reviews, field interviews, and historical research.

- Several researchers are also studying juries. Shari Diamond at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) has used mock trials to examine juries' reactions to expert testimony and their sentencing behavior. James H. Davis of the U of I has used mock trials to examine the effects of various jury sizes and to determine what are reasonable instructions for jurors. At Northern Illinois University (NIU), Martin Kaplan has studied jury biases and the effects of pretrial

publicity. And Leonard Mandell of NIU is studying the jury selection process, particularly as it relates to race.

Juvenile justice system

- Irving Spergel of the U of C, a pioneer in gang-crime research, is presently focusing on the high school as a unit of analysis. He is studying the effects on delinquency of segregation patterns, school size, poverty level of the area served by the school, number of dropouts, number of gangs, and other factors.

- Gang problems in high schools are also being studied by UIC's Thomas Regulus. And Gregory Prestipino of Loyola University of Chicago is researching patterns of gang migration from the city to the suburbs.

- In his general study of the Cook County court system, Gad Bensinger of Loyola has placed special emphasis on a comprehensive description of the juvenile justice component.

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More citizens ask to review their criminal records

More Illinois citizens asked to review their state criminal history records last year than in any of the nine previous years the access and review regulations have been in effect, according to statistics compiled by the Illinois Department of State Police (DSP).

The 629 requests the DSP processed in 1985 surpassed the 482 requests of the previous peak year, 1977. Requests were up 51 percent in 1985 over 1984's total of 416.

The number of requests first surged in 1977, one year after federal regulations guaranteeing individuals the right to review and challenge the accuracy of their own criminal history records went into effect on March 17, 1976. Under these regulations, citizens can file requests to review their own rap sheets with any law enforcement agency in the state, and they can challenge the accuracy of their records with the DSP's Bureau of Identification (BOI), the agency that maintains state criminal history records.

"Our attitude all the way through is that if there is a mistake we'll correct it. Most people understand that and only file challenges if they really believe there's a mistake."

**— Bud Loverude
Bureau of Identification**

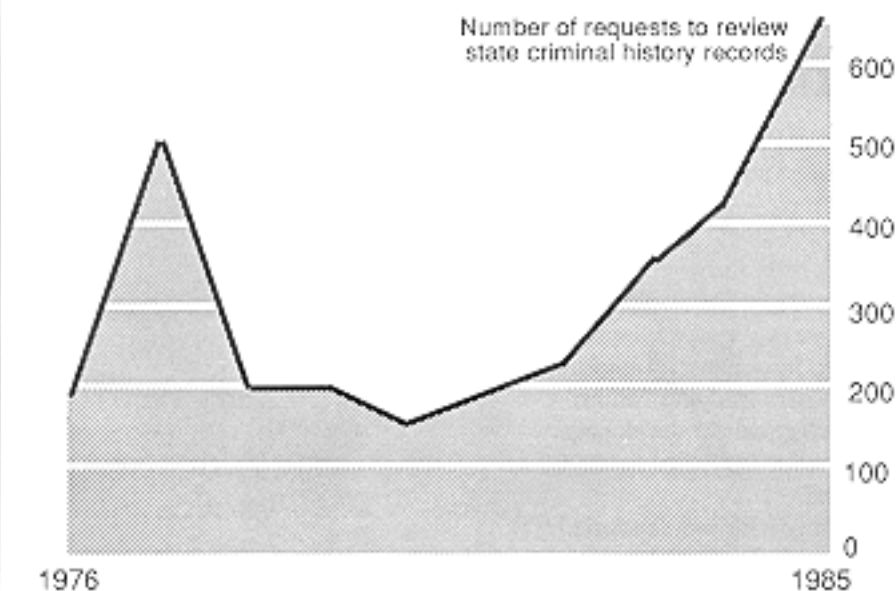
Requests then fell sharply in 1978 and only began to increase again in 1981. Requests rose steadily through March 16, 1986.

[Access and review statistics are based on a year that runs from March 17, the date the regulations went into effect, through March 16. Thus, "1985" means the year from March 17, 1985, through March 16, 1986.]

Challenges to the accuracy of state records remained at roughly the same level from 1983 through 1985. The largest number of challenges occurred in 1977, when 84 were filed.

