

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2016 5:56 AM  
**To:** Greene, Mark  
**Cc:** McGarry, Beth; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Mason, Karol V.; Darden, Silas; Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)  
**Subject:** Re: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

Thanks so much!!!

On Jan 5, 2016, at 8:41 PM, Greene, Mark <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Beth presented what we are doing just right. I'd go with that if you can. Note the application deadline is **today**, corrected below (2016 not 2015).

However if you need something briefer, here is a blurb from a WH fact sheet from the OSTP event when the Challenge was announced by the NIJ Director on October 7. The NIJ Challenge is mentioned about halfway down the page. I've tweaked it to add dates as Beth did. I believe that what Beth proposed better reflects the voice of the Department, but you have options.

Here to help if you need anything further.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/10/07/fact-sheet-administration-celebrates-five-year-anniversary-challengegov>

On October 7, 2015, NIJ announced its [Gun Safety Technology Challenge](#), which will test the reliability of firearms that have integrated and advanced safety technologies. Such advanced safety technologies could benefit users with improved personalization and added protections from theft and unauthorized use. However, the potential impact of these safety technologies on the reliability of firearms remains a concern. As discussed in the 2013 NIJ report entitled [A Review of Gun Safety Technologies](#), these concerns need to be addressed both for potential impact on firearm performance and for garnering user acceptance of safety technologies. The Challenge will seek "apples to apples" comparisons to the extent possible, such that firearms both with, and without, these advanced gun safety technologies are tested and evaluated using a common methodology and equivalent ammunition. The application deadline for the Challenge closed on January 5, 2016.

----- Original message -----

From: "McGarry, Beth" <[Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
Date: 01/05/2016 7:58 PM (GMT-05:00)  
To: "Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)" <[cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: "Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)" <[dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Mason, Karol V." <[Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Darden, Silas" <[Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)"

<[Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov)>

Subject: RE: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

Carolyn – I just called you to see if you had more context to your request, but there was no answer. Below is an excerpt from the announcement of the Gun Safety Challenge. This announcement was cleared by the Department last fall and it provided background on NIJ's work in this area. I made minor changes to reflect the actual Challenge dates. I also copied Mark Greene on this email in case he sees this email before your deadline and has any additional comments.

The DOJ National Institute of Justice (NIJ) was tasked with supporting the President's Plan to Reduce Gun Violence,<sup>[1]</sup> specifically:

"The President is directing the Attorney General to work with technology experts to review existing and emerging gun safety technologies, and to issue a report on the availability and use of those technologies. In addition, the Administration will issue a challenge to the private sector to develop innovative and cost-effective gun safety technology and provide prizes for those technologies that are proven to be reliable and effective."

In support of this Executive action, NIJ has conducted a technology assessment and market survey of existing and emerging gun safety technologies that would be of interest to the law enforcement and criminal justice communities and others with an interest in gun safety and advanced firearm technology. A report published in June 2013 by NIJ entitled *A Review of Gun Safety Technologies* (link to <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/242500.pdf>) examined existing and emerging gun safety technologies, and their availability and use, to provide a comprehensive perspective on firearms with integrated advanced safety technologies. Following the report, NIJ published a Federal Register Notice (link to <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-27368>) to receive information regarding which firearms and firearms accessories, that incorporate advanced safety technologies, could be made available by industry for testing and evaluation in the Challenge.

On October 7, 2015 NIJ announced the Gun Safety Challenge (Challenge) to seek an objective demonstration of the reliability of firearms available today with advanced gun safety technology integrated into the firearm. The reliability of firearms with integrated advanced safety technologies has been cited as a concern regarding the potential performance and user acceptance of products that may incorporate such technologies, as discussed in the 2013 NIJ report. It is anticipated that the results of the Challenge will provide a basis to improve the general understanding of whether the addition of a smart gun technology does or does not significantly reduce the reliability of the firearm system compared to existing firearms. It is believed that this is the first effort to apply a methodology

to provide a rigorous and scientific assessment of the technical performance characteristics of these types of firearms. The application deadline for the Challenge closed on January 5, 2016.

[1] The White House, *Now Is The Time: The President's plan to protect our children and our communities by reducing gun violence*, January 16, 2013, <http://wh.gov/now-is-the-time>.

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 7:17 PM  
**To:** McGarry, Beth  
**Cc:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Mason, Karol V.  
**Subject:** Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

Dear Beth,

Apologies in advance for the late hour of this request and the tight turn-around time.

The AG needs a draft talking point to as to what the Department is already doing with respect to Smart Gun Technology (as she already has been asked about this).

Would you please ask the appropriate person to assist?

Alas, we have a hastily-scheduled Hill outreach event **tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m.** (yipes!) and that's what she needs this for.

Thank you so much—and please extend my thanks to your team for all their help on this to date.

Carolyn

Carolyn Pokorny

Office of the Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice

650 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

500 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530

Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)

Office: (202) 616-2372

Cell: (b) (6)

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[1] The White House, *Now Is The Time: The President's plan to protect our children and our communities by reducing gun violence*, January 16, 2013, <http://wh.gov/now-is-the-time>.

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2016 6:00 AM  
**To:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Newman, Melanie (OPA); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

On what DOJ is doing re Smart Guns:

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** January 5, 2016 at 8:41:02 PM EST  
**To:** "McGarry, Beth" <[Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)" <[cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)" <[dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Mason, Karol V." <[Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Darden, Silas" <[Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)" <[Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

Duplicative Material



**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2016 7:26 AM  
**To:** Carlisle, Elizabeth [REDACTED] Attorney General Lynch  
**Cc:** Herwig, Paige (OAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Hill outreach event info

From NIJ's Dr. Mark Greene:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
(b) (5)

These are discussed in the 2013 NIJ report entitled [A Review of Gun Safety Technologies](#).

On Jan 6, 2016, at 6:15 AM, Carlisle, Elizabeth <[ecarlisle@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ecarlisle@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote: [REDACTED] Attorney General Lynch

Many thanks.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
(b) (5)

Thanks.

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2016 06:03 AM  
**To:** Carlisle, Elizabeth [REDACTED] Attorney General Lynch  
**Cc:** Herwig, Paige (OAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** Hill outreach event info

Ma'am,  
Two FYIs:

1. OLA advises that Rep. Jackson Lee introduced two bills last night, designed to implement two sections of the announcements:

--H.R. 4315 – *Increasing Mental Health Access and Treatment to Reduce Gun Violence Act of 2016* (\$500 million authorization for mental health)

--H.R. 4316 – *Gun Violence Reduction Resources Act of 2016* (200 ATF personnel)

2. Re. Smart Guns (from OJP/NIJ):

On October 7, 2015, NIJ announced its [Gun Safety Technology Challenge](#), which will test the reliability of firearms that have integrated and advanced safety technologies. Such advanced safety technologies could benefit users with improved personalization and added protections from theft and unauthorized use. However, the potential impact of

these safety technologies on the reliability of firearms remains a concern.

As discussed in the 2013 NIJ report entitled [A Review of Gun Safety Technologies](#), these concerns need to be addressed both for potential impact on firearm performance and for garnering user acceptance of safety technologies. The Challenge will seek “apples to apples” comparisons to the extent possible, such that firearms both with, and without, these advanced gun safety technologies are tested and evaluated using a common methodology and equivalent ammunition.

The application deadline for the Challenge closed yesterday---on January 5, 2016.

Greene, Mark

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**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2016 7:37 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Cc:** McGarry, Beth; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Mason, Karol V.; Darden, Silas; Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

No worries. Here to help.

----- Original message -----

From: "Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)" <cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
Date: 01/06/2016 7:23 AM (GMT-05:00)  
To: "Greene, Mark" <Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov>  
Cc: "McGarry, Beth" <Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov>, "Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)" <dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov>, "Mason, Karol V." <Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov>, "Darden, Silas" <Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov>, "Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)" <Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Re: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

Thanks for the amazingly swift response.

On Jan 6, 2016, at 7:20 AM, Greene, Mark <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5)

----- Original message -----

From: "Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)" <[cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Date: 01/06/2016 7:14 AM (GMT-05:00)  
To: "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: "McGarry, Beth" <[Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Beth.McGarry@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)" <[dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Mason, Karol V." <[Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Karol.V.Mason@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Darden, Silas" <[Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Silas.Darden@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP)" <[Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Nancy.Rodriguez@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: Re: Smart gun TP needed for 9:00 a.m. tomorrow

AG comment and question:

'Many thanks.

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(b) (5)

On Jan 5, 2016, at 8:41 PM, Greene, Mark <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material

Jerusalem, Sheila

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**From:** Jerusalem, Sheila  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 5:44 PM  
**To:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA)  
**Cc:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA); Wagner, Chuck; Darden, Silas  
**Subject:** FW: President Obama's request for DOD/DOJ/Homeland review of smart gun technology  
**Attachments:** Summary - SMART GUNS -Final- docx.docx  
**Importance:** High

Patrick et al – Our language, attached, is cleared and should address the reporter's inquiry below.

sj

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**From:** Jerusalem, Sheila  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 3:43 PM  
**To:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA)  
**Cc:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA); Wagner, Chuck; Darden, Silas  
**Subject:** FW: President Obama's request for DOD/DOJ/Homeland review of smart gun technology  
**Importance:** High

Patrick –

See below – Washington Free Beacon inquiry, coordinated through Defense Press Operations Office of the Secretary of Defense, received today. OJP/NIJ/OCOM will have our cleared response shortly, NLT COB.

Copied Chuck Wagner – PA Deputy & Silas Darden – OCOM Director

Thx – Sheila Jerusalem, Public Affairs Specialist, Office of Communications, Office of Justice Programs, Washington, DC

**From:** Stephen Gutowski [<mailto:gutowski@freebeacon.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 3:20 PM  
**To:** Jerusalem, Sheila  
**Subject:** President Obama's request for DOD/DOJ/Homeland review of smart gun technology

Hello Ms. Jerusalem,

My name is Stephen Gutowski and I'm a reporter for the Washington Free Beacon. I'm doing a piece on the DOD's role in President Obama's recent executive action on guns. Can you give me an overview of how the smart gun technology review the president ordered will be conducted? What exactly will be looked at and what responsibilities will each of the agencies involved have?

Thank you,  
Stephen Gutowski  
The Washington Free Beacon

On January 16, 2013, President Barack Obama, with Vice President Joe Biden, announced [“Now is the Time,”](#) a plan to protect communities by reducing gun violence as part of the Administration’s response to the Newtown, Conn. shootings and other tragedies. The plan combined 23 executive actions and called for legislative action that would help keep guns out of the wrong hands, ban assault and high-capacity magazines, make schools safer, and increase access to mental health services.

On March 13, 2013, the Department of Justice and the Attorney General held a Gun Safety Technology workshop in Washington DC, in response to the President’s executive action issued on January 16. The workshop provided an opportunity for technology experts and stakeholders, such as firearms manufacturers, researchers, and developers, to discuss technology-related issues with DOJ staff in preparation for NIJ’s response to action number 15 issued by the President on January 16.

In June 2013, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) published *A Review of Gun Safety Technologies* in response to action number 15. The review summarizes existing and emerging technologies to inform future research, development and innovation in gun safety technology. When it was released, no personalized “smart guns” were commercially available in the United States, but at least three products -- two handguns and a shotgun -- were at a technology maturity level that can at least be described as commercializable or pre-production.

On October 7, 2015, NIJ announced the *Gun Safety Technology Challenge*, which will test the reliability of firearms that have integrated and advanced safety technologies. Such advanced safety technologies could benefit users with improved personalization and added protections from theft and unauthorized use. However, the potential impact of these safety technologies on the firearms’ performance remains a concern.

The submission period for the Gun Safety Technology Challenge closed January 5, 2016. Submissions are currently under review and more information will be available in the coming weeks.

On January 4, 2016, The White House released the Presidential Memorandum, [Promoting Smart Gun Technology](#), and tasked the Departments of Defense, Justice and Homeland Security to conduct or sponsor research into gun safety technology that would reduce the frequency of accidental discharge or unauthorized use of firearms, and improve the tracing of lost or stolen guns. No later than 90 days after the date of this memorandum, the agencies are to provide a report outlining a research and development strategy designed to expedite the real-world deployment of such technology. DOJ is currently coordinating with DOD and DHS to develop this report.

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 13, 2016 6:32 PM  
**To:** Uriarte, Carlos (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Herwig, Paige (OAG)  
**Subject:** Smart Gun info

**1. Top Line message:**

The President's announcement was designed to shape the future of gun safety technology.

- The President has directed the Departments of Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security to conduct or sponsor research into gun safety technology.
- The President has also directed the departments to review the availability of smart gun technology on a regular basis, and to explore potential ways to further its use and development to more broadly improve gun safety.

**2. More detailed description of the POTUS Initiative:**

Shaping the Future of Gun Safety Technology

Tens of thousands of people are injured or killed by firearms every year in many cases by guns that were sold legally but then stolen, misused, or discharged accidentally. Developing and promoting technology that would help prevent these tragedies is an urgent priority. America has done this in many other areas from making cars safer to improving the tablets and phones we use every day. We know that researchers and engineers are already exploring ideas for improving gun safety and the tracing of lost or stolen guns. Millions of dollars have already been invested to support research into concepts that range from fingerprint scanners to radio-frequency identification to microstamping technology.

As the single largest purchaser of firearms in the country, the Federal Government has a unique opportunity to advance this research and ensure that smart gun technology becomes a reality and it is possible to do so in a way that makes the public safer and is consistent with the Second Amendment. Today, the President is taking action to further this work in the following way:

- **Issue a Presidential Memorandum directing the Department of Defense, Department of Justice, and Department of Homeland Security to take two important steps to promote smart gun technology.**
  - Increase research and development efforts. The Presidential Memorandum directs the departments to conduct or sponsor research into gun safety technology that would

reduce the frequency of accidental discharge or unauthorized use of firearms, and improve the tracing of lost or stolen guns. Within 90 days, these agencies must prepare a report outlining a research-and-development strategy designed to expedite the real-world deployment of such technology for use in practice.

- Promote the use and acquisition of new technology. The Presidential Memorandum also directs the departments to review the availability of smart gun technology on a regular basis, and to explore potential ways to further its use and development to more broadly improve gun safety. In connection with these efforts, the departments will consult with other agencies that acquire firearms and take appropriate steps to consider whether including such technology in specifications for acquisition of firearms would be consistent with operational needs.

### **3. From Dr. Mark Greene at NIJ re. updates on DOJ's Smart Gun initiatives to date:**

- On October 7, 2015, NIJ announced its [Gun Safety Technology Challenge](#), which will test the reliability of firearms that have integrated and advanced safety technologies. Such advanced safety technologies could benefit users with improved personalization and added protections from theft and unauthorized use. However, the potential impact of these safety technologies on the reliability of firearms remains a concern. [REDACTED]

(b) (5)

- As discussed in the 2013 NIJ report entitled [A Review of Gun Safety Technologies](#), these concerns need to be addressed both for potential impact on firearm performance and for garnering user acceptance of safety technologies. The Challenge will seek “apples to apples” comparisons to the extent possible, such that firearms both with, and without, these advanced gun safety technologies are tested and evaluated using a common methodology and equivalent ammunition.

- The application deadline for the Challenge closed on January 5, 2016.

