

CRIMINAL JUSTICE UPDATE

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NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Follow-up to National Preparedness Month:** During the month of September, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, American Red Cross, American Prepared Campaign, Citizen Corps Councils, National Association of Broadcasters, U.S. Department of Education, and a host of state and county emergency management agencies – to include Ohio – will host a series of events to promote National Preparedness Month. The U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security is asking all Americans to organize a disaster preparedness kit, make a plan, and be informed. Emergency management agencies can do a lot at the local level to help citizens be prepared for natural disasters, man-made incidents, and the unexpected. Some possible National Preparedness Month activities could include: hosting town hall meetings on preparedness; first aid or preparedness training classes; “Make a Communication Plan” events; placing preparedness information in your organization’s newsletters; writing opinion editorials or letters to the editor about the important role citizens play in preparedness; linking your website to www.ready.gov for additional information on emergency preparedness; or downloading and customizing *Ready* brochures to distribute at public meetings, county fairs, or local stores. Visit www.ready.gov/ready/pdf_brochure.jhtml to place your organization’s logo on a downloadable *Ready* brochure.

TRAINING/RESOURCES

- **14th Annual Law & Citizenship Conference:** The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education is hosting this year’s conference, September 26 & 27 at the Columbus Marriott Northwest. Highlights include: Keynote by C-SPAN education consultant Dr. John Splaine and political cartoonist Chip Bok; 2004 Elections and your classroom; Teaching and Learning in a Standards-based System; 2005 Mock Trial Presentations; and over 30 additional sessions. *To register, call 877/485.3510 or visit www.ocle.org.*
- **OCJS Offering FREE Public Records Training:** OCJS is partnering with the Ohio Auditor of State’s Office to provide free statewide seminars on open government and public records. Attendees to this seminar will leave with a greater understanding of a public office’s responsibilities under the Public Records Act and citizens’ rights when requesting public records. The seminars are open to law enforcement, elected officials, media and interested private citizens. *Session dates: October 20, Athens (10-1pm); November 5, Columbus (10-1pm); November 9, Dayton (10-1pm). To register online, visit www.ocjs.ohio.gov/Training.htm, or call 614/466.7782. Although the Cleveland, Cincinnati and Akron seminars are full, second trainings will soon be added. To be notified when the trainings are scheduled, please contact Kristen Justice, justice@ocjs.ohio.gov, or 614/728.8732.*
- **Grant Writing Workshop:** These workshops are designed to help attendees write and submit successful grant applications to both government and private sector organizations. OCJS has scheduled these interactive workshops for the third year due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees who participated in previous sessions. *Session dates: September 21, Columbus; October 7, Miamisburg; December 9, Walbridge. To register online, visit www.ocjs.ohio.gov/Training.htm, or call 614/466.7782.*
- **Strategic Planning for Communities:** City officials, law enforcement, courts, corrections, and service providers discover how to use crime and other data to identify community needs, and design and evaluative programs to meet those needs. *Session dates: September 15, Columbus. To register online, visit www.ocjs.ohio.gov/Training.htm, or call 614/466.7782.*

TRAINING/RESOURCES CONTINUED

- OTFCA Anti-Terrorism Training:** The Ohio Task Force Commanders Association (OTFCA) and OCJS are offering Anti-Terrorism Training sessions across the state. This training provides a working knowledge of the activities, tactics and indicators of terrorist and extremists groups, to enable law enforcement to more accurately recognize, report and prevent terrorist activity in their communities. Topics covered include law enforcement roles; international terrorism; Islamic cultural awareness; domestic terrorists and extremists; and officer safety. *Hosted by the Erie/Ottawa County Drug Task Force, the next session will be held at the Davis Bessie Nuclear Facility Training Center on August 27, 8:00am-4:00pm. To register, visit www.otfca.ohio.gov/AntiTerrorism/Default.htm or email Bruce Bohrer at bbohrer@saa.net.*
- Women in Criminal Justice Symposium:** The Public Training Institute will present the Symposium on September 27 at the Fishers Police Dept. Training Center in Fishers, Indiana. Highlights include: Presenter Captain Dottie Davis, Director of Training for the Ft. Wayne, Indiana Police Department and President of Davis Corporate Training, Inc.; Recruitment and Retention of Women in Criminal Justice Fields; Learning to Self-Promote Yourself; Developing a Tactical Mindset; Law Enforcement Officer Perpetrated Domestic Violence. *Cost is \$125, which includes manual and continental breakfast. To register, visit <http://www.publictraining.com/pti5.htm>*
- 15th Annual Problem-Oriented Policing Conference:** This year's conference will be held October 28-30, 2004, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Panels and presentations include topics such as identity theft, analyzing homicides, fear of crime, risky facilities, open-air drug dealing, street racing, bomb threats in schools, and the effects of security cameras in public places. (COPS) *For more information, visit: <http://www.popcenter.org/about-conference.htm>*

GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- NIJ Grants for Solving Cold Cases with DNA:** OJP's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking proposals to search, evaluate, select, and conduct DNA analysis on violent crime "cold cases" (i.e., old, unsolved cases) that have the potential to be solved through DNA testing. Grant funds must be used for evaluation of offenses such as sexual assault, murder, and other serious offenses (such as kidnapping) where DNA evidence is typically found and would have the greatest probative value for investigation and resolution of the crime. State and units of local government are eligible to apply for funding. Awardees may use the funds to support the operation of regional task forces. The number of awards to be made depends on the availability of funds and the number and quality of applications received. *Applicants must register online by Sept. 7; the deadline for online applications is Sept. 9. Application information is available online at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm> or by calling the DOJ Response Center at 800-421-6770.*
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service Announces Funding Opportunity:** The Innovations in American Government Program sponsored by the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University strives to identify and celebrate outstanding examples of creative problem solving in the public sector. Through its annual awards competition, the Program provides concrete evidence that government -including, but not limited to, law enforcement agencies - can work to improve the quality of life for citizens and that it deserves greater public trust. Each year five initiatives are recognized; each receives a \$100,000 grant. *The application deadline is September 15, 2004. For more information or to apply visit <http://www.innovationsaward.harvard.edu/>*
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) Grants:** SAMHSA is accepting applications for Knowledge Dissemination Conference Grants. The purpose of the program is to disseminate knowledge about practices within the mental health services and substance abuse prevention and treatment fields and to integrate that knowledge into real-world practice as effectively and efficiently as possible. *Applications are due September 10. Application kits are available online at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants>.*

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