The number of challenges declined

More than 600 people asked to review their criminal history records in 1985



Source: Department of State Police, Bureau of Identification

sharply after 1977, reaching a low of four per year in 1981 and 1982. They then increased to 12 challenges in 1983. In 1985, the DSP processed 14 challenges.

According to Bud Loverude, criminal records and identification supervisor for the BOI, the low number of challenges is due to the efforts of the bureau to make sure the record is accurate *before* it is sent to the requestor. The bureau uses a request for access and review as an opportunity to go through the entire record and check everything, including fingerprints, said Mr. Loverude.

"It's to our advantage to have our people go through the complete jackets, just from a quality control viewpoint," he said.

Mr. Loverude said the bureau finds very few errors, and that none, as far as he can remember, have involved fingerprints. The errors the bureau does find are often the result of a mixup in the transmission of a record from one agency to another or of situations like confusing the records of two siblings.

DSP figures indicate state prisoners submit the most record challenges. Inmates in the Illinois Department of Corrections submitted 82.2 percent of the 169 record challenges filed during the past 10 years. Prisoners accounted for only 58.4 percent of the requests for access and review, however.

The large number of challenges in the first year after the regulations were enacted fell off sharply once prisoners realized the access and review procedure was not a step toward expunging their records, said Mr. Loverude. Now, he said, prisoners are just concerned with making sure their records are correct, and they understand that the bureau shares that interest.

"Our attitude all the way through is that if there is a mistake we'll correct it," Mr. Loverude said. "Most people understand that and only file challenges if they really believe there's a mistake."

People have even insisted on correcting errors in their records that would seem to be in their favor, said Mr. Loverude. "One man told us he had been convicted and we had it recorded as a dismissal. Another time a woman said she had been sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary, and we had three."

During the 10 years from March 17, 1976, through March 16, 1986, only 5.8 percent of the requests for access and review have resulted in challenges. Of these, only 4 percent have resulted in administrative reviews by the DSP and only 1 percent in appeal proceedings.

The average response time for an access and review request in 1985 was less than 21 days. The average over the past 10 years has been slightly more than 23 days. □

New materials explain how to review rap sheets

Illinois legislators have recently opened up the state's criminal history files to several non-criminal justice agencies for the purpose of conducting background checks on prospective school district employees, child-care workers, and others. As a result of this increased access to state rap sheets, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority has revised a set of educational materials directed toward citizens who wish to review and correct their records.

J. David Coldren, executive director of the Authority, explained why.

"The access and review process is an excellent way to improve the overall quality of state rap sheets, while also meeting the requirements of state and federal privacy laws," Mr. Coldren said. "Complete and accurate criminal history records are essential to the efficient operation of our criminal justice system. Every day, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, corrections officials, and others rely on the quality of criminal history record information when identifying offenders and making other decisions that affect public safety."

The Authority is the state agency responsible for overseeing the procedures, in effect since March 1976, that allow Illinois citizens to access and review their own state rap sheets. As part of this responsibility, the Authority

in July began distributing a new poster and brochure explaining how citizens can review and correct their criminal history records.

The new poster and brochure, which feature a bright yellow, eye-catching design, are the first public education materials on access and review of criminal history records that the state has issued since 1976. The first educational campaign focused on people who came into contact with law enforcement agencies, corrections facilities, and prosecutors' offices. The new poster and brochure, however, are being directed toward an even wider audience, including ex-offenders trying to get back into the mainstream of society and ordinary citizens who have never been convicted of a crime, according to Paul Fields, the Authority's legal counsel.

"Many people may be affected by proposed legislation to require criminal history background checks for a variety of employment and licensing purposes," said Mr. Fields. "We hope the new poster and brochure will reach citizens who may have had an encounter with the law and who are concerned that their record is correct. We hope these people will use these procedures before they apply for a position requiring a criminal background check." □

The poster and brochure, Reviewing

Reviewing and Correcting Criminal History Records



The Authority's educational materials on reviewing and correcting state criminal history records include this poster (actual size 17" x 22").

and Correcting Criminal History Records, have been distributed to police chiefs, sheriffs, state's attorneys, public defenders, probation and court services personnel, and various other state and local officials throughout Illinois. For further information or to receive copies of the materials, contact the Authority's Office of Public Information.