### **4. Q&As from the Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> Roll-Out:**

(b) (5)

(b) (5)



Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**Uriarte, Carlos (ODAG)**

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**From:** Uriarte, Carlos (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 11:49 AM  
**To:** Losick, Eric P. (OLA); Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Cc:** Herwig, Paige (OAG)  
**Attachments:** Smart Gun Tech (ODAG Draft) (1-14-16).docx; ATT00001.txt

Just accept track changes.

Carlos Felipe Uriarte  
Associate Deputy Attorney General  
Office of the Deputy Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice

## SMART GUN TECHNOLOGY

**Question:** [REDACTED] (b) (5)

### **Talking Points:**

[REDACTED] (b) (5)

**Question:** [REDACTED] (b) (5)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### **Talking Points:**

[REDACTED] (b) (5)

### **Background:**

[REDACTED] (b) (5)

(b) (5)



**Contact:** Danny Grooms (ODAG), 305-4127 /Carlos Uriarte (ODAG), 305-0091

**Carr, Peter (OPA)**

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**From:** Carr, Peter (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2016 5:02 PM  
**To:** Newman, Melanie (OPA); Pierce, Emily (OPA); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA)  
**Subject:** OJP call re Smart Gun Challenge

Chuck Wagner from OJP called and wanted to let us know that OJP will be (b) (5)

Thx,

Peter

Greene, Mark

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**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 5:02 PM  
**To:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); McGarry, Beth  
**Subject:** FW: Ben Tucker

All,

NYPD reached out regarding smart guns earlier today. I just spoke with Tanya Meisenholder, COS to Dep. Commissioner Ben Tucker, for a few minutes. Evidently, (b) (5) I gave her an overview of the Challenge and the prior report we developed. She seemed to get what we are doing and the time and effort involved.

She also asked about the PM which she had only heard about, to which I gave her a readout of what it said and that the Challenge generally fits within the scope of the PM. Nothing about internal deliberations.

I'll let you know anything I hear back. It sounds like this exploded on her today.

Mark

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**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 4:35 PM  
**To:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

Links to the Challenge and Presidential Memorandum:

<http://www.nij.gov/funding/pages/fy16-gun-safety-challenge.aspx>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/01/05/memorandum-promoting-smart-gun-technology>

----- Original message -----

**From:** "MEISENHOLDER, TANYA" (b) (6)  
**Date:** 02/24/2016 4:31 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

Thanks!

*Tanya Meisenholder, Ph.D.*  
Chief of Staff to the First Deputy Commissioner  
City of New York Police Department  
Office: (b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6) -

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**From:** Greene, Mark [<mailto:Mark.Greene2@usdoj.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:45 PM  
**To:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

Sounds good. I have your contact numbers from below. Talk then.

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**From:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA [[\(b\) \(6\)](mailto:(b) (6))]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:44 PM  
**To:** Greene, Mark  
**Subject:** Re: Ben Tucker

That would be great. Thanks.

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**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:42 PM  
**To:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

I'm tied up from 2:00 until about 4:00. Can I give you a ring around 4:15? I will be reachable on my mobile from 4:00 onwards today. (b) (6)

Mark

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**From:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA [[\(b\) \(6\)](mailto:(b) (6))]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:36 PM  
**To:** Greene, Mark  
**Subject:** Re: Ben Tucker

Mark,  
Thanks so much for the quick response! I just went into a meeting but am available after 3?  
Thanks, Tanya

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**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:33 PM  
**To:** Sabol, William; MEISENHOLDER, TANYA  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

Bill: Thanks for making the virtual connection. Happy to assist.

Tanya: Do you have some time to chat right now? Please give me a ring at 202-307-3384 at your convenience.

Mark

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Mark Greene, Ph.D.

Policy and Standards Division Director  
Office of Science and Technology  
National Institute of Justice (DOJ)  
Office: (202) 307-3384  
Mobile: (b) (6)  
[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)

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**From:** Sabol, William  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 1:29 PM  
**To:** MEISENHOLDER, TANYA; Greene, Mark  
**Subject:** RE: Ben Tucker

Hi Mark.

Tanya Meisenholder with NYPD called me about the NIJ Smart Gun challenge. Tanya's been a big supporter of BJS and NIJ and I told her that you knew the most about it and could brief her on its status. I told her that she could call you about it, acknowledging that you would not be able to reveal information that has not been made public. Her interests lie in the nature of the effort, its status and expected products that will come from it. Thanks in advance for responding to her request.

Tanya: Mark's number is 202-307-3384.

Bill

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William J. Sabol, Director  
Bureau of Justice Statistics  
810 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20531  
202-514-1062 (voice)  
[William.Sabol@usdoj.gov](mailto:William.Sabol@usdoj.gov)

----- Original message -----

From: "MEISENHOLDER, TANYA" (b) (6)  
Date: 02/24/2016 11:34 AM (GMT-05:00)  
To: "Sabol, William" <[William.Sabol@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:William.Sabol@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: Ben Tucker

Hi Bill-

Apologies for the rush but the First Deputy Commissioner is looking for some information today and is hoping you can point us in the right direction.

Can you please give me a call when you have a moment? Should be quick. My cell is (b) (6)

Many thanks,

Tanya

Tanya

*Tanya Meisenholder*

Chief of Staff to the First Deputy Commissioner  
City of New York Police Department

Office: (b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

CQ CONGRESSIONAL TRANSCRIPTS

Congressional Hearings

Feb. 25, 2016 Final

# Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science Holds Hearing on President Obama's Fiscal 2017 Budget Proposal for the Justice Department

## LIST OF PANEL MEMBERS AND WITNESSES

SHELBY:

The subcommittee will come to order. Madame Attorney General, welcome again to the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Subcommittee hearing, where we will be examining the Department of Justice fiscal 2017 budget request.

Today this subcommittee will continue the important responsibility of reviewing spending at the Justice Department to ensure that it has the necessary resources to carry out national security and law enforcement missions. Last month you testified before this subcommittee about a set of executive actions recently issued by the president regarding gun control. At that time I, along with other subcommittee members, expressed deep concerns about the constitutionality of key aspects of these executive actions.

The president's 2017 budget request for the Department of Justice submitted a few weeks after that hearing has paid no heed to a lot of our concerns. The president proposes increased spending at the Department of Justice by \$810 million in '17, a new total of \$29.9 billion.

This includes \$66 million in additional funding for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for 200 new positions, 80 special agents, and 120 industry operation investigators. I continue to have significant reservations about the potential abuses and harassment of law-abiding gun owners and purchasers that could result from bringing on these additional agents and investigators.

In addition, I expressed to you at our hearing in January my apprehension about the president's clemency initiative, given the numerous examples of sentences that had been commuted for criminals with firearms convictions. You pledged to review the situation and get back to the committee on this troubling topic. I'm still waiting for your response.

Yet, the department's budget request for the office of pardon attorney includes \$2.8

system. For instance, a lot of status offenders that are girls end up in prison simply because we don't have gender-appropriate alternatives to incarceration.

And in the 2016 Omnibus, there was \$2 million for competitive grants focused on girls in the juvenile justice system. DOJ, you have not requested additional funds for the girls in the juvenile justice program for 2017. I -- I just wanted to ask you why that is, if you think that we're still in the process of expending those earlier funds or if there are other parts of the budget that may help to seed some of the programming like that in Connecticut, which really has set some national models for how you treat girls in the juvenile justice system.

LYNCH:

Well, thank you for that important issue. It is, indeed, an important issue and I actually don't have that information at my fingertips now and appreciate the opportunity to get back to you on that because it is such an important issue.

I will also note that the issue of -- of how we handle issues of gender is something that we take very seriously. We've been working with local law enforcement and within our grant making -- with -- with OJP. We just recently released a guidance for state and local counterparts on reducing and eliminating gender bias in law enforcement. And that was a collaborative effort, one that we think it going to be very helpful. And it focuses not just on issues of domestic violence and sexual assault but how law enforcement deals with young people who are dealing with gender issues, particularly our LGBT youth community, as well.

So it is something that we take very, very seriously, and I'd appreciate the chance to respond to your direct question with the specifics that I would like to give you.

MURPHY:

I -- I know of your personal commitment to this issue so a response on -- on that line item would be helpful.

Second, I want to turn to the President's executive actions to reduce gun violence. You and I have spoken about this and one of the most interesting parts of it is the directive to DOJ, DOD and Homeland Security to conduct and sponsor research and to gun safety technology.

My hope is that at the end of that period of research, that there is a (ph) effort to use the procurement ability of the Department of Justice and perhaps other agencies to spur additional private sector research and development into smart gun technology. I understand these types of weapons are not the answer for everyone in law enforcement or in the military but there certainly is an ability to leverage the purchasing power on our side to promote research on the private side.

Just wanted to get an update as to how that research is going and when we may

expect some RFP that prompts some private sector research.

LYNCH:

Well, thank you. This is a very important issue and has actually been one under consideration within government for some time as law enforcement and -- and, in particular, Department of Defense want to make sure that -- that we remain current in the weapons that we provide to our law enforcement individuals as well as our armed forces individuals.

And so for the -- approximately the past two years there has been research being done and the gun manufacturers have been very effective partners in this in developing what are called the smart gun technology, various ways of making sure that you can limit who can handle a firearm, who can fire a firearm and, of course, issues of safety and reliability are at the forefront of everyone's minds on this.

And with -- with respect to the President's directive that the Department of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense essentially focus on research, that is being done. Just within the past two months our research on the National Institute of Justice has initiated what they are calling a gun safety technology challenge to essentially assess the reliability of firearms that are currently available today, looking at the advanced gun safety that's integrated into the firearm, but also challenging our manufacturers, challenging our end users to really focus on this issue and come up with the best product.

We don't have a timetable yet for when we might at the RFP stage. Certainly we are aware that with the large purchasing power of law enforcement and the Defense Department that we could influence this, but, of course, we want to make sure that those guns are as safe and reliable as possible.

MURPHY:

I appreciate that and as -- as you know, manufacturers and retailers in the private sector who have attempted to lead on this issue of gun safety technology have been regularly blacklisted. It's a chilling mechanism on those that want to pursue this without some pressure coming from the federal government, some backstops, some cover from the federal government. So appreciate your work and your seriousness on this.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

SHELBY:

Senator Boozman?

BOOZMAN:

**Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science Holds Hearing on  
President Obama's Fiscal 2017 Budget Proposal for the Justice Department**

CQ CONGRESSIONAL TRANSCRIPTS

Congressional Hearings

Feb. 25, 2016 – Final

SHELBY:

The subcommittee will come to order. Madame Attorney General, welcome again to the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Subcommittee hearing, where we will be examining the Department of Justice fiscal 2017 budget request.

Today this subcommittee will continue the important responsibility of reviewing spending at the Justice Department to ensure that it has the necessary resources to carry out national security and law enforcement missions. Last month you testified before this subcommittee about a set of executive actions recently issued by the president regarding gun control. At that time I, along with other subcommittee members, expressed deep concerns about the constitutionality of key aspects of these executive actions.

The president's 2017 budget request for the Department of Justice submitted a few weeks after that hearing has paid no heed to a lot of our concerns. The president proposes increased spending at the Department of Justice by \$810 million in '17, a new total of \$29.9 billion.

This includes \$66 million in additional funding for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for 200 new positions, 80 special agents, and 120 industry operation investigators. I continue to have significant reservations about the potential abuses and harassment of law-abiding gun owners and purchasers that could result from bringing on these additional agents and investigators.

In addition, I expressed to you at our hearing in January my apprehension about the president's clemency initiative, given the numerous examples of sentences that had been commuted for criminals with firearms convictions. You pledged to review the situation and get back to the committee on this troubling topic. I'm still waiting for your response.

Yet, the department's budget request for the office of pardon attorney includes \$2.8 million to increase staffing for pardon and commutation petition reviews. I find it hard to believe that the president can spotlight his commitment to reducing gun violence in America when his administration is granting clemency petitions for criminals convicted of gun crimes.

In another area, I note that spending at the Bureau of Prisons increases by \$238 million above 2016 level, despite another projected reduction in our federal prisoner population, which continues to decline. I hope you can shed some light this morning on why our present budget continues to

I'm constantly impressed at your ability to handle the remarkable breadth, scope and variety of questions that you get at these hearings. I -- I have three to add to the list and I appreciate your indulgence.

The first is on a program that I know is very dear to your heart and that is our continued efforts to create gender-responsive juvenile justice systems. In Connecticut, we have been a national leader in recognizing that girls, more than almost anyone else, tend to get the short end of the stick in our juvenile justice system. For instance, a lot of status offenders that are girls end up in prison simply because we don't have gender-appropriate alternatives to incarceration.

And in the 2016 Omnibus, there was \$2 million for competitive grants focused on girls in the juvenile justice system. DOJ, you have not requested additional funds for the girls in the juvenile justice program for 2017. I -- I just wanted to ask you why that is, if you think that we're still in the process of expending those earlier funds or if there are other parts of the budget that may help to seed some of the programming like that in Connecticut, which really has set some national models for how you treat girls in the juvenile justice system.

LYNCH:

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I will also note that the issue of -- of how we handle issues of gender is something that we take very seriously. We've been working with local law enforcement and within our grant making -- with -- with OJP. We just recently released a guidance for state and local counterparts on reducing and eliminating gender bias in law enforcement. And that was a collaborative effort, one that we think it going to be very helpful. And it focuses not just on issues of domestic violence and sexual assault but how law enforcement deals with young people who are dealing with gender issues, particularly our LGBT youth community, as well.

So it is something that we take very, very seriously, and I'd appreciate the chance to respond to your direct question with the specifics that I would like to give you.

MURPHY:

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My hope is that at the end of that period of research, that there is a (ph) effort to use the procurement ability of the Department of Justice and perhaps other agencies to spur additional

private sector research and development into smart gun technology. I understand these types of weapons are not the answer for everyone in law enforcement or in the military but there certainly is an ability to leverage the purchasing power on our side to promote research on the private side.

Just wanted to get an update as to how that research is going and when we may expect some RFP that prompts some private sector research.

LYNCH:

Well, thank you. This is a very important issue and has actually been one under consideration within government for some time as law enforcement and -- and, in particular, Department of Defense want to make sure that -- that we remain current in the weapons that we provide to our law enforcement individuals as well as our armed forces individuals.

And so for the -- approximately the past two years there has been research being done and the gun manufacturers have been very effective partners in this in developing what are called the smart gun technology, various ways of making sure that you can limit who can handle a firearm, who can fire a firearm and, of course, issues of safety and reliability are at the forefront of everyone's minds on this.

And with -- with respect to the President's directive that the Department of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense essentially focus on research, that is being done. Just within the past two months our research on the National Institute of Justice has initiated what they are calling a gun safety technology challenge to essentially assess the reliability of firearms that are currently available today, looking at the advanced gun safety that's integrated into the firearm, but also challenging our manufacturers, challenging our end users to really focus on this issue and come up with the best product.

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MURPHY:

I appreciate that and as -- as you know, manufacturers and retailers in the private sector who have attempted to lead on this issue of gun safety technology have been regularly blacklisted. It's a chilling mechanism on those that want to pursue this without some pressure coming from the federal government, some backstops, some cover from the federal government. So appreciate your work and your seriousness on this.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

SHELBY:

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 1:32 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: PM memo on smart guns  
**Attachments:** Draft Outline.docx

Carolyn-- Here's the draft outline. We circulated our outline to DOD and DHS last week -- we finally heard back from DHS on Wednesday, and we still haven't heard anything from DOD. If WH wants to see the outline, we're happy to share, although we should point out that we wanted to get clearance from both other agencies before sending to WH.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** PM memo on smart guns

+Andrew and minus the WH folks.