The access and review process

- A citizen who wishes to review his or her criminal history record must first fill out a Request for Access and Review form at any police department, county sheriff's office, or Department of State Police facility in Illinois. Requestors must show proper identification and be fingerprinted. Local agencies may charge up to \$10 for processing the review.
- The agency forwards the request to the Bureau of Identification at the Department of State Police. The bureau retrieves the record and checks it. After correcting any errors, the bureau forwards the record to the agency where the request was made.

- Once it receives the record, the local agency sends a notice to the requestor stating when and where the record can be reviewed.
- The requestor must appear in person at the appointed place and time, show his or her copy of the Request for Access and Review form, and show proper identification. The requestor (along with his or her attorney) may then inspect the record for errors. The requestor may also ask for a list of any non-criminal justice agencies that have obtained copies of the record in the past three years.
- If the requestor finds any errors, he

or she may file a Record Challenge with the Department of State Police.

- The requestor is notified within six weeks whether his or her challenge was approved or denied. If it was approved, the requestor may return to the agency where the initial request was filed and check to make sure the corrections were made. If the challenge was denied, the requestor may file for an administrative review by the Department of State Police director.
- If still not satisfied, the requestor can ask for an appeal hearing with the Authority. □

New version of computer system installed at police training board in Springfield

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority has installed a new version of a computer system that improves recordkeeping at the Illinois Local Governmental Law Enforcement Officers' Training Board. According to board Director Al Apa, the Police Training Board (PTB) system not only maintains a database of every course taken by every local police officer in the state, but also:

- Automatically lists names of appointed officers who have not completed basic training within the six months allowed by state law.
- Automates the process of reimbursing sheriff's offices and local police departments for approved training for their personnel.
- Provides a statistical database for researching the demographics of police departments and training classes and the effectiveness of police training programs.

Once the board installs new computer hardware next year, the system will also allow major training institutions around the state to send enrollment and course information directly to the board via a computer link.

The new PTB system is an updated version of a system installed by the Authority in 1982. The system was initially recommended by Governor James R. Thompson's first Cost Control Task Force. Both versions of the system were designed to run on the Authority's Hewlett-Packard computer in Chicago. The new system, however, takes advantage of new hardware and software capabilities.

The PTB system handles course and appointment information for officers hired by local law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The board's staff enters all new officers into the system. In addition, more than half of the backlog of manual records since 1965 has been entered into the system, said Director Apa.



Al Apa, director of the Illinois Local Governmental Law Enforcement Officers' Training Board, and staff member Betty Houston demonstrate the board's new computer system.

The computer file enables the board to print a biennial census of all law enforcement officers in the state, according to Director Apa. The census is used by researchers and by municipal law enforcement agencies to compare police staffing levels.

The PTB system provides lists of courses taken by individual officers. It can also, on request, list new officers who have not completed their required basic training within the mandatory six-month limit.

That list can be automatically generated a month before the six months are up. This enables the board to give local police and sheriff's departments an early warning on officers who may not meet the deadline.

The system also allows the board to list all officers who have taken each of the various courses offered to law enforcement officers. An automatic claims reimbursement function has been built into this course roster, as well.

The training board, established in

1965, administers the state's reimbursement to municipal law enforcement agencies of 50 percent of the total cost of basic and firearms training for their recruits and up to 50 percent of the cost of other training. Automated claims reimbursement not only speeds up the reimbursement process, but also helps the state determine appropriate funding levels, according to Director Apa. In addition, because the newly installed system keeps track of claims as they are submitted throughout the year, it allows the board to know when it is being "saturated" with claims so that it can take appropriate action, said Director Apa.

The board plans to purchase its own hardware during the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 1987. By then, the board's computer systems operation will be entirely in Springfield. The Authority will continue to provide technical assistance once the PTB system is installed on the board's computer.

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PTB system

Continued from page 6

Having its own computer in Springfield will allow the board to become the locus of a computer network for the state's training institutions, Director Apa said. The major police academies — the Police Training Institute at the University of Illinois, the State Police Academy, the Timothy J. O'Connor Academy in Chicago, and the Cook County Sheriff's Academy — will use their existing computer equipment to submit course and enrollment information directly to the board. The state's in-service training offices will be provided with microcomputers that will enable them to submit information via computer as well.

One of the most important uses of the PTB system is in the research and

planning areas, according to Director Apa. In addition to supporting reimbursement funding requests, longitudinal

"Having a complete handle on what we're doing now, how well we're doing it, and how often we're doing it allows us to make the decisions for the future."

**— Al Apa, Director
Local Governmental
Law Enforcement Officers'
Training Board**

data from the system can provide information for long-term manpower and budget planning. Questions about

changes in the makeup of the state's police forces can be investigated, such as changes in the average age and educational level or whether departments are hiring more part-time rather than full-time staff.

The answers to questions such as these will provide vital information when planning curricula for training programs, said Director Apa. "The necessity for us in the training field to be aware more quickly of the law enforcement training needs is paramount to us. And by having a complete handle on what we're doing now, how well we're doing it, and how often we're doing it allows us to make the decisions for the future.

"By the information research figures from the system, the planning will certainly be more thorough, deeper, and more complete."

Research survey

Continued from page 3

- Teen drug and alcohol abuse is being investigated in two separate studies. Bill Tolone of ISU is examining the effects of drug use not only on delinquency, but on victimization as well. At the U of C, Donald Pappenfort is conducting a descriptive study of substance abuse facilities that serve juveniles.

- A team of researchers from the Chapin Hall Center at the U of C, in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, has developed a longitudinal database on more than 70,000 youth in foster care. Mark Testa, Bob Goerge, and Mary Ann Hartnett are investigating the interrelationship of several demographic and socioeconomic variables, along with foster care experiences and contact with the juvenile court system.

Citizen response to crime and the criminal justice system

- Fredric Du Bow of UIC is evaluating community crime prevention efforts. He

is also studying the increased use of community mediation hearings as an alternative to formal court proceedings.

- David Bordua of the U of I is investigating the relationship between citizen ownership of firearms and the crime rate.

- How city dwellers change their everyday activities in response to perceived risk of crime is being examined by John F. McDonald of UIC.

- Two surveys on public attitudes toward crime have been conducted. UIC's Douglas Thomson investigated attitudes toward criminal sanctions and sentencing alternatives, and Northwestern University's (NU) Thomas Tyler surveyed views on the police and court services.

Law enforcement/criminal justice analytical methods

- Law enforcement procedures and tactics are topics of several studies. Two studies of legal issues pertaining to search and seizure have been conducted, one by Wayne LaFave of the U of I and the other by Albert Alschuler of the U of C. Margaret Rosenheim, also of the U

of C, is investigating social services that police departments give offenders, compared to referrals to outside agencies. And special issues in rural policing are being studied by Brendan Maguire at Western Illinois University (WIU).

- Several research efforts are focusing on law enforcement training issues. William McCamey at WIU is investigating training given in arson investigation. And UIC's Christopher Keys is evaluating the literature on psychological training for police.

- Development of new criminal justice analytical methods is underway at at least two institutions. Michael Maltz of UIC is developing statistical models for predicting offender recidivism. And NU's Robert LeBailly is developing mapping tools for identifying crime activity in Chicago.

- James LeBeau of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale is doing a geographic analysis of serial rapists. □

For more information about the SASS project, contact the Authority's Information Resource Center at 312-793-8550.

Systems

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In July, LaSalle County installed the Rapid Automated Prosecution System (RAPS) at its prosecutor's office in Ottawa. RAPS manages felony and misdemeanor case information, including the automatic notification of crime victims and witnesses regarding the progress of criminal cases.

Adams County Sheriff Robert Nall said the installation of CIMIS culminates a decade-long push to improve data management in the sheriff's office.

"In 1974, the records system in the Adams County Sheriff's Department consisted of a blackboard, a piece of chalk, and an eraser," he said. "When someone was admitted to the jail, their name went up on the blackboard, and when they left it was erased."

With CIMIS, he said, the sheriff's department can maintain and retrieve historical information about any inmate who has spent time in the county jail. Sheriff Nall said this feature is especially important in processing repeat offenders, who make up a large percentage of all inmates.

He estimated that because CIMIS eliminates redundant data gathering during the booking process, the system reduces the time it takes to book an in-

mate from 40 minutes to 20 or less. And for repeat offenders, the booking time is usually less than 10 minutes because the system already has on file information from previous bookings.

The sheriff said the system also provides more accurate data about who is detained in the jail and where they are housed, information which in turn provides for a safer facility. And, he said,

"In 1974, the records system in the Adams County Sheriff's Department consisted of a blackboard, a piece of chalk, and an eraser."