Andrew: WHCO is requesting a copy of the latest draft of our report on the PM memo on smart guns. They would like it today.

I think you are working on this with Danny, who is out today.

First, are you the right person to be looping in?

Second, and if so, if appropriate to do so, can we send them a draft of our report?

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell: (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bosworth, Michael [mailto:(b) (6)]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 12:46 PM

To: Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
Cc: Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
Subject: RE:

Can somebody send us a draft today?

-----Original Message-----

From: Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG) [mailto:Carolyn.Pokorny@usdoj.gov]  
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 12:44 PM  
To: Bosworth, Michael  
Cc: Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
Subject: Re:

+ Danny, who is the person in the loop on this, but out of the office today and may be delayed in responding.

On Mar 18, 2016, at 12:42 PM, Bosworth, Michael <(b) (6)> [mailto:(b) (6)] wrote:

We still haven't seen the draft PM report. Can we see that today?  
Thanks,  
Boz

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 2:01 PM  
**To:** Bosworth, Michael  
**Cc:** Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Re:  
**Attachments:** Draft Outline.pdf

+Andrew and Danny.

Attached is a draft in outline form.

I just spoke with Eric to provide some additional background, including that we had been waiting to get clearance and comments from DOD and DHS before circulating this.

Andrew advises that depending on the feedback about the approach outlined, we can flesh out the outline with a fuller draft and have something ready in approx. 10 days.

CP

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bosworth, Michael [mailto: (b) (6)]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 1:31 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Cc:** Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re:

Great, thanks!

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG) [mailto:Carolyn.Pokorny@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 18, 2016 01:03 PM  
**To:** Bosworth, Michael  
**Cc:** Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG) <Daniel.Grooms3@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE:

One of us will get back to you this afternoon with an answer.

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell: (b) (6)

-----Original Message-----

From: Bosworth, Michael [mailto:(b) (6)]  
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 12:46 PM  
To: Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
Cc: Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
Subject: RE:

Duplicative Material



**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

---

**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2016 11:29 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Wade Tyson, Jill C (OLA)  
**Subject:** Question from Hill on Smart Gun Report  
**Attachments:** L-Smart Gun Tech.docx

Carolyn & Danny Senator Booker's office is asking about this smart gun technology report. They're wondering **whether the report is coming out soon**, etc. Can you help get me pointed in the right direction? Many thanks!

From AG 1/20 briefing paper:

- [REDACTED] (b) (5)  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kirstin Dunham  
Attorney Advisor  
Department of Justice  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
(202) 353-9085  
[kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov](mailto:kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov)

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2016 11:44 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Draft Smart Gun Report  
**Attachments:** Draft Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report -- DOJ Draft.docx

Here's the draft report, which has been reviewed by NIJ, FBI, ATF, DEA, and USMS. Apologies for the delay; was trying to resolve some of the logistical issues. Unless anyone objects, I'll send a copy to DHS and DOD now.

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2016 4:51 PM  
**To:** Michael Bosworth; Eric Nguyen; Natalie Quillian  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Draft  
**Attachments:** Draft Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report -- DOJ Draft.docx; ATT00001.htm

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 7, 2016 10:29 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Greene, Mark  
**Subject:** Draft PM Report  
**Attachments:** Draft Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report -- Agency Review.docx

Revised, incorporated DHS's new language, plus the language (b) (5). Once you guys are comfortable, I'll flip back to DHS & DOD to sign off on a final version.

**Greene, Mark**

---

**From:** Greene, Mark  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 7, 2016 10:51 AM  
**To:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft PM Report  
**Attachments:** Draft Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report -- Agency Review - MG.docx

Only a couple comment [REDACTED] (b) (5) .

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:29 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG) <cpokorny@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG) <dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Greene, Mark <Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft PM Report

Duplicative Material



**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 7:08 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Smart Gun Report  
**Attachments:** Final Working Draft -- Smart Gun R&D Report.docx

Good morning from West Virginia! Caught 2-3 minor nits as I was reading through the final draft; the edits are tracked in the attached version. I'll be touring CJIS until about 4 pm today, so wanted to make sure you had these edits on the in case WH wanted to finalize before then. Will have my iPhone w/ me today and can duck out of meetings if anything comes up.

**Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 1:03 PM  
**To:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** Firearms Update Paper 04-08  
**Attachments:** Firearms Update Paper 04-08.docx

Can you both take a look and make edits if possible (or let me know if you can't today), and I will get this to Sharon once any changes are made. I put this together based on topics flagged by Sharon but also based on length limitations (one pager). That said, if you think I am leaving out a key update, please let me know!

Thanks,  
Danny

**Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 4:43 PM  
**To:** Bosworth, Michael S. EOP/WHO; Nguyen, Eric S. EOP/WHO; Quillian, Natalie H. EOP/WHO  
**Cc:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Final Working Draft 04-08  
**Attachments:** Final Working Draft 04-08.docx

All,

As requested, attached is a final draft reflecting all comments/edits that we have received. Note- we did not receive any from DOD, but this does incorporate edits from DHS. If you have any edits or other thoughts, please just let us know. Otherwise, we'll move to finalize and transmit next week.

Thanks very much,  
Danny

**Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 4:56 PM  
**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Cc:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Firearms Update Paper  
**Attachments:** Firearms Update Paper 04-08.docx

Sharon,

Attached is the one-pager on firearm (b) (5), it runs over to the second page- sorry!). Let me know if you need any additional or different issue on any of these topics.

Thanks,  
Danny

**Werner, Sharon (OAG)**

---

**From:** Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 5:03 PM  
**To:** Jackson, Wykema C. (OAG)  
**Cc:** Curtis, Sabrina (OAG)  
**Subject:** Monday - private lunch  
**Attachments:** Briefing Memo - Lunch with POTUS 04.11.16.doc

Hi Wykema,

Attached is the briefing memo for the AG's private lunch on Monday. Thanks!



**U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Attorney General**

---

April 8, 2016

To: The Attorney General

From: Sharon Werner  
Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Attorney General

Re: Lunch with POTUS  
**Monday, April 11, 2016**

---

**PURPOSE:** The President requested to have lunch with you on Monday, April 11. You will be dining in his private dining room off of the Oval Office. It may simply be a social lunch. However, we have prepared the attached talking points on the following topics in case they are raised:

(b) (5)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the page content, starting below the "PURPOSE" section and extending down to the footer area. The text "(b) (5)" is centered at the top of this redacted area.

**Werner, Sharon (OAG)**

---

**From:** Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 8, 2016 5:05 PM  
**To:** Childs, Heather G. (ODAG)  
**Subject:** TPs  
**Attachments:** Briefing Memo - Lunch with POTUS 04.11.16.doc

Here's the AG's briefing memo for her lunch with POTUS and the attached TPs.

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 12:59 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Final PM Report (Draft)  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report (Draft).pdf

I'm not sure what's the best format for a final report. I created a cover page which does not require signatures from the 3 principals. Once we get final sign-off from WH, we can submit this or a modified version.

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 6:20 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Edits  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report (Edits).docx

Small edits, based on this afternoon's phone call. Highlighted in yellow on p (b) (5). Will circulate a PDF version to DHS and DOD now.

**Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)**

---

**From:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2016 6:43 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Call Monday  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report (WH).pdf

By the way, here's the final final version (assuming there are no further edits).

-----Original Message-----

From: Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 5:03 PM  
To: Quillian, Natalie H. EOP/WHO; Bosworth, Michael S. EOP/WHO; Nguyen, Eric S. EOP/WHO  
Cc: Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
Subject: Call Monday

Natalie, Bos and Eric:

Can we have a quick call on Monday?

Andrew, Danny and I are all available from 11:00 to 1:30, 2:45-3:15, and 3:30 to 4.  
CP

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell: (b) (6)

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 12:53 PM  
**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** Draft firearms report  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v4 ATF edits.docx

Sharon:

This firearms report to POTUS is still being scrubbed for nits, but I wanted you to have it in case you had any feedback before I officially send it up for review.

CP

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel (b) (6)

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 2:14 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Cheryl (OAG)  
**Subject:** proof reading request  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v4 ATF and JMD edits.docx

Cheryl:  
Do you have time to proof read this for me this afternoon?  
Thanks in advance if you do.  
CP

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel (b) (6)

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:08 PM  
**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov)  
**Subject:** Draft report  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v4 ATF and JMD edits.docx

We are still proof reading for nits, etc.

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel (b) (6)

**Wilson, Cheryl (OAG)**

---

**From:** Wilson, Cheryl (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:25 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: proof reading request  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v4 ATF and JMD edits + Cheryl edits.docx

Carolyn:

My edits are attached in track-change format.

One note: (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].

Let me know if you need anything else, or if any of my edits are unclear.

Thanks,  
Cheryl

**From:** Wilson, Cheryl (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 2:16 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: proof reading request

Hi Carolyn,

Of course—I'll send back any edits I have shortly.

Thanks,  
Cheryl

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 2:14 PM  
**To:** Wilson, Cheryl (OAG)  
**Subject:** proof reading request

Duplicative Material



**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:36 PM  
**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Draft Firearms report  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v5 (330 pm) - clean.docx; POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v5 (330 pm) - showing edits.docx

Dear Matt and Sharon:

ATF, FBI have cleared this (and JMD cleared (b) (5))

Please use this version, as our crack intern caught a few nits.

The attached documents are the same—one clean, one showing edits since the earlier draft that was circulated this afternoon.

CP

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel (b) (6)

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 4:11 PM  
**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Firearms report  
**Attachments:** POTUS Briefing 4\_26\_16 v5 (4 05 pm) - showing CP edits.docx

Dear Matt:

I found a few more nits, reflected in this version, which reflects the mark-up.  
CP

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 3:36 PM  
**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov)  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Draft Firearms report

Duplicative Material



**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 5:00 PM  
**To:** Carlisle, Elizabeth [REDACTED] Attorney General Lynch  
**Cc:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)  
**Subject:** For AG Review: Report on Firearms  
**Attachments:** 2016.4.26 Report - January 2016 Executive Actions.docx

Dear AG:  
Attached is the report updating the WH on the Administration's executive actions on firearms.  
Alas, it is due tonight.  
Please let me know if you have any comments, edits or feedback.  
Best,  
Carolyn

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cel [REDACTED] (b) (6)

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 5:44 PM  
**To:** Bosworth, Michael  
**Cc:** Quillian, Natalie; Nguyen, Eric; Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Attachments:** 2016.4.26 Report.pdf

**Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)**

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**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 5:54 PM  
**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov)  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Firearms report  
**Attachments:** 2016.4.26 Report.pdf

Attaching the final document that I sent over.

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell (b) (6)

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 5:15 PM  
**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) (maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov)  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Firearms report

Thanks so much, Matt, for the speedy review and helpful edit.  
The AG just signed off.

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell (b) (6)

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2016 4:11 PM

**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG) ([maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:maaxelrod@jmd.usdoj.gov))

**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Werner, Sharon (OAG)

**Subject:** RE: Draft Firearms report

Duplicative Material



## Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)

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**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:22 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Dunham, Kirstin (OLA); Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun R&D Report (WH).pdf

This is the report that was sent over.

---

**From:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:11 AM  
**To:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA); Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

Danny or Andrew – would you please send it so we are sure it is the final, final version?

Carolyn Pokorny  
Office of the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Email: [carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov](mailto:carolyn.pokorny@usdoj.gov)  
Office: (202) 616-2372  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:00 AM  
**To:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

Do you have an embargoed copy of the report? I'm supposed to be getting it through other channels so that we can cover SJC/HJC/Appropriators 30 mins in advance, but I don't have it yet.

---

**From:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 9:59 AM  
**To:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

I just spoke to WH Comms a few minutes ago and he said 11. They gave an embargoed copy of the report to

AP and that story should be posted at 11.

---

**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 9:58 AM  
**To:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

Do you know for sure if the plan is still 11am? I talked to my counterparts last night, and they said that things were running behind.

---

**From:** Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 9:52 AM  
**To:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA); Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

+ Melanie for her awareness. Here's the facebook post that will go up on the President's page and the blog that will come from Valerie Jarrett. Both will go public at 11 AM

Facebook post:

Today, I want to update you on some important progress we've made to protect our communities from gun violence. As I said in January, these commonsense steps are not going to prevent every tragedy, but what if they prevented even one? We should be doing everything we can to save lives and spare families the pain and unimaginable loss too many Americans have endured.

First, we've jumpstarted the development of smart gun technology. Today, many gun injuries and deaths are the result of legal guns that were stolen, misused, or discharged accidentally. As long as we've got the technology to prevent a criminal from stealing and using your smartphone, then we should be able to prevent the wrong person from pulling a trigger on a gun. So, my Administration released a plan today to expedite the development of smart gun technology, including by identifying the requirements that smart guns would have to meet in order for law enforcement to purchase and use them effectively - and keep themselves and the public safer in the process.

Second, we're doing more to make sure that those who are already prohibited from obtaining a firearm can't get their hands on one. Today, we're announcing a rule to ensure that federal mental health records about individuals prohibited from buying a gun are reported to the background check system.

Third, the White House will convene state and local elected officials from all 50 states in May to discuss their efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions. The goal is to figure out what works on the ground when it comes to keeping our communities safe, and then share those practices.

As long as I'm your president, I will do everything in my power to make our communities safer and keep guns out of the wrong hands. That includes calling on Congress to pass the kinds of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people.

Making progress on these issues is how we honor the lives that have been lost by gun violence, and it's how we leave behind a stronger, more secure nation for our children.

VA blog

Blog Post for Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett Gun Violence Executive Actions Update WhiteHouse.Gov April 29, 2016

Every single year, more than 30,000 Americans have their lives cut short by guns. Whether it is from suicides, domestic violence, a gang shootout, or an accident, too many Americans have lost loved ones, including too many precious children. Many have had to learn to live with a disability, or help a loved one do what was once effortless.

That's why in January, President Obama outlined a number of new, commonsense steps that his Administration is taking to protect our children and communities from gun violence. Today, we are announcing important progress in implementing those steps.

First, smart gun technology. A significant number of gun deaths occur every year because someone other than the gun's owner was handling it - whether it's a child who finds a gun at home and shoots it accidentally, or the criminals who obtain stolen or trafficked firearms. So the President took action to boost the development of smart gun and gun safety technology that can prevent these deaths from happening. "If we can set it up so you can't unlock your phone unless you've got the right fingerprint, why can't we do the same thing for our guns? If a child can't open a bottle of aspirin, we should make sure that they can't pull a trigger on a gun." He then issued a Presidential Memorandum directing the Departments of Defense (DOD), Homeland Security (DHS), and Justice (DOJ) to prepare a report outlining a strategy for expediting the real-world deployment of smart gun technology.

Today, those agencies are releasing that report. Here are the highlights:

- \* DOJ and DHS have begun a process to define, for the first time, the requirements that manufacturers would need to meet for federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies to consider purchasing firearms with enhanced safety technology. They've committed to completing that process by October, and will also identify agencies interested in taking part in a pilot program to develop the technology.
- \* DOD will continue to help manufacturers test "smart" firearms under real-world conditions at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. Manufacturers may be eligible to win cash prizes through this program as well.
- \* The Federal Government stands ready to assist state and local governments as smart gun technology continues to be developed. In the report, DOJ has indicated that state and local governments could apply certain federal grants to the purchase of new firearms, including those equipped with advanced safety technology.

Together, these actions have the potential to jumpstart the development of proven gun safety technologies that can save lives and preserve the effectiveness of our firearms. There is no problem that America's innovators cannot solve, and we are confident that by focusing the private sector's attention on smart gun technology, we will unlock life-saving innovations.

Even apart from the steps announced by President Obama earlier this year, including additional efforts to promote smart gun technology, DOJ's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will continue to support a broad range of research to better understand gun violence in our country. For example, NIJ has indicated that it anticipates awarding up to \$3 million to support investigator-initiated research to "strengthen our knowledge base and improve public safety by producing findings with practical implications for reducing firearms violence." As in so many other areas of life, this important research and science can help keep us all safe.

Second, mental illness. In January, the President called for a new \$500 million investment in mental health

treatment and underscored the increased mental health coverage that the Affordable Care Act has made possible. While recognizing that individuals with mental illness are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators, he also made clear that we do need to do a better job of ensuring that those who are already prohibited by law from buying a gun cannot obtain one. "We're going to ensure that federal mental health records are submitted to the background check system, and remove barriers that prevent states from reporting relevant information."

Today, the Social Security Administration (SSA) is moving forward with one important aspect of those efforts by publishing a proposed rule to help ensure appropriate information in its records is reported to the background check system about individuals prohibited from buying a gun. The rule would also provide a way for people to seek relief from the federal prohibition on possessing a firearm for reasons related to mental health. This is just the first step in the rulemaking process. Once the rule publishes in the Federal Register, the public has 60 days to comment on the proposal to ensure SSA can incorporate feedback from a broad range of stakeholders before finalizing the rule.

Third, engagement with state and local leaders. I'm proud to announce that in May, the White House will host a 50-State Gun Violence Prevention Convening. We will bring together state and local elected officials, including governors, attorneys general, state legislators, and city and county officials, who have been leaders in the fight to save lives from gun violence. The agenda will focus on state and local efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions, including those focused on reducing gun violence in domestic abuse incidents and furthering research and development of smart gun technologies. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss ways states can improve their reporting to the background check system, particularly in light of new data recently released by DOJ about the number of records each state has submitted to a key national database.

We will never be able to stop every form of violence, but when we can take action to save even one life, we owe it to every American to do so. That's why the President has been so committed to doing everything within his authority to keep our country safe - and why he will continue to call on Congress to pass the kind of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people. The actions the Administration takes will help make our communities safer and keep more guns out of the hands of folks who shouldn't have them. That is just common sense.

Not Responsive Records

**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

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**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:27 AM  
**To:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun Report.pdf

This is what I just got from my counterparts (+their attachment):

Yes. We are hoping to send very soon. Below is our draft email, but we don't have clearance to send yet.

Good morning,

In January, President Obama outlined a number of new, commonsense steps that his Administration is taking to protect our children and communities from gun violence. Today, the Administration will announce important progress in implementing those steps. Please see the blog post below by Senior Advisor to the President, Valerie Jarrett, for more information. Attached, please find a report by the DOJ, DHS, and DOD outlining a strategy to expedite deployment of gun safety technology. Finally, see below for a post by the President on gun safety that will be posted on his Facebook page at 11am. Please note this information is embargoed until White House release at 11am today.

Thank you,

White House Office of Legislative Affairs

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**EMBARGOED FOR April 29, 2016 at 11 AM**

**Blog Post for Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett  
Gun Violence Executive Actions Update  
WhiteHouse.Gov  
April 29, 2016**

Every single year, more than 30,000 Americans have their lives cut short by guns. Whether it is from suicides, domestic violence, a gang shootout, or an accident, too many Americans have lost loved ones, including too many precious children. Many have had to learn to live with a disability, or help a loved one do what was once effortless.

That's why in January, President Obama outlined a number of new, commonsense steps that his Administration is taking to protect our children and communities from gun violence. Today, we are announcing important progress in implementing those steps.

**First, smart gun technology.** A significant number of gun deaths occur every year because someone other than the gun's owner was handling it — whether it's a child who finds a gun at home and shoots it accidentally,

than the gun's owner was handling it—whether it's a child who finds a gun at home and shoots it accidentally, or the criminals who obtain stolen or trafficked firearms. So the President took action to boost the development of smart gun and gun safety technology that can prevent these deaths from happening. “If we can set it up so you can’t unlock your phone unless you’ve got the right fingerprint, why can’t we do the same thing for our guns? If a child can’t open a bottle of aspirin, we should make sure that they can’t pull a trigger on a gun.” He then issued a Presidential Memorandum directing the Departments of Defense (DOD), Homeland Security (DHS), and Justice (DOJ) to prepare a report outlining a strategy for expediting the real-world deployment of smart gun technology.

Today, those agencies are releasing that report. Here are the highlights:

- DOJ and DHS have begun a process to define, for the first time, the requirements that manufacturers would need to meet for federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies to consider purchasing firearms with enhanced safety technology. They’ve committed to completing that process by October, and will also identify agencies interested in taking part in a pilot program to develop the technology.
- DOD will continue to help manufacturers test “smart” firearms under real-world conditions at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. Manufacturers may be eligible to win cash prizes through this program as well.
- The Federal Government stands ready to assist state and local governments as smart gun technology continues to be developed. In the report, DOJ has indicated that state and local governments could apply certain federal grants to the purchase of new firearms, including those equipped with advanced safety technology.

Together, these actions have the potential to jumpstart the development of proven gun safety technologies that can save lives and preserve the effectiveness of our firearms. There is no problem that America’s innovators cannot solve, and we are confident that by focusing the private sector’s attention on smart gun technology, we will unlock life-saving innovations.

Even apart from the steps announced by President Obama earlier this year, including additional efforts to promote smart gun technology, DOJ’s National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will continue to support a broad range of research to better understand gun violence in our country. For example, NIJ has indicated that it anticipates awarding up to \$3 million to support investigator-initiated research to “strengthen our knowledge base and improve public safety by producing findings with practical implications for reducing firearms violence.” As in so many other areas of life, this important research and science can help keep us all safe.

**Second, mental illness.** In January, the President called for a new \$500 million investment in mental health treatment and underscored the increased mental health coverage that the Affordable Care Act has made possible. While recognizing that individuals with mental illness are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators, he also made clear that we do need to do a better job of ensuring that those who are already prohibited by law from buying a gun cannot obtain one. [POTUS PULLQUOTE] “We’re going to ensure that federal mental health records are submitted to the background check system, and remove barriers that prevent states from reporting relevant information.”

Today, the Social Security Administration (SSA) is moving forward with one important aspect of those efforts by publishing a proposed rule to help ensure appropriate information in its records is reported to the background check system about individuals prohibited from buying a gun. The rule would also provide a way for people to seek relief from the federal prohibition on possessing a firearm for reasons related to mental health. This is just the first step in the rulemaking process. Once the rule [publishes in the Federal Register](#),

the public has 60 days to comment on the proposal to ensure SSA can incorporate feedback from a broad range of stakeholders before finalizing the rule.

**Third, engagement with state and local leaders.** I'm proud to announce that in May, the White House will host a 50-State Gun Violence Prevention Convening. We will bring together state and local elected officials, including governors, attorneys general, state legislators, and city and county officials, who have been leaders in the fight to save lives from gun violence. The agenda will focus on state and local efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions, including those focused on reducing gun violence in domestic abuse incidents and furthering research and development of smart gun technologies. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss ways states can improve their reporting to the background check system, particularly in light of new data recently released by DOJ about the number of records each state has submitted to a key national database.

We will never be able to stop every form of violence, but when we can take action to save even one life, we owe it to every American to do so. That's why the President has been so committed to doing everything within his authority to keep our country safe – and why he will continue to call on Congress to pass the kind of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people. The actions the Administration takes will help make our communities safer and keep more guns out of the hands of folks who shouldn't have them. That is just common sense.

---

**EMBARGOED FOR April 29, 2016 at 11 AM**

#### **Facebook Post from the President**

Today, I want to update you on some important progress we've made to protect our communities from gun violence. As I said in January, these commonsense steps are not going to prevent every tragedy, but what if they prevented even one? We should be doing everything we can to save lives and spare families the pain and unimaginable loss too many Americans have endured.

First, we've jumpstarted the development of smart gun technology. Today, many gun injuries and deaths are the result of legal guns that were stolen, misused, or discharged accidentally. As long as we've got the technology to prevent a criminal from stealing and using your smartphone, then we should be able to prevent the wrong person from pulling a trigger on a gun. So, my Administration released a plan today to expedite the development of smart gun technology, including by identifying the requirements that smart guns would have to meet in order for law enforcement to purchase and use them effectively – and keep themselves and the public safer in the process.

Second, we're doing more to make sure that those who are already prohibited from obtaining a firearm can't get their hands on one. Today, we're announcing a rule to ensure that federal mental health records about individuals prohibited from buying a gun are reported to the background check system.

Third, the White House will convene state and local elected officials from all 50 states in May to discuss their efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions. The goal is to figure out what works on the ground when it comes to keeping our communities safe, and then share those practices.

As long as I'm your president, I will do everything in my power to make our communities safer and keep guns out of the wrong hands. That includes calling on Congress to pass the kinds of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people.

Making progress on these issues is how we honor the lives that have been lost by gun violence, and it's how we leave behind a stronger, more secure nation for our children.

Kirstin Dunham  
Attorney Advisor  
Department of Justice  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
(202) 353-9085  
[kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov](mailto:kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:22 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Dunham, Kirstin (OLA); Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Smart Gun report

Duplicative Material



**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

---

**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:35 AM  
**To:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Subject:** EMBARGOED until 11am - Report  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun Report.pdf

Please see attached for a report by the DOJ, DHS, and DOD regarding firearm safety technology.

<<Final Report -- Smart Gun Report.pdf>>

**Kirstin Dunham**

**Attorney Advisor**

**Department of Justice**

**Office of Legislative Affairs**

**(202) 353-9085**

**[kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov](mailto:kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov)**

**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

---

**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:41 AM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Rodenbush, Patrick (OPA); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Newman, Melanie (OPA)  
**Cc:** Munro, Shannon L. (JMD); Losick, Eric P. (OLA); O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA)  
**Subject:** FW: EMBARGOED White House Gun Violence Executive Actions Update  
**Attachments:** Final Report -- Smart Gun Report.pdf

I passed this attachment along to our list of Hill notifications (JMD-approps is covering the appropriators).

---

**From:** FN-White House Office of Legislative Affairs [mailto: (b) (6) ]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 29, 2016 10:28 AM  
**To:** FN-White House Office of Legislative Affairs  
**Subject:** EMBARGOED White House Gun Violence Executive Actions Update

Good morning,

In January, President Obama outlined a number of new, commonsense steps that his Administration is taking to protect our children and communities from gun violence. Today, the Administration will announce important progress in implementing those steps. Please see the blog post below by Senior Advisor to the President, Valerie Jarrett, for more information. Attached, please find a report by the DOJ, DHS, and DOD outlining a strategy to expedite deployment of gun safety technology. Finally, see below for a post by the President on gun safety that will be posted on his Facebook page at 11am. Please note this information is embargoed until White House release at 11am today.

Thank you,

White House Office of Legislative Affairs

---

**EMBARGOED FOR April 29, 2016 at 11 AM**

**Blog Post for Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett  
Gun Violence Executive Actions Update  
WhiteHouse.Gov  
April 29, 2016**

Every single year, more than 30,000 Americans have their lives cut short by guns. Whether it is from suicides, domestic violence, a gang shootout, or an accident, too many Americans have lost loved ones, including too many precious children. Many have had to learn to live with a disability, or help a loved one do what was once effortless.

That's why in January, President Obama outlined a number of new, commonsense steps that his Administration is taking to protect our children and communities from gun violence. Today, we are announcing important progress in implementing those steps.

**First, smart gun technology.** A significant number of gun deaths occur every year because someone other than the gun's owner was handling it – whether it's a child who finds a gun at home and shoots it accidentally, or the criminals who obtain stolen or trafficked firearms. So the President took action to boost the development of smart gun and gun safety technology that can prevent these deaths from happening. "If we can set it up so you can't unlock your phone unless you've got the right fingerprint, why can't we do the same thing for our guns? If a child can't open a bottle of aspirin, we should make sure that they can't pull a trigger on a gun." He then issued a Presidential Memorandum directing the Departments of Defense (DOD), Homeland Security (DHS), and Justice (DOJ) to prepare a report outlining a strategy for expediting the real-world deployment of smart gun technology.

Today, those agencies are releasing that report. Here are the highlights:

- DOJ and DHS have begun a process to define, for the first time, the requirements that manufacturers would need to meet for federal, state, and municipal law enforcement agencies to consider purchasing firearms with enhanced safety technology. They've committed to completing that process by October, and will also identify agencies interested in taking part in a pilot program to develop the technology.
- DOD will continue to help manufacturers test "smart" firearms under real-world conditions at the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in Maryland. Manufacturers may be eligible to win cash prizes through this program as well.
- The Federal Government stands ready to assist state and local governments as smart gun technology continues to be developed. In the report, DOJ has indicated that state and local governments could apply certain federal grants to the purchase of new firearms, including those equipped with advanced safety technology.

Together, these actions have the potential to jumpstart the development of proven gun safety technologies that can save lives and preserve the effectiveness of our firearms. There is no problem that America's innovators cannot solve, and we are confident that by focusing the private sector's attention on smart gun technology, we will unlock life-saving innovations.

Even apart from the steps announced by President Obama earlier this year, including additional efforts to promote smart gun technology, DOJ's National Institute of Justice (NIJ) will continue to support a broad range of research to better understand gun violence in our country. For example, NIJ has indicated that it anticipates awarding up to \$3 million to support investigator-initiated research to "strengthen our knowledge base and improve public safety by producing findings with practical implications for reducing firearms violence." As in so many other areas of life, this important research and science can help keep us all safe.

**Second, mental illness.** In January, the President called for a new \$500 million investment in mental health treatment and underscored the increased mental health coverage that the Affordable Care Act has made possible. While recognizing that individuals with mental illness are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators, he also made clear that we do need to do a better job of ensuring that those who are already prohibited by law from buying a gun cannot obtain one. [POTUS PULLQUOTE] "We're going to ensure that federal mental health records are submitted to the background check system, and remove barriers that prevent states from reporting relevant information."

Today, the Social Security Administration (SSA) is moving forward with one important aspect of those efforts by publishing a proposed rule to help ensure appropriate information in its records is reported to the

background check system about individuals prohibited from buying a gun. The rule would also provide a way for people to seek relief from the federal prohibition on possessing a firearm for reasons related to mental health. This is just the first step in the rulemaking process. Once the rule [publishes in the Federal Register](#), the public has 60 days to comment on the proposal to ensure SSA can incorporate feedback from a broad range of stakeholders before finalizing the rule.

**Third, engagement with state and local leaders.** I'm proud to announce that in May, the White House will host a 50-State Gun Violence Prevention Convening. We will bring together state and local elected officials, including governors, attorneys general, state legislators, and city and county officials, who have been leaders in the fight to save lives from gun violence. The agenda will focus on state and local efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions, including those focused on reducing gun violence in domestic abuse incidents and furthering research and development of smart gun technologies. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss ways states can improve their reporting to the background check system, particularly in light of new data recently released by DOJ about the number of records each state has submitted to a key national database.

We will never be able to stop every form of violence, but when we can take action to save even one life, we owe it to every American to do so. That's why the President has been so committed to doing everything within his authority to keep our country safe – and why he will continue to call on Congress to pass the kind of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people. The actions the Administration takes will help make our communities safer and keep more guns out of the hands of folks who shouldn't have them. That is just common sense.

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**EMBARGOED FOR April 29, 2016 at 11 AM**

#### **Facebook Post from the President**

Today, I want to update you on some important progress we've made to protect our communities from gun violence. As I said in January, these commonsense steps are not going to prevent every tragedy, but what if they prevented even one? We should be doing everything we can to save lives and spare families the pain and unimaginable loss too many Americans have endured.

First, we've jumpstarted the development of smart gun technology. Today, many gun injuries and deaths are the result of legal guns that were stolen, misused, or discharged accidentally. As long as we've got the technology to prevent a criminal from stealing and using your smartphone, then we should be able to prevent the wrong person from pulling a trigger on a gun. So, my Administration released a plan today to expedite the development of smart gun technology, including by identifying the requirements that smart guns would have to meet in order for law enforcement to purchase and use them effectively - and keep themselves and the public safer in the process.

Second, we're doing more to make sure that those who are already prohibited from obtaining a firearm can't get their hands on one. Today, we're announcing a rule to ensure that federal mental health records about individuals prohibited from buying a gun are reported to the background check system.

Third, the White House will convene state and local elected officials from all 50 states in May to discuss their efforts to prevent gun violence through legislative and executive actions. The goal is to figure out what works on the ground when it comes to keeping our communities safe, and then share those practices.

As long as I'm your president, I will do everything in my power to make our communities safer and keep guns out of the wrong hands. That includes calling on Congress to pass the kinds of commonsense reforms supported by the vast majority of the American people.

Making progress on these issues is how we honor the lives that have been lost by gun violence, and it's how we

leave behind a stronger, more secure nation for our children.

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**Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)**

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**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2016 1:02 PM  
**To:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: 50-State GVP Convening  
**Attachments:** TPs for Smart Gun Safety and Technology Panel - DRAFT FOR REVIEW.docx; ATT00001.htm

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** May 20, 2016 at 9:28:42 AM EDT  
**To:** "Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)" <[dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:dagrooms@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG)" <[ajbruck@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ajbruck@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: 50-State GVP Convening

First cut for your review.

---

**From:** Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2016 12:19 AM  
**To:** Greene, Mark <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG) <[ajbruck@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ajbruck@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: 50-State GVP Convening

Terrific- thank you.

On May 19, 2016, at 10:39 PM, Greene, Mark <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

The WH would like remarks for Tuesday ahead of time. I can put together some talkers tomorrow for you to screen. Sound okay?

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Lindgren, Carly E. EOP/WHO" <(b) (6)>  
**Date:** 05/19/2016 10:07 PM (GMT-05:00)  
**To:** "Greene, Mark" <[Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mark.Greene@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** 50-State GVP Convening

Hi Mark,

Thank you for hopping on the phone today on such short notice. In preparation for Tuesday, can you please send over a copy of your remarks at your soonest? The Vice President's team would like to take a look into other Administration participant's comments

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Thank you!

Carly

Carly Lindgren (b) (6)

**Childs, Heather G. (ODAG)**

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**From:** Childs, Heather G. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:51 PM  
**To:** Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)  
**Cc:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG)  
**Subject:** Re: WHCO agenda

Adding danny for more info on these 2 points.

On May 25, 2016, at 1:14 PM, Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG) <[shfranklin@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:shfranklin@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Heather. I understood there to be two additional updates (b) (5)

Any quick note on those two items?

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**From:** Childs, Heather G. (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:10 PM  
**To:** Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)  
**Cc:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: WHCO agenda

(b) (5)



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**From:** Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:05 PM

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:03 PM

**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Childs, Heather G. (ODAG); Moran, Molly (OAAG); Elias, John (OAAG)  
**Cc:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: WHCO agenda

ODAG – actually, will you please send a bullet regarding (b) (5) ?

Thanks,  
Shirlethia

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**From:** Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:02 PM

**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Childs, Heather G. (ODAG); Moran, Molly (OAAG); Elias, John (OAAG)  
**Cc:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: WHCO agenda

Hi All,

Would you mind sending me a few high-level bullet points for the agenda items listed below, with the exception of (b) (5) ?

Thanks much,  
Shirlethia

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**From:** Werner, Sharon (OAG)

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2016 4:28 PM

**To:** Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG); Childs, Heather G. (ODAG); Moran, Molly (OAAG); Elias, John (OAAG); Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG)  
**Cc:** Pokorny, Carolyn (OAG)  
**Subject:** WHCO agenda

Hi guys,

Below is the final agenda for the WHCO meeting tomorrow. We should try to go over these during or after the 9:45 tomorrow morning so the AG, DAG, and Associate are all on the same page. (b) (6). (Carolyn will also be out tomorrow.) I've flagged who I think can give leadership the latest on each of these, but let me know if any of you disagree. This doesn't need to be super formal. I just want to be sure they're all prepared for the conversation. (Molly/John – can you flag these for Bill?)

(b) (5)



Thanks,

Sharon

**From:** McGarry, Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 12, 2016 7:11 PM  
**To:** Werner, Sharon (OAG); Gregg, Tammie (OAAG); Bonilla, Armando (ODAG); Lewis, Kevin S. (OPA); Wilkinson, Monty (USAEO); Grooms, Daniel (ODAG); Childs, Heather G. (ODAG); Hanson, Bea (OVW); Davis, Ronald L. (COPS); Lan, Iris (ODAG); Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG); Aguilar, Rita (OAAG); Gupta, Vanita (CRT); Franklin, Shirlethia (OAG); Hulsey, G. Scott (ODAG); Figures, Shomari (OAG); Bruck, Andrew J. (ODAG); Uriarte, Carlos (ODAG); Polite, Kenneth A. (USALAE); Cox, James (OAG); Monteiro, Paul (CRS)  
**Cc:** Mason, Karol V.; Frost, Joye; Listenbee, Robert L.; O'Donnell, Denise; deBaca, Louis E. (OJP); Henneberg, Maureen; Spivak, Howard (OJP); Rodriguez, Nancy (OJP); Darden, Silas; Wagner, Chuck; Darke Schmitt, Katherine; Solomon, Amy; Tyner-Dawson, Eugenia; Chung, Edward; Cohen, Brent (OJP); Martinez, Anna (OJP); Atsatt, Mikki (OJP); Spector, Adam T; Benda, Leigh; Martin, Eddie (OJP); Pride, Theron; Mulrow, Jeri (OJP)  
**Subject:** Items of potential interest from OJP's July 11, 2016 AG Weekly

Good evening - This email contains items of potential interest from OJP's July 11, 2016 AG Weekly Report. There are 14 items this week. Beth



**UPDATED** July 11 - 14, Tucson AZ – DAAG Maureen Henneberg, Senior Advisor for Tribal Affairs Gena Tyner-Dawson and others visit the **Tohono O'odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe** in a tour aimed to highlight progress made in current federal grant programs, victim services and criminal justice issues and to learn more about local needs.

**NEW** July 14, Washington, DC -- PDAAG Beth McGarry testifies on "**Examining Mismanagement in Office of Justice Programs Grantmaking**" at the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Relations.

**NEW** July 21, Washington, DC – AAG Mason speaks at the **COPS Emerging Issues Forum: Gender Sexuality, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing: Protecting the Rights of LGBTQ+ People**. This forum brings together police executives, subject matter experts, and advocates to discuss strategies, best practices and policies related to policing and the challenges of gender, sexuality and protecting the rights of LGBTQ+ people. The discussion will focus on the recommendations outlined in the final report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.

**NEW** July 26 - 27, Kansas City, MO — AAG Mason gives opening remarks at the **SMART Office's National Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability**, which will cover a wide range of sex offender management topics, from treatment research and sexual violence prevention to prosecution and reentry issues in Indian Country, including key findings from the Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative (SOMAPI) project. The symposium also commemorates the 10th anniversary of the Adam Walsh Act, which created the SMART Office.

**NEW** July 28, Washington, DC – AAG Mason speaks at the **Animal Welfare Symposium** at OJP.

**NEW** August 5, Baltimore, MD – AAG Mason speaks at the Plenary Session III of the **National Urban League Conference**, “Save Our Cities: The Burden of Mass Incarceration: Time for New Solutions.”



**NEW** July 19, Washington, DC -- BJA Director Denise O'Donnell participates in the BJA co-sponsored **Second Chance Pell convening with the Department of Education, Vera Institute of Justice, and the Ford Foundation**. The purpose of this event is to demonstrate the public-private partnerships creating strategies to support this 3-year pilot and build momentum for research to ultimately change the ban on Pell grants for incarcerated students.

**NEW** July 11, Washington, DC -- BJA releases **FY 2016 Evaluation & Research Literature: The State of Knowledge on BJA-Funded Programs**, which identifies programs and practices with a solid foundation of evidence, while offering information on those programs and practices that may benefit from additional research and evaluation.



July 21, Washington, DC -- BJS releases **State and Local Law Enforcement Training Academies, 2013**, presenting findings on the basic training programs of more than 600 state and local law enforcement training academies, including data on program content, recruits, and instructors. Data are from the 2013 **Census of Law Enforcement Training Academies (CLETA)**, which collected data from all state and local academies that provided basic law enforcement training from 2011 to 2013. Academies that provided only in-service, corrections and detention, or other specialized training were excluded.

July 28, Washington, DC — BJS releases **National Survey of Prison Health Care: Selected Findings**, presenting findings on the number of participating states providing health services to prisoners by type of services and the percent of prison admissions occurring in states by selected health services. Types of services measured include testing for infectious disease and cardiovascular risk and screening for mental illness. The report also describes the location (on-site or off-site) of general, specialty, and diagnostic health care services, as well as the use of telemedicine. Findings are based on the National Survey of Prison Health Care.



**NEW** July 14, Washington, DC – NIJ OST Division Director Dr. Mark Greene has been invited by the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate (DHS S&T) to attend the upcoming **First Responder Resource Group (FRRG) annual meeting to present information on the ongoing smart gun efforts**. Dr. Greene will discuss follow-on activities from a joint report submitted to the President on April 29, 2016 by the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense outlining a strategy to expedite deployment of gun safety technology. He will provide an overview of the draft baseline specifications for user-authentication (or “smart gun”) technology for law enforcement service firearms. The draft requirements document, recently developed by a DOJ and DHS working group of experts in firearms technology, will be available on the Federal Register for public comment on or about July 15, 2016. He will also discuss the upcoming convening in August and the Gun Safety Technology Challenge. The FRRG is an advisory group supported by DHS S&T of over 100 subject matter experts from across the U.S. representing all major emergency response disciplines.

**NEW** July 19 - 22, Savannah, GA -- NIJ Office of Science and Technology (OST) Senior Law Enforcement Program Manager Mike O'Shea participates in two round table panel discussions at the Airborne Law

Program Manager Mike O'Shea participates in two round-table panel discussions at the Airborne Law Enforcement Association's (ALEA) annual conference. The first panel discusses the state of aviation technologies for public safety, and the second discusses the use of unmanned aircraft systems by public safety officers.



**NEW** July 11, Washington, DC -- OVC/BJS Data Dissemination and Translation Fellow Heather Warnken presents at a stakeholder meeting convened by **The Prisons Division of the National Institute of Corrections addressing sex trafficking** in the context of U.S. women's correctional facilities, including strategies to identify and promote awareness about vulnerabilities of certain female inmates which may predispose them to a high risk of victimization. She will focus on services for trafficking and incarcerated victims, intersections between the two, and OVC programs designed to support these victims.

**UPDATED** July 21 - 24, Orlando, FL -- OVC Director Joye Frost addresses the **30th Annual Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc. conference**. The OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center provides one consultant to give a workshop to help participants recognize vicarious trauma and gain tools for self-care; and another to give a workshop on victims' rights for survivors.



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Justice Programs

*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

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*Washington, D.C. 20531*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: Karol V. Mason

Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs

SUBJECT: Office of Justice Programs Report for the Week of July 11, 2016

**SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK**

o **SPEECHES/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**OPEN PRESS**



- o **UPDATED** July 11 - 14, Tucson AZ – DAAG Maureen Henneberg, Senior Advisor for Tribal Affairs Gena Tyner-Dawson and others **visit the Tohono O’odham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe** in a tour aimed to highlight progress made in current federal grant programs, victim services and criminal justice issues and to learn more about local needs.
- o **NEW** July 14, Washington, DC – PDAAG Beth McGarry testifies on “**Oversight of the Office of Justice Programs Grants Management**” at the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Relations.
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- **NEW** July 19, Washington, DC BJA Director Denise O'Donnell participates in the BJA co-sponsored **Second Chance Pell convening with the Department of Education, Vera Institute of Justice, and the Ford Foundation**. The purpose of this event is to demonstrate the public-private partnerships creating strategies to support this 3-year pilot and build momentum for research to ultimately change the ban on Pell grants for incarcerated students.

## OCR

- **NEW** July 13, Washington, DC OCR Senior Advisor Denise Viera presents on leadership skills at the **Federal Training Institute portion of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention**. Several thousand people are expected to participate in the convention which includes significant administration presence and speeches from presidential candidates.



- July 19, Scottsdale, AZ OJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee speaks to tribal, state and local federal officials, partners, law enforcement and social service organizations focused on child protection issues in tribal communities at **The 2016 Tribal Child Protection Symposium sponsored by the Amber Alert Training and Technical Assistance program**.



- July 13, Washington, DC OVC hosts **Drug Endangered Children Support and Services**, a web forum for those providing information, resources, and services to children exposed to drugs. Presenters highlight the use of multidisciplinary teams and other victim support approaches.
- **NEW** July 18, Monterey, CA OVC's Victim Justice Program Specialist Bethany Case serves as a panelist about OVC's Vision 21: Linking Systems of Care for Children and Youth program at the **National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges 79th annual conference**.
- July 20, Washington, DC OVC hosts a **web forum, Serving Victims of Financial Fraud and Fraud Prevention**.
- **UPDATED** July 21 - 24, Orlando, FL OVC Director Joye Frost addresses the **30th Annual Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc. conference**. The OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center provides one consultant to give a workshop to help participants recognize vicarious trauma and gain tools for self-care; and another to give a workshop on victims' rights for survivors.



- **UPDATED DATE** July 13 - 15, White Mountain Apache, AZ SMART and DOJ components of the Tribal Access Program (TAP) launch the **Tribal Access Program in the White Mountain Apache Tribe**, one of 10 tribes selected for the User Feedback Phase. TAP is a DOJ program providing federally recognized tribes the ability to access and exchange data

with national crime information databases for both civil and criminal purposes. SMART has fully funded this initial phase.