**—Robert Nall
Adams County Sheriff**

the system allows for easier sharing of jail records with other law enforcement agencies investigating crimes in the county.

Previously, local police departments that wanted to use the sheriff's files in criminal investigations had to examine hundreds of manual cards when searching for specific information. With CIMIS, records that have certain features in common, such as the physical characteristics of offenders or their prior offense records, can be recalled in minutes.

According to LaSalle County officials, an important feature of RAPS is the system's ability to automatically generate notices informing victims and witnesses of the status of the cases in which they are involved, including upcoming court dates and case dispositions. RAPS maintains data on all victims and witnesses associated with a case and can quickly generate the appropriate notices as the case progresses.

This type of notification by state's attorneys is required under a 1984 state law, the Bill of Rights for Victims and Witnesses of Violent Crime.

"The bill of rights recognizes how important victims and witnesses are to the successful prosecution of criminals," said Authority Executive Director J. David Coldren. "Our RAPS program not only helps prosecutors meet these new requirements but also enables them to devote more time to prosecuting cases by

automating many management tasks."

RAPS is designed to automate those areas of the prosecutor's office where work is most repetitive, such as producing plea documents and other case reports. In addition, RAPS collects statistics about every case handled by the state's attorney, and it generates management reports detailing caseload trends and office performance.

Future releases of RAPS will include additional features, such as expanded case tracking and automatic reporting of dispositions.

Both CIMIS and RAPS are being installed in counties throughout the state with the help of federal money made available to Illinois by the Justice Assistance Act (JAA) of 1984.

The state received approximately \$2.3 million in JAA funds during the first year of the program, and the Authority, which is administering the money in Illinois, earmarked about half of it for management and workload information systems for state and local criminal justice agencies.

Five other sheriffs' departments have been scheduled to install CIMIS between now and April 1987. The Authority also plans to install RAPS in 14 other state's attorneys' offices by January 1987. The Office of the State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor, which helps counties prosecute appeals, will also get the system.

In each installation, the cost of the system is split equally between federal money and county funds. In general, the federal money is used to pay for initial start-up costs, especially hardware, while the local match covers software costs, personnel who operate the systems, and miscellaneous expenses.

The total cost of CIMIS in Adams County is approximately \$81,000. The price tag for RAPS in LaSalle County is \$46,000.

Director Coldren said neither system could have been installed without the support of the two county boards.

"These county boards early on recognized the benefits that our information systems could bring to criminal justice in their counties," he said. "And they realized that with the availability of the federal funds, the systems could be installed at a substantially reduced cost." □



Adams County Sheriff's Officer Marilyn Buss uses CIMIS to record information about a jail inmate.

Overcoming "computer phobia"

In this column, James F. Lowery, executive deputy of the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department, shares his views on the effects of introducing information technology into a law enforcement agency. The sheriff's office will install the Authority's Correctional Institution Management Information System this fall.

Your palms become sweaty, perspiration begins to form on your brow, your breathing becomes rapid and shallow, and your heart begins to play the Star Spangled Banner.

No, you're not in love — your office has just received a new computer and you're experiencing a condition commonly referred to as "computer phobia." The condition is not terminal, but it has caused many managers to "byte" the dust.

The cause of all this worry and confusion is the failure to prepare for the inevitable.

During our lives, we prepare for many things. We prepare for the

Personal view

unavoidable, like death and taxes. We prepare for events we hope will never happen, like natural disasters. What we often fail to prepare for is meeting the challenges of the future.

We are in a technological time machine traveling forward so fast that a new system often becomes obsolete before it has been fully utilized.

When I was growing up in the '50s and '60s, a computer was a strange, monstrous machine that filled an entire room, and was run by strange little people with horn-rimmed glasses.

In my day, an apple was something you brought to the teacher — today you

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Schaumburg Police Chief Robert Hammond (center) is congratulated by Director of State Police James B. Zagel (left) and Cook County Sheriff Richard J. Elrod for Schaumburg's recent accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Director Zagel and Sheriff Elrod, both members of the Authority, presented Chief Hammond with a commendation from the Authority during the July 22 meeting of the Schaumburg Village Board. Sheriff Elrod is a member of the accreditation commission, which recently accredited Director Zagel's department as well.

Department of State Police receives national accreditation

The Illinois Department of State Police (DSP) has become the first state-level law enforcement agency in the United States to gain the stamp of approval from a national accreditation panel.

In June, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies said the DSP had successfully met all 750 of the commission standards that applied to the department. These standards cover law enforcement policies, administration, operations, and support services.

Besides being the first state-level agency accredited by the commission, the DSP is also the largest agency in the country approved so far. The 3,390-member department is led by Director James B. Zagel, a member of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

Accreditation is voluntary and is granted for five years after an agency submits written documentation and

passes an on-site review to demonstrate its compliance with the commission's standards. Accredited agencies are required to document annually their continued adherence to these standards.

The commission, which is based in Fairfax, Va., is a private, non-profit corporation that promotes excellence in law enforcement through accreditation. Founded in 1979, the commission is governed by a board composed of 11 law enforcement professionals and 10 representatives from other areas of the public and private sectors.

Since the commission began accepting applications for accreditation in October 1983, 29 agencies have been fully accredited, while approximately 500 more are in the accreditation process. Earlier this year, the Schaumburg Police Department became the first law enforcement agency in Illinois to be accredited. □

Personal view

Continued from page 9

can balance your budget on one. These mysterious machines are even creeping into our work centers, disrupting our age-old procedures, and causing us to change outdated ways of thinking.

"We can begin by opening our minds to new ideas and applying some common sense to the duties we perform."

Today children are working complicated equations on personal computers, and instead of drawing pictures with crayons they will be using computer-aided design. Soon after receiving our first office computer, our bookkeeper was creating mathematical formulas and calculations that enabled her to complete many of her daily duties

with a few keystrokes. Our clerical staff were no longer typing, they were "word processing" letters. Soon they were formatting, sorting, and manipulating all kinds of information to suit their needs — much to their surprise and satisfaction. After the initial "computer phobia," creativity begins to happen.

If we're not already prepared, it's not too late. We can begin by opening our minds to new ideas and applying some common sense to the duties we perform. We can eliminate redundancy and waste, and, above all, we can continue to educate ourselves for the future. The future? The future is now. □

If you have an anecdote, an opinion, or other thoughts you would like to share with the Compiler's readers, please submit your typed, double-spaced article to the Authority's Office of Public Information. Be sure to include your name, title, and organization on the article.

October is Crime Prevention Month



For information about crime prevention activities in Illinois, or to let us know about crime prevention events in your community, call 1-800-4-McGruff.

News in brief

Continued from page 2

National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) at the group's annual meeting in May. Elected to the NCJA's board of directors from Illinois were Alex Ferguson, deputy director of the Department of State Police (DSP), and Melody Heaps, executive director of Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime (TASC) Inc., who was named first alternate. The NCJA provides staff support to the National Governors' Association's Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Protection. . . . The National Association of Counties has given 1986 Achievement Awards to three programs in the office of Lake

County State's Attorney (and Authority member) Fred L. Foreman: the Career Offenders/Narcotics Unit, the Child Sexual Abuse Review Team, and the Self-Insurance Legal Defense Fund. . . . State's Attorney Foreman has also been named to the



State's Atty.
Foreman

advisory committee of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which reviews sentencing guidelines for federal courts. . . . Cook County State's Attorney (and Authority member) Richard M. Daley was honored recently by the National Black Prosecutors Association for his support of the three-year-old group. . . . Governor Thompson in July appointed Chicago State's Atty. Daley attorney (and Authority member) Dan K. Webb to the Illinois Racing Board. . . . Governor Thompson also named retired law school professor Fred Inbau of Chicago and DuQuoin construction executive John Rednour Sr. to the Law Enforcement Merit Board, which oversees the appointment, promotion, and removal of DSP officers. . . . The American Jail Association in April named Philip T. Hardiman, executive director of the Cook County Department of Corrections, as its Administrator of the Year. . . . In May, Gary D. McAlvey, chief of the DSP's Bureau of Identification, received the 1986 Award



State's Atty. Daley

for Meritorious Service from the SEARCH GROUP Inc., a national consortium for justice information and statistics. . . . In June, Corporal James Kintz of the St. Charles Police Department was elected president and Louise S. Miller of the Authority's staff was elected secretary of the Illinois Crime Prevention Association (formerly the Illinois Crime Prevention Officers' Association).