## **CLOSED PRESS**



- **NEW** July 22, Washington, DC – AAG Mason participates in a “fireside chat” with OJP Second Chance Fellow Daryl Atkinson at the **2<sup>nd</sup> Listening Session with Faith Leaders and Reentry Practitioners**. The purpose of the event is to inform local leaders of the reentry policies, practices, funding, and training and technical assistance (TTA) available at the federal level while clarifying how this information corresponds to and complements reentry efforts at the local levels.



- **NEW** July 11, Washington, DC — BJS Acting Director Jeri Mulrow speaks at the **Urban Data Research Network Roadmapping Workshop** funded by the Kauffman Foundation and following work started by the MacArthur Foundation to create a national data platform. One of the three components of this work is to develop a collaborative environment in which city/state/federal agency staff and scholars work together using city data. Acting Director Mulrow discusses the need for subnational/state/city data on various aspects of the justice system. Attendees at the workshop are primarily large city chief data officers.



- **NEW** July 14, Washington, DC NIJ OST Division Director Dr. Mark Greene has been invited by the Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Directorate (DHS S&T) to attend the upcoming **First Responder Resource Group (FRRG) annual meeting to present information on the ongoing smart gun efforts**. Dr. Greene will discuss follow-on activities from a joint report submitted to the President on April 29, 2016 by the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security and Defense outlining a strategy to expedite deployment of gun safety technology. He will provide an overview of the draft baseline specifications for user-authentication (or “smart gun”) technology for law enforcement service firearms. The draft requirements document, recently developed by a DOJ and DHS working group of experts in firearms technology, will be available on the Federal Register for public comment on or about July 15, 2016. He will also discuss the upcoming convening in August and the Gun Safety Technology Challenge. The FRRG is an advisory group supported by DHS S&T of over 100 subject matter experts from across the U.S. representing all major emergency response disciplines.
- **NEW** July 19 – 22, Savannah, GA NIJ Office of Science and Technology (OST) Senior Law Enforcement Program Manager Mike O’Shea participates in **two round-table panel discussions at the Airborne Law Enforcement Association’s (ALEA) annual conference**. The first panel discusses the state of aviation technologies for public safety, and the second discusses the use of unmanned aircraft systems by public safety officers.



- *July 21, Washington, DC* OJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee moderates the panel, "Implementing Restorative Justice Practices in Juvenile Justice & Education" at the **DC Criminal Justice Coordinating Council 7th Annual Juvenile Justice Summit**.



- **NEW** *July 11, Washington, DC* OVC/BJS Data Dissemination and Translation Fellow Heather Warcken presents at a stakeholder meeting convened by **The Prisons Division of the National Institute of Corrections addressing sex trafficking** in the context of U.S. women's correctional facilities, including strategies to identify and promote awareness about vulnerabilities of certain female inmates which may predispose them to a high risk of victimization. She will focus on services for trafficking and incarcerated victims, intersections between the two, and OVC programs designed to support these victims.
- **NEW** *July 13-14, Norman, OK* OVC, through its Training and Technical Assistance Center, and in collaboration with the Native Alliance Against Violence, offers **Sexual Assault Response Team Interactive Scenario Training**, in Oklahoma's tribal communities. This multidisciplinary interactive training allows SART teams to experience the report of an assault through to a mock trial. Participants include law enforcement, advocates, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, DNA lab specialists, and attorneys who respond to tribal victims of sexual assault.
- *July 19, Salemburg, NC* OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center in collaboration with the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO), North Carolina National Guard, and North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault, hosts an interactive training-by-request for the **Strengthening Military-Civilian Community Partnerships to Respond to Sexual Assault** curriculum. The training program helps civilian victim advocates and military advocates build effective partnerships with local military installations to support sexual assault victims in the military.
- **NEW** *July 20, San Antonio, TX* OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center provides a specialist to speak at the **FBI Program Coordinators' Conference**, to share information about victim-centered human trafficking investigations, multidisciplinary human trafficking task force responses, and information about training and technical assistance resources available through OVC TTAC.
- *July 21, Washington, DC* OVC, in coordination with its Training and Technical Assistance Center, hosts **Human Trafficking Task Force Case Study**, a webinar for all OVC and BJA human trafficking grantees.
- **POLICY: DOCUMENTS TO BE RELEASED**
  - **NEW** *July 11, Washington, DC* BJA releases ***FY 2016 Evaluation & Research Literature: The State of Knowledge on BJA-Funded Programs***, which identifies programs and practices



with a solid foundation of evidence, while offering information on those programs and practices that may benefit from additional research and evaluation.

- **NEW** July 18, Washington, DC With support from BJA, the American Correctional Association publishes a toolkit, **Health Care Reform, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: A Practical Guide for Corrections and Criminal Justice Professionals**. This publication outlines the successful strategies that jurisdictions have incorporated to enroll individuals in Medicaid and private health insurance to facilitate continuity of health care from incarceration to the community, and gives tools and sample strategies for each step in the process of implementing health care reform for the adult correctional population.



- July 21, Washington, DC BJS releases **State and Local Law Enforcement Training Academies, 2013**, presenting findings on the basic training programs of more than 600 state and local law enforcement training academies, including data on program content, recruits, and instructors. Data are from the 2013 **Census of Law Enforcement Training Academies** (CLETA), which collected data from all state and local academies that provided basic law enforcement training from 2011 to 2013. Academies that provided only in-service, corrections and detention, or other specialized training were excluded.



- *Week of July 11, Washington, DC* NIJ makes the rating for **Juvenile Breaking the Cycle (JBTC) Program (Lane County, Oregon) available on CrimeSolutions.gov and the Model Programs Guide**. The program identified, provided, and coordinated individualized services for high-risk, drug-involved, justice-involved juveniles. This program is rated Effective. Results suggest that JBTC participants were significantly less likely to recidivate and had significantly fewer arrests, compared with non-JBTC participants. However, the impact on self-reported drug use was mixed.
- *Week of July 11, Washington, DC* NIJ makes the rating for **Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program (Seattle, Washington) available on CrimeSolutions.gov**. This is a pre-arrest, community-based diversion program designed to divert those suspected of low-level drug and prostitution offenses away from jail and prosecution and into case management and other supportive services. The program is rated Promising. The intervention group was significantly less likely to have been arrested, compared with the control group, at the shorter- and longer-term follow ups. However, there was no significant impact on non-warrant arrests.
- *Week of July 11, Washington, DC* NIJ makes the rating for **Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety in Kansas available on CrimeSolutions.gov**. This is a law-enforcement model in which both location-based crime and automobile crash data is analyzed to determine where such incidents disproportionately occur ("hot spots") and to employ targeted traffic enforcement strategies. The program is rated Promising. The areas of targeted enforcement experienced significant declines in robberies, burglaries, and traffic crashes.
- July 13, Washington, DC — NIJ releases **Offender Tracking Systems (NIJ Standard-1004.00)**. This document is a voluntary performance standard for offender tracking systems (OTS) used by the criminal justice community. It defines both the performance requirements and methods used to test performance. This standard specifies the minimum requirements for form and fit,



## LOOKING AHEAD

### o SPEECHES/PUBLIC MEETINGS

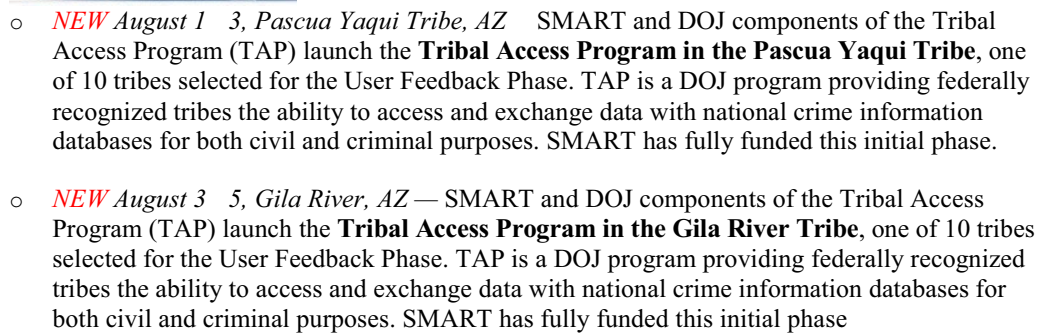
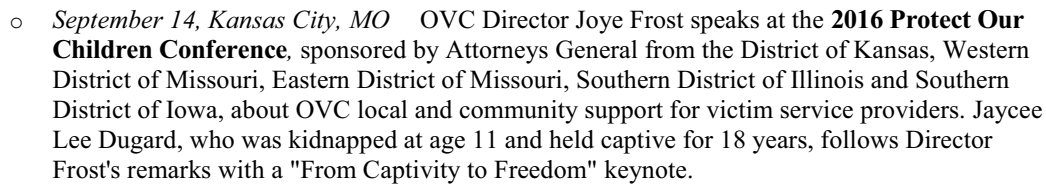
#### OPEN PRESS



- o **NEW** July 26 – 27, *Kansas City, MO* — AAG Mason gives opening remarks at the **SMART Office's National Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability**, which will cover a wide range of sex offender management topics, from treatment research and sexual violence prevention to prosecution and reentry issues in Indian Country, including key findings from the Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative (SOMAPI) project. The symposium also commemorates the 10th anniversary of the Adam Walsh Act, which created the SMART Office.
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- o **NEW** August 5, *Baltimore, MD* – AAG Mason speaks at the Plenary Session III of the **National Urban League Conference**, “Save Our Cities: The Burden of Mass Incarceration: Time for New Solutions.”
- o August 9 – 11, *Albuquerque, NM* – AAG Mason, OVC Director Joye Frost, OVC Deputy Director Marilyn Roberts, OVC Acting Deputy Director Kathrina Peterson and other OVC staff address the annual **National Training Conference for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance and compensation administrators** and their staff.



- o **NEW** July 28 – August 2, *Chicago, IL* — BJS Acting Director Jeri Mulrow and Statistician Jennifer Truman attend the **2016 Joint Statistical Meeting (JSM), hosted by the American Statistical Association and the founding societies of JSM**. Acting Director Mulrow presents on a panel on the recently passed H.R. 1831, Establishing an Evidence-based Policymaking Commission Act. Her presentation, “*Involving the Community to Establish an Evidence Based Clearinghouse*” gives an overview of the Act and the role of the U.S. Census Bureau in creating a clearinghouse. The panel allows BJS to interact with other agencies and statistical researchers on the ethical, technical and methodological challenges of linking, storing, and accessing large, diverse, and confidential federal data sets. Jennifer Truman presents “Testing of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Questions for the National Crime Victimization Survey” on a panel put together by the Office of Management and Budget's Federal Interagency Working Group on Measuring Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. As part of the ongoing redesign efforts for the NCVS, the BJS is adding sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) questions in the survey's demographic section in July 2016. The inclusion of these measures on the NCVS will provide national-level estimates on victimization of LGBT people and allow researchers to understand victimization risk and access to victim services. BJS is actively involved with the OMB's SOGI Working Group.



**BJA**  
British Journal of Anaesthesia  
An Official Journal of the Society for Basic Anaesthesia  
An Official Journal of the Society for Anaesthesia and Analgesia

- 

- OJJDP** Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
*Working for Youth, Justice and Safety*

- Document ID: 0.7.21379.42642-000001

- *July 29, Orlando, FL* OJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee speaks on juvenile justice reform to a delegate of faculty from four **Historically Black Colleges & Universities** from Florida at a **Talent Pipeline Seminar** sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.



- **NEW** *July 27-28 (tentative), Fairfax, VA* OVC, OVW and the Indian Health Service host a multidisciplinary group of **Indian Country professionals who respond to the sexual assault of American Indians and Alaska Natives** in a roundtable discussion about how their communities have successfully managed many of the common barriers to addressing sexual assault in tribal communities including shame/stigma, access to forensic exams, etc. OVC will distribute the participants' recommendations to tribal entities interested in developing and/or enhancing a coordinated response to sexual assault. Representatives from key federal agencies and DOJ components including OTJ, EOUSA, the FBI, and the BIA are invited to attend as observers.
- *July 28-29, Tallahassee, FL* OVC Deputy Directors Allison Turkel and Marilyn Roberts, OVC Program Manager Eugenia Pedley, and OVC TTAC Consultant Krista Flannigan participate in the **OVC Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Administrator's Regional Meeting**. Discussions include the role of state VOCA Compensation and Assistance Administrators in incidents of mass violence and ways states can successfully engage and enhance services for American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. These meetings foster collaboration between OVC and state administering agencies to ensure that the state's perspective is included in OVC's programs for crime victims.
- *September 12 (tentative), New London, CT* OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center in collaboration with the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (SAPRO) and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, hosts a one-day, interactive training-by-request for the **Strengthening Military-Civilian Community Partnerships to Respond to Sexual Assault** curriculum. The training program helps civilian victim advocates and military advocates build effective partnerships with local military installations to support sexual assault victims in the military.
- **POLICY: DOCUMENTS TO BE RELEASED**



- *July 26, Washington, DC* — BJS releases **Tribal Crime Data Collection Activities, 2016**, which describes BJS activities to collect and improve data on crime and justice in Indian country, as required by the Tribal Law and Order Act, 2010. The report summarizes BJS's efforts in 2016 to develop, design, and implement a new statistical data collection program to gather information from tribal law enforcement agencies in the lower 48 states, Village Public Safety Officers in Alaska, and BIA agencies; design and implement two data collections on the activities of state and local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors' offices serving tribal lands; complete the data collection for the first census of tribal courts in the United States; study the handling of American Indian and Alaska Native criminal cases in the federal criminal justice system; and enhance current funding programs to support tribal participation in state, regional, and national criminal justice databases.

- *July 28, Washington, DC* — BJS releases **National Survey of Prison Health Care: Selected Findings**, presenting findings on the number of participating states providing health services to prisoners by type of services and the percent of prison admissions occurring in states by selected health services. Types of services measured include testing for infectious disease and cardiovascular risk and screening for mental illness. The report also describes the location (on-site or off-site) of general, specialty, and diagnostic health care services, as well as the use of telemedicine. Findings are based on the National Survey of Prison Health Care.
- **UPDATED DATE** *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — BJS releases **Arrest Data Analysis Tool (2013 and 2014 Update)**. This tool allows users to generate tables and graphs of arrests from 1980 to most recent data available. Users can view national arrest estimates, customized either by age and sex or by age and race for many offenses and view local arrests. The underlying data are from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. BJS has expanded upon the FBI's estimates to provide national arrest estimates detailed by offense, sex, age, and race. Details are provided on the estimation procedures, limitations of the arrest data, and definitions of terms, including the FBI's offense definitions.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* BJS releases **Census of Problem-Solving Courts, 2012**, describing type, location, and characteristics of all known problem-solving courts in 2012. Types of problem-solving courts include drug, mental health, family, youth specialty, hybrid DWI/drug, DWI, domestic violence, veterans, tribal wellness, and other specialty courts. The report presents information on funding sources, disqualifying offenses, points of entry, status hearings, services, and benefits to participants. It also examines differences between adult and juvenile drug and mental health courts.
- **UPDATED DATE** *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* BJS releases **Federal Justice Statistics, 2013 (Statistical Tables) and Federal Justice Statistics, 2013 (Bulletin)** which describe the annual activity, workloads, and outcomes of the federal criminal justice system from arrest to imprisonment, using data from the U.S. Marshals Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and Federal Bureau of Prisons. The tables and text describe annual counts of and trends in arrests by law enforcement agency, offense, and federal judicial district. The report includes data on sentences imposed, sentence length by type of offense, and the proportion of offenders returning to federal prison within three years of release.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* BJS releases **Interviewing Conditions in the National Crime Victimization Survey, 1993-2013**. Interviewing conditions are the characteristics under which interviews are conducted with persons in the NCVS. The report describes the level and pattern of interviewing conditions in the NCVS over time, highlighting variations among select survey respondent characteristics. Findings cover the percentage of NCVS interviews conducted in person, the percentage of in-person interviews conducted privately, and how these conditions vary by characteristics of survey respondents. The report also examines the association between interviewing conditions and crime rates.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* BJS releases **Working Paper: Determining the Optimal Number of Interview Waves in a Panel Survey with Application to the National Crime Victimization Survey**. BJS commissioned a Panel Design Study to evaluate the effects of changing the number of interviews per respondent in the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) on survey costs and data quality. This paper assesses the effects of changing the current NCVS design from a 7 interview collection over 3.5 years to a design in which respondents are interviewed 5, 4, or 3 times, or once. The study assesses the impact on survey costs, property

victimization and violent victimization rates, and the precision of estimates by several population characteristics.

- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* BJS releases **Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics (2013 and 2014 update) Online**, the table-building tool providing access to official Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics, including national and state crime estimates (1960 through the most recent year available) and city and county crime counts (1985 through the most recent year available). The FBI's UCR Program collects statistics on violent crime and property crime. The tool, developed by BJS in collaboration with the FBI, is a supplement to *Crime in the United States*. Data are for law enforcement agencies serving city jurisdictions with populations of 10,000 or more and county agencies of 25,000 or more.



- *July 21, Washington, DC* NIJ releases **Environmental Scan of Developmentally Appropriate Criminal Justice Responses to Justice-Involved Young Adults**. Young adults comprise a disproportionately high percentage of arrests and prison admissions, and about half of all young adults return to prison within three years following release. Recent research confirms that brain development continues well into a person's 20s, meaning that young adults have more psychosocial similarities to youth than to older adults. NIJ contracted with an independent consultant to conduct an environmental scan of developmentally-informed practices targeting young adults involved in the criminal justice system. The scan identified 56 programs and strategies, including young-adult courts, probation and parole programs, community-based programs and prison-based strategies. The final report summarizes the programs and legislation identified in the scan.
- *July TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ releases the conference report from **Radicalization and Violent Extremism: Lessons Learned from Canada, the UK and the US**, a 2015 NIJ-hosted conference that brought together practitioners working on countering violent extremism programs with researchers from Canada's Kanishka Project, the UK's Arc of Terrorism program, and the UK Home Office's Prevent Research efforts, as well as research programs sponsored by DHS and NIJ.
- *July TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the final technical report from researchers at RAND Corp., **Fostering Innovation in the U.S. Court System, Identifying High-Priority Technology and Other Needs for Improving Court Operations and Outcomes**.
- *July TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the final technical report from researchers at RAND Corp., **Identifying High Priority Technology and Related Needs to Improve School Safety**. This study presents the results of two rapid reviews of literature on school safety and school safety technologies, the highest priority technology needs, five case studies, a review of state legislation regarding school safety, and the results of expert interviews about safety and technology needs.
- *July TBD, Washington, DC* The *Southern Illinois University Law Journal* publishes "**Using Science to Advance the Police Profession**" by NIJ Director Nancy Rodriguez, Deputy Director and Chief of Staff Howard Spivak, and Policy Advisor Maureen McGough. This article explores how science supports policing by bridging the gap between research and practice through professional development and attention to incorporating what science has shown works. The article also illustrates how the value of research is tied to the extent to which it answers the field's most pressing questions and crafts those answers in a way that can be practically implemented.

- *August TBD, Washington, DC* American Society of Criminology's *Criminologist* magazine publishes an essay by NIJ Director Nancy Rodriguez, "**Strengthening Justice in the U.S.: The Impact of Scientific Research.**" The essay summarizes how NIJ has changed and refined internal processes to support research on high-priority topics and how NIJ works with federal partners to address the research needs of the field.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ-funded researchers have completed "**The Impact of Prison Reentry Services on Short-Term Outcomes: Evidence from a Multisite Evaluation,**" to be published in an upcoming issue of *Evaluation Review*. The authors explore whether a broadly conceived reentry initiative such as the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) was effective in delivering enhanced services in multiple domains and identify the effects of program participation on outcomes during the initial post-release period.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* Researchers from the Minnesota Department of Corrections and the Urban Institute have published findings from an ongoing NIJ award. The article, "**Sacrificing Accuracy for Transparency in Recidivism Risk Assessment: The Impact of Classification Method on Predictive Performance,**" was published online by *Corrections: Policy, Practice and Research*. Using various risk factors, the authors developed analytic models to predict multiple recidivism outcomes among 40,740 offenders released from Minnesota prison between 2006 and 2011. The results show that statistically sophisticated models, such as machine learning algorithms, tend to outperform traditional approaches to risk assessment in terms of predictive discrimination, accuracy, and calibration. Although most empirical studies on risk assessment focus on identifying new risk factors and validating existing tools, future research should examine the implications of different implementation options, as well as ways to improve organizational capacity to take advantage of the latest developments.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the final report from researchers at the University of Tennessee, **Computerized Reconstruction of Fragmentary Skeletal Remains for Purposes of Extracting Osteometric Measurements and Estimating MNI**. Identifying, matching and reconstructing human bone fragments from commingled mass graves, highly fragmentary individual burials, or in the wake of mass disasters, has long been a serious challenge to forensic anthropologists. In this project, researchers at the University of Tennessee developed an osteological scene management tool in the form of software that enables investigators to quantify and reconstruct fragmentary human skeletal remains from three-dimensional surface files generated by computed-tomography or laser scans. The project expands the usefulness of the existing statistical atlases into the analysis of fragmentary and commingled remains and provides anthropologists with a means to quantify and reconstruct remains that are damaged or fragmentary, thereby enhancing analyses in challenging cases.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the final technical report from researchers at the Brandeis University, **Prisoner Recollections: The Role of Internet Use and Real-Life Networks in the Early Radicalization of Islamist Terrorist Offenders**. The study developed and empirically tested a dynamic risk assessment model of the radicalization process characteristic of homegrown terrorists inspired by Al Qaeda's ideology. Data were collected from public records ranging from social media postings by the offenders to evidence introduced in the adjudication of the offenses for which the offenders were incarcerated. Life histories were compiled for 135 offenders, whose detailed biographies were used to chart the timelines of their radicalization trajectories.

- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS a supplemental professional manual to a previously archived report, *Challenge and Promise of Using Community Policing Strategies To Prevent Violent Extremism: A Call for Community Partnerships With Law Enforcement To Enhance Public Safety, Final Report*. The manual, **Promising Practices for Using Community Policing to Prevent Violent Extremism: How to Create and Implement a Community Outreach Program**, is based on recommendations from the original report, and NIJ will archive this report on the same webpage that hosts the original report.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the report from researchers at the Urban Institute, **Metropolitan Crime Mapping**. The study utilized data from the Washington Metropolitan Police Department, Metro Transit Police Department Prince George's County Police Department, Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, and Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency. The researchers found that episodes of gunfire negatively impacted business and that crime at transportation hubs was largely determined by the environment the stations were in. The researchers also produced a guidebook for jurisdictions which seek to combine multiple administrative datasets.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* Researchers from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell publish results from an on-going NIJ award, **"Law Enforcement Perspectives on Sex Offender Registration and Notification: Effectiveness, Challenges, and Policy Priorities"** in *Criminal Justice Policy Review*. The article examines how sex offender registration and notification (SORN) is used, perceived, and experienced by law enforcement professionals. SORN presented challenges as an information tool, an offender monitoring mechanism, and a conduit for public information. There are also important differences in how SORN is perceived by agency leadership and front line registry staff and concerns about the reliability and utility of registry information.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the report from researchers at the University at Buffalo: State University of New York, **Developmental Pathways of Teen Dating Violence in a High-Risk Sample**. This research examined pathways to teen dating violence (TDV) in sample of 185 adolescents (11-12 grades) who had been followed since infancy and were at high-risk due to parental alcohol problems. Findings suggest that intervening with families of young children to address parental substance use, mental health, and to promote positive parenting behaviors may reduce child aggression and sibling conflict, ultimately, reducing the likelihood of involvement in TDV.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ-supported grantees from NORC at the University of Chicago publish **"Parenting Profiles and Adolescent Dating Relationship Abuse: Attitudes and Experiences"** in *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*. This longitudinal study draws on separate parent and youth (ages 12-18 years) surveys from the nationally representative Survey of Teen Relationships and Intimate Violence (STRiV). A three-class model a "Positive Parenting" class, a "Strict/Harsh Parenting" class, and a "Disengaged/Harsh Parenting" class was selected to best represent the data. Youth in the "Positive Parenting" class were significantly less likely one year later to be tolerant of violence by boyfriends under any conditions as well as less likely to perpetrate adolescent relationship abuse or to be a victim of adolescent relationship abuse.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the final technical report from researchers at Abt Associates, **Human Trafficking Organizations and Facilitators: A Detailed Profile and Interviews with Convicted Traffickers in the U.S.** This report explores human traffickers' motivations, perceptions of risk, and strategies for risk mitigation, as well as the

structure and operation of trafficking organizations. The project team gathered quantitative and qualitative data from Pre-Sentence Reports held by the United States Sentencing Commission, and in-depth interviews with a purposive sample of human traffickers in correctional facilities.

- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ archives on NCJRS the final technical report from researchers at the Brandeis University, ***The Role of Social Networks in the Evolution of Al Qaeda-inspired Violent Extremism in the United States, 1993-2013***. This study used a compilation of data primarily derived from 2,500 person-to-person and person-to-organization relationships for 720 US-based individuals associated with one of the three foreign terrorist groups, and 98 organizations which over the years were identified as involved in criminal activities linked to terrorism. The study found three distinct recruitment cadres in the past two decades, discusses the role of social media in the recruitment of potential radicalized individuals, and concludes that those radicalizing are growing younger in age while the period of radicalization is rapidly shortening. The numerous findings in this report will help to refine behavioral assessments of radicalizing individuals.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ-funded grantees from Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. publish ***Neighborhoods and Crime: Collective Efficacy and Social Control in Miami Dade County*** which reports on research from Principal Investigator Craig Uchida. This study of collective efficacy in eight neighborhoods in Miami-Dade County, Florida collected data through community surveys and systematic observations, and used census information and crime data in their analyses. A number of important findings emerged from this project, including social cohesion standing apart from collective efficacy and suggested that this dimension also may be important in understanding neighborhood social functioning.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ-funded grantees from Wayne State University publish ***"A New Approach to Detecting and Preventing Financial Exploitation"*** in *Clinical Gerontologist*. Fraud prevalence was examined using longitudinal data from the Health and Retirement Study across a four year time frame. The rate of new-incident fraud during that time was 4.3 percent. Psychological vulnerability was a powerful longitudinal predictor of fraud, with the most vulnerable individuals being more than twice as likely to be defrauded.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ ORE Social Science Analysts Carrie Mulford and Dara Blachman-Demner, along with Alyssa Goldman (formerly of CSR, Incorporated) publish the article ***"Advancing our approach to teen dating violence: A youth and professional defined framework of teen dating relationships"*** in *Psychology of Violence*. This study aimed to better understand areas of convergence and divergence in how youth and adult professionals conceptualize teen dating relationships utilizing concept mapping to capture, compare, and visually represent perspectives of teen dating relationships across samples of teens ages 14-18, young adults ages 19-22, and adults. Across groups, participants conceptualized dating relationships as multidimensional, consisting of a range of behaviors, emotions, and cognitions that vary in their frequency and desirability. Relationships were also characterized by temporally oriented phases that can shape teens' perceptions of their dating experiences.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ-funded grantees from Oakland University and Bowling Green State University publish ***"Relationship Context and Intimate Partner Violence from Adolescence to Young Adulthood"*** in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*. Researchers followed 1,146 young men and women ages 13-29 years to examine change in associations between features of respondents' intimate relationships and the proportion of relationships with intimate partner violence (IPV) from adolescence through young adulthood. Findings indicated that violence is not a consistent experience, as over half experienced discontinuity in IPV across

relationships and among those reporting violence, the vast majority did not experience violence in all of their relationships. Findings also indicate that as young adults develop higher quality relationships they experience less IPV.

- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ archives on NCJRS the report from the American Institutes for Research, **Secondary Analysis of the Survey of Youth in Residential Placement (SYRP)**. This study's goal was to shed light on disparities in the incarceration experiences of American Indian, black, and Hispanic youth. The study finds that black youth are more likely than the other groups to be placed in a correctional facility rather than a residential facility or community-based program, while Hispanic youth are more likely than white and Indian youth to be placed in a correctional facility rather than a residential facility. The data indicate that Indian youth are among the least connected to their family while in placement. White youth are less likely than any other group to be placed in a correctional facility rather than a residential facility or community-based treatment.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ archives on NCJRS the final overview report from University of California, Los Angeles, **Experimental Comparison of Telepsychiatry and Conventional Psychiatry for Mentally Ill Parolees**. To address the problem of providing psychiatric care for parolees in remote areas of the state, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) requires that mentally ill parolees interact with their appointed psychiatrists via a video interface or telepsychiatry. The study found very high rates of endorsement that telepsychiatry can be as effective as in-person visits (100 percent), does not affect therapeutic alliance (90 percent), does not impede communication (90 percent), and does not impede a thorough evaluation of the patient (100 percent). However, there was less support for the use of telepsychiatry for urgent care (60 percent).
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ archives on NCJRS the report by researchers from George Mason University, **Improving the Success of Reentry Programs: Identifying the Impact of Service-Need Fit of Recidivism**. This study examines programs implemented with funding from the Serious Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI). Researchers use generalized boosted regression to find that the greater the degree of Service-Need fit, beyond three months after release, translated into lower recidivism. This relationship was not significant in all their models, which suggests that there may be some confounding variables that impact the effect of Service-Need fit, such as availability of programs and the offenders' willingness to participate.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ grantees from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston publish "**Dating Violence and Substance Use as Longitudinal Predictors of Adolescents' Risky Sexual Behavior**" in *Prevention Science*. This NIJ-supported study of teen dating violence found that among 882 Texas high school students, substance abuse and physical teen dating violence victimization were longitudinal predictors of risky sexual behavior. The results did not vary across gender, race or ethnicity.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ archives on NCJRS the report by researchers from Santa Cruz County Probation, **NIJ Santa Cruz Researcher Practitioner Partnership Final Summary Overview**. Legislation eliminating the ability of adult courts to send probations and low-level felons to state prisons have led to serious reforms to California probation departments. These reforms brought about significant incentives to adopt evidence-based practices and change how probation work is performed within the state. This study examined three aspects of these system reforms and found probation officers supported the adoption of evidence-based practice, but were sometimes overwhelmed and resistant; adoption of a graduated response grid appeared to reduce the number of probation violations issued; and Latinos in the Santa Cruz adult criminal

justice system receive disproportionately high numbers of domestic-violence charges and bench warrants.

- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ archives on NCJRS the report by researchers from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, ***Social Bonds Across Immigration Generations and the Immigrant School Enclave: A Multilevel Longitudinal Study of Student Violence, School Disorder, and Dropping Out***. This research draws upon social bonds and assimilation frameworks to examine the associations between immigration, misbehavior, victimization, disorder, and educational failure. Results indicate clear disparities linked to immigration, race, ethnicity, gender, and school environmental context, which may impede the ability of children of immigrants to establish and sustain strong school social bonds. Improving and strengthening school social bonds within schools with high levels of immigrant adolescents, could lower levels of student misbehavior and victimization, dropping out and school disorder.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* NIJ-funded researchers have completed "**Comparing Juvenile Mental Health Court and 'Treatment as Usual' Youth Outcomes: Arrests, Detention, and Treatment**," to be published in an upcoming issue of *Psychiatric Services*. The authors compared arrest, detention, and treatment outcomes for youth in juvenile mental health courts (JMHC) with "treatment as usual" (JTAU) youth in two sites. Both JMHC and JTAU youth in both sites had lower annualized arrest rates after the target probation intake (arrest). Detention rates increased for all subsamples, but closer examination shows they declined for youth who completed the JMHC program in both sites. JMHC youth had an increase in treatment after enrollment, whereas the JTAU youth had a decrease in treatment following target probation intake.
- *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — NIJ-funded researchers have completed "**A National Survey of U.S. Juvenile Mental Health Courts**" to be published in an upcoming issue of *Psychiatric Services*. Although JMHCs resemble adult mental health courts, they have unique features that address the complex needs of youths with mental disorders who become involved in the justice system.



- **NEW** *August 15 (Tentative), Washington, DC* — OVC, in collaboration with other federal partners, the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN), and subject matter experts in the field, releases the revised ***Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Development and Operation Guide***, a blueprint for nurses and communities that would like to start a SANE program and a resource to help enhance services for communities with existing programs. This Guide is designed to both complement and integrate resources such as the [National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations](#), the IAFN [SANE Education Guidelines](#), the National Sexual Violence Resource Center [SANE Sustainability Project](#), the American College of Emergency Room Physicians [Evaluation and Management of the Sexually Assaulted or Sexually Abused Patient](#), and the OVC [SART Toolkit](#). The new version includes advances in forensic nursing practice, forensic science, and criminal justice since its first publication in 1999. Resource links, call out boxes, short videos, and icons representing the five key principles of SANE care are featured throughout the Guide.
- **NEW** *Release Date TBD, Washington, DC* — OVC releases ***Achieving Excellence: Model Standards for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime (Model Standards)***. Updated under a grant to the South Carolina Research Foundation, this e-pub includes the three revised sets of

standards Program Standards, Competency Standards, and Ethical Standards as well as an updated glossary and links to additional resources. *Model Standards* is intended to help victim service practitioners and program administrators improve the quality and consistency of their response to crime victims, and to strengthen organizational capacity by defining the types of policies and practices needed by victim-serving organizations. The *Model Standards* were developed by the National Victim Assistance Standards Consortium, whose members include academics and professionals from criminal justice, psychology, social work, public health, education and other sectors.

For more information, contact:

Beth McGarry, Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, 202.307.6228  
CC: Sharon Werner, Chief of Staff to the Attorney General  
Heather Childs, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Attorney General  
John Elias, Chief of Staff to the Acting Associate Attorney General

**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

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**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:06 PM  
**To:** Losick, Eric P. (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Badu-Nimako, Yvette (OLA)  
**Subject:** Carper - Firearms Oversight Response - for review  
**Attachments:** Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16.docx; Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16 CLEAN.docx; 2016-05-25 Carper Letter to National Institute of Justice re gun violence research.pdf; Carper, Thomas Appendix A.DOCX; Carper, Thomas Appendix C + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX; Carper, Thomas Appendix D + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX; Carper, Thomas Appendix B + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX

Eric,

Alicia was hoping you might be able to review/edit the attached response. It's for a firearms/NIJ/oversight letter from Ranking Member Carper (and we're getting pinged a lot by the committee).

Also attaching a clean version if that's easier to look at. We have questions into OJP/NIJ about the attachments in parallel, but wanted to keep this moving along – still needs to go to ODAG as well.

Thanks!

Kirstin

<<Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16.docx>>

<<Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16 CLEAN.docx>>

<<2016-05-25 Carper Letter to National Institute of Justice re gun violence research.pdf>>

<<Carper, Thomas Appendix A.DOCX>>

<<Carper, Thomas Appendix B + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX>> <<Carper, Thomas Appendix C + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX>>

<<Carper, Thomas Appendix D + OLA 8.10.16.DOCX>>

Kirstin Dunham

Attorney Advisor

Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

(202) 353-9085

[kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov](mailto:kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov)

Losick, Eric P. (OLA)

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**From:** Losick, Eric P. (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2016 3:43 PM  
**To:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Badu-Nimako, Yvette (OLA)  
**Subject:** RE: Carper - Firearms Oversight Response - for review  
**Attachments:** Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16 CLEAN (EPL).docx

This was a lot to take in. Here are a few nits/comments.

(b) (5)

It may be

worth my giving this another read down the line. Or let's chat Monday.

<<Carper Thomas to NIJ Nancy Rodriguez \_Response for OLA sig\_Last Word Doc OLA 8.11.16 CLEAN (EPL).docx>>

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**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 11, 2016 6:06 PM  
**To:** Losick, Eric P. (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Badu-Nimako, Yvette (OLA)  
**Subject:** Carper - Firearms Oversight Response - for review

Duplicative Material



**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

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**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2016 10:32 AM  
**To:** Kadzik, Peter J (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Lichtenstein, Alexandra R. (OLA)  
**Subject:** For PJK Review/Signature - Carper NIJ Firearms Response  
**Attachments:** Carper NIJ-Firearms 9.1.16 ODAG DRAFT.docx; 2016-05-25 Carper Letter to National Institute of Justice re gun violence research.pdf; DOJ to Carper Appendices.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Peter, below and attached is a response to Senator Carper on NIJ/Firearms. Carper's staff has pressed us to get this out before the holiday. If you approve, Alicia can sign on your behalf today. Let us know if you have any questions, and thanks!

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(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Kirstin Dunham  
Attorney Advisor  
Department of Justice  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
(202) 353-9085  
[kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov](mailto:kirstin.dunham@usdoj.gov)

**Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)**

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**From:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2016 10:58 AM  
**To:** Kadzik, Peter J (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Lichtenstein, Alexandra R. (OLA)  
**Subject:** RE: For PJK Review/Signature - Carper NIJ Firearms Response

Thank you, have a good weekend!

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**From:** Kadzik, Peter J (OLA)  
**Sent:** Friday, September 02, 2016 10:58 AM  
**To:** Dunham, Kirstin (OLA)  
**Cc:** O'Brien, Alicia C (OLA); Lichtenstein, Alexandra R. (OLA)  
**Subject:** Re: For PJK Review/Signature - Carper NIJ Firearms Response

Good to go

Peter J. Kadzik  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
(202) 514-2125  
[peter.j.kadzik@usdoj.gov](mailto:peter.j.kadzik@usdoj.gov)

On Sep 2, 2016, at 10:31 AM, Dunham, Kirstin (OLA) <[kdunham@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kdunham@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Thiemann, Robyn (ODAG)**

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**From:** Thiemann, Robyn (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:14 AM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP); Champoux, Mark (OLP)  
**Cc:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG); Hur, Robert (ODAG)  
**Subject:** School Safety materials  
**Attachments:** Obama Admin post-Newtown plan.pdf; Obama Admin post-Newtown Executive Actions.pdf; Obama Admin Progress Report.pdf; Report to POTUS on Va Tech Tragedy.pdf.docx; Secret Service Safe Schools Initiative.wpd.docx; Rack Up - DOJ implementation (10-5) (BJA, NICS, BJS).doc; Hearing prep - DOJ Response to VATech(mlb).doc; Publication Guide for OAG.wpd.docx; List of Publications and Courses - school shooting - final.wpd.docx

Beth, Mark –

Please see attached for some documents relevant to the school safety issue. There are two separate sets of materials:

(1) Documents describing the efforts undertaken by the last Administration after the Newtown tragedy. Most relevant to your task, these materials describe efforts in the area of school safety and mental health. You can also find archived information here: <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/node/193271>

(2) Documents from the Bush era, when we pulled together a joint DOJ-Ed-HHS report post VA Tech. These materials also address school safety and mental health. NOTE that my computer was unable to access pdfs from this era, so I had to convert documents to word. As a result, some are not pretty. I am sending a variety of documents from this era, including status reports on implementation, lists of publications, descriptions of programs, etc., in case you determine that similar efforts are worthwhile now.

I don't know if there are many concrete ideas in these reports that have not been acted upon, but I think you'll find that the foundational concepts are the same now as they were then. One thing I'd like to raise:

(b) (5)

I know this is not in the Department's lane, but I'd be happy to share my thoughts in case it is useful in conversations with HHS, for example.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.  
RT

*Robyn L. Thiemann*  
Associate Deputy Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
202 616 4353  
[Robyn.Thiemann@usdoj.gov](mailto:Robyn.Thiemann@usdoj.gov)



# NOW IS THE TIME

The President's plan to protect our children  
and our communities by reducing gun violence



[WH.GOV/NOW-IS-THE-TIME](http://WH.GOV/NOW-IS-THE-TIME)

JANUARY  
SIXTEENTH  
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN

Our nation has suffered too much at the hands of dangerous people who use guns to commit horrific acts of violence. As President Obama said following the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, ***“We won’t be able to stop every violent act, but if there is even one thing that we can do to prevent any of these events, we have a deep obligation, all of us, to try.”***

Most gun owners are responsible and law abiding, and they use their guns safely. The President strongly believes that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to bear arms. But to better protect our children and our communities from tragic mass shootings like those in Newtown, Aurora, Oak Creek, and Tucson, there are four common sense steps we can take right now.

## **THE PRESIDENT’S PLAN INCLUDES:**

1. Closing background check loopholes to keep guns out of dangerous hands;
2. Banning military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and taking other common-sense steps to reduce gun violence;
3. Making schools safer; and
4. Increasing access to mental health services.

While no law or set of laws will end gun violence, it is clear that the American people want action. If even one child’s life can be saved, then we need to act. Now is the time to do the right thing for our children, our communities, and the country we love.

# 1. CLOSING BACKGROUND CHECK LOOPHOLES TO KEEP GUNS OUT OF DANGEROUS HANDS

Most gun owners buy their guns legally and use them safely, whether for self-defense, hunting, or sport shooting. Yet too often, irresponsible and dangerous individuals have been able to easily get their hands on firearms. We must strengthen our efforts to keep guns from falling into the wrong hands.

## REQUIRE BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR ALL GUN SALES

The single most important thing we can do to prevent gun violence and mass shootings, like the one in Newtown, is to make sure those who would commit acts of violence cannot get access to guns. A critical tool in achieving that goal is the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, which was created by the Brady Act to ensure that guns are not sold to those prohibited from buying them, including felons and those convicted of domestic violence. Over the last 14 years it has helped keep more than 1.5 million guns out of the wrong hands. It is able to make 92 percent of background check determinations on the spot. However, too many guns are still sold without a background check and too many individuals prohibited from having a gun slip through the cracks. We need to strengthen the system by requiring every gun buyer to go through a background check and ensuring that the background check system has complete information on people prohibited from having guns.

We should:

- **Require criminal background checks for all gun sales:** Right now, federally licensed firearms dealers are required to run background checks on those buying guns, but studies estimate that nearly 40 percent of all gun sales are made by private sellers who are exempt from this requirement. A national survey of inmates found that only 12 percent of those who used a gun in a crime acquired it from a retail store or pawn shop, where a background check should have been run. Congress should pass legislation that goes beyond just closing the “gun show loophole” to require background checks for all firearm sales, with limited, common-sense exceptions for cases like certain transfers between family members and temporary transfers for hunting and sporting purposes.
- **Call on licensed dealers and private sellers to do their part through executive action:** Private sellers can already choose to sell their guns through licensed dealers so the dealer can run a background check on the buyer, and the Administration is calling on them to do so. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) will send an open letter to licensed dealers giving them guidance on how best to facilitate these checks.

## STRENGTHEN THE BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM

The background check system is the most efficient and effective way to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous individuals, but we need to make sure it has access to complete information about these individuals. For example, although the number of mental health records available to the system has increased by 800 percent since 2004, a recent report by the Government Accountability Office found that there are still 17 states that have made fewer than 10 mental health records available. We need to make sure reliable data on prohibited purchasers is available to the background check system. The Administration is announcing four new executive actions to enhance the system's ability to identify dangerous people and stop them from getting guns:

- **Address unnecessary legal barriers that prevent states from reporting information about those prohibited from having guns:** Some states have cited concerns about restrictions under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act as a reason not to share relevant information on people prohibited from gun ownership for mental health reasons. The Administration will begin the regulatory process to remove any needless barriers, starting by gathering information about the scope and extent of the problem.
- **Improve incentives for states to share information with the background check system:** States are a critical source for several key categories of relevant records and data, including criminal history records and records of persons prohibited from having guns for mental health reasons. The Department of Justice will invest \$20 million in FY2013 to give states stronger incentives to make this data available. The Administration is also proposing \$50 million for this purpose in FY2014, and will look for additional ways to ensure that states are doing their part to provide relevant information.
- **Hold federal agencies accountable for sharing reliable information with the background check system:** Some federal agencies also have relevant records. The President is issuing a Presidential Memorandum holding agencies to requirements that they identify these records, make them available to the background check system, and regularly report that those records are complete and up-to-date.
- **Make sure dangerous people are prohibited from having guns:** The background check system is designed to keep guns out of the hands of those forbidden by law to have them. But we need to make sure our laws are effective at identifying the dangerous or untrustworthy individuals that should not have access to guns. The President will direct the Attorney General, in consultation with other relevant agencies, to review the laws governing who is prohibited from

having guns and make legislative and executive recommendations to ensure dangerous people aren't slipping through the cracks.

## 2: BANNING MILITARY-STYLE ASSAULT WEAPONS AND HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES, AND TAKING OTHER COMMON-SENSE STEPS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

We need to do more to prevent easy access to instruments of mass violence. We also need to provide law enforcement with additional tools to prevent gun violence, end the freeze on gun violence research, make sure health care providers know they can report credible threats of violence and talk to their patients about gun safety, and promote responsible gun ownership.

### GET MILITARY-STYLE ASSAULT WEAPONS AND HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES OFF THE STREETS

A 2010 survey by the Police Executive Research Forum found that more than one-third of police departments reported an increase in criminals' use of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines since the prohibition on high-capacity magazines and assault weapons expired in 2004. To protect law enforcement and enhance public safety, we must redouble our efforts to:

- **Reinstate and strengthen the ban on assault weapons:** The shooters in Aurora and Newtown used the type of semiautomatic rifles that were the target of the assault weapons ban that was in place from 1994 to 2004. That ban was an important step, but manufacturers were able to circumvent the prohibition with cosmetic modifications to their weapons. Congress must reinstate and strengthen the prohibition on assault weapons.
- **Limit ammunition magazines to 10 rounds:** The case for prohibiting high-capacity magazines has been proven over and over; the shooters at Virginia Tech, Tucson, Aurora, Oak Creek, and Newtown all used magazines holding more than 10 rounds, which would have been prohibited under the 1994 law. These