Upcoming

A task force established by Governor Thompson to examine jail detention standards in the state will hold public hearings later this year in Marion, Champaign, Peoria, Rockford, and Quincy. For more information, contact George T. Troike, chief of detention standards and services at the Illinois Department of Corrections, at 217-522-2666 (ext. 6100). . . . Another Governor's task force charged with increasing public awareness of existing child protection laws will hold public hearings later this year in Quincy, Decatur, and Belleville. For more information, contact Illinois Inspector General (and task force chairman) Jeremy Margolis at 312-917-2038. □

Seminar

Continued from page 1

precisely because their programs are so successful.

"Unfortunately, the better crime prevention people are in what they do, the less likely we are to hear about them," Mr. Margolis said. "The people who are involved in crime prevention, by virtue of their very successes, too often go unrecognized," he said.

To recognize some of those active in crime prevention in 11 counties in northern Illinois, Mr. Margolis presented the first Governor's Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Community Crime Prevention. Awards were made in five categories:

- Calumet City Police Sgt. Leonard Kieltyka received the individual award for his creativity in teaching crime prevention to juveniles, including his use of magic tricks. Three other police officers were nominated for the award: Thomas Gibbons, Rockford; Mike Harkins, Aurora; and Curt Kuempel, Evanston.

- The law enforcement award was shared by two groups: the Mount Prospect Police Department, for its active crime prevention unit, and the Cook County Sheriff's Department, for a variety of programs, including a 1985 child-safety film, a display trailer, and support of an Explorer Scout post. The Broadview, Chicago, Evanston, Palatine, and Skokie police departments were also nominated.

- Southland Corporation's Great Lakes Division won the business award for helping fund two programs — northern Illinois' *Fleet Watch* and *Sock Hop with the Cops*, a cable television program for teens — and for supporting McGruff's *Take a Bite Out of Crime* campaign. The Greenlee Tool Company was also nominated.

- The news media award went to Deborah Norville, an anchor with WMAQ-TV (Channel 5) in Chicago, for her series on missing children and domestic violence. She was the sole nominee in this category.

- The Chicago Alliance for Neighborhood Safety, an organization of nine community groups, received the civic group award for its *Block Watch* training. The East Central Region of



Illinois Inspector General Jeremy Margolis addresses participants at the Rosemont seminar.

the Boy Scouts of America was also nominated.

Governor's awards in the same five categories will be presented at the three other seminars. Nominations are solicited from local law enforcement officials, and winners are selected by an 11-member crime prevention advisory committee created by the Authority.

Opening the seminar in Rosemont was Assistant U.S. Attorney General Lois Herrington, who praised the audience for making Illinois a leader among the states in crime prevention programs. But she warned people not to rest on their past accomplishments.

"I think it's important to focus on how we can *sustain* crime prevention programs," she said. "We cannot lose the momentum we have begun."

Ms. Herrington noted the progress made in recent years, particularly in preventing burglary. However, she said crime prevention practitioners and citizens continually need more information if their efforts are to succeed.

Participants in the day-long program were able to get some of that information at five workshops held throughout the day:

- *First Steps: Starting a Crime Prevention Program* was moderated by Louise S. Miller, a criminal justice specialist with the Authority.

- Homewood Police Chief William Nolan led a session called *Stirring the Pot: Sustaining a Crime Prevention Program*.

- *Show Me Programs that Work* was moderated by Northwestern University professor Paul Lavrakas.

- Ron Ellis of the I-SEARCH (Illinois State Enforcement Agencies to Recover Children) missing persons program moderated a workshop on *Spreading the Word: How to Use the Media*.

- *And Sharing the Load: How Businesses and Organizations Can Help* was led by Cook County Sheriff (and Authority member) Richard J. Elrod.

The same five topics will be the subjects of workshops at the remaining seminars, with local officials serving on the panels.

In addition to the regular workshops, several crime prevention programs had display booths at the seminar. These included Region 4 of the Illinois Crime Prevention Association, I-SEARCH, the Illinois Farm Bureau, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Illinois Law Enforcement Explorer Scouts. At the Authority's own booth, participants had an opportunity to have their pictures taken with McGruff, the National Crime Prevention Council's *spokesdog*.

The four crime prevention seminars are one component of a statewide crime prevention campaign the Authority began last year. The effort, which is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, also includes a public information campaign featuring McGruff and a toll-free number where people can get crime prevention materials and information. □

For more information about the seminars, or about the Authority's crime prevention program, call toll-free 1-800-4-McGruff, or write McGruff at 120 S. Riverside Plaza, Chicago, Ill., 60606-3997.

the Compiler

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Illinois crime levels off in 1985

Reports of serious crime in Chicago and the rest of the state remained virtually unchanged between 1984 and 1985, according to statistics released in June by the Illinois Department of State Police (DSP). Nationally, however, revised figures released in July showed reported crime increased 5 percent last year, the first jump since 1981.

In Illinois outside Chicago, the number of reported offenses in the eight index crime categories increased 0.3 percent from 333,791 in 1984 to 334,799 last year, the DSP said. That translates to almost 3,967 major crimes for every 100,000 state residents outside Chicago.

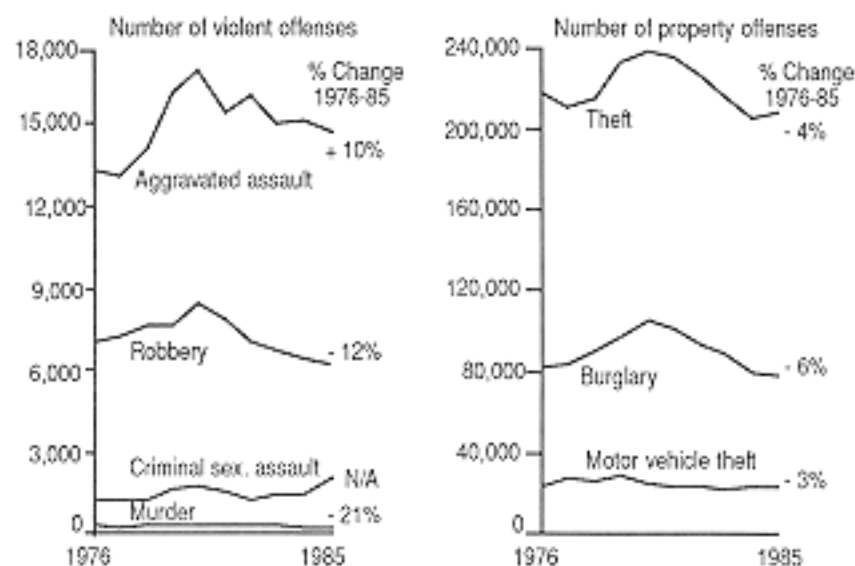
Reports of violent crime outside Chicago fell 0.2 percent to 23,068 offenses last year. There were decreases in murder (9.4 percent), robbery (2.2 percent), and aggravated assault (3.5 percent).

Statistical scoreboard

Among reported property crimes, which rose 0.3 percent to 311,731 offenses, burglary (1.4 percent), motor vehicle theft (1.8 percent), and arson (3.6 percent) were down. Reported thefts increased 1.3 percent.

In Chicago, where police were alleged to have systematically undercounted serious crime in the 1970s and early 1980s, the number of reported index crimes rose 0.4 percent last year from 284,803 to 285,971 offenses.

Most crime in Illinois outside Chicago decreased during the last 10 years.



Source: Crime in Illinois (1976-1985)

Chicago police officials said that because new, more accurate reporting procedures were instituted in September 1983, 1985 was the first year the city's crime figures could be compared with numbers from the previous year.

There were approximately 9,516 serious crimes for every 100,000 Chicagoans last year, the DSP said. Reports of violent crime in Chicago dropped 1.2 percent in 1985 to 60,399 offenses. Murder (10.1 percent) and robbery (5.7 percent) were down, while aggravated assault was up 1.4 percent.

Reports of property crime in the city rose almost 1 percent to 225,572 of-

fenses. Theft (3.1 percent), motor vehicle theft (4.2), and arson (2.1) all increased; burglary was down 6.8 percent.

The DSP's annual Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) for 1985 did not compare criminal sexual assault data for the last two years because recent changes in state law expanded the types of offenses included in the index crime. Sexual assault figures, however, were included in violent crime and overall totals.

The UCR statistics themselves have been criticized recently for not accurately measuring crime, and the U.S. Justice Department is planning to redesign the program. □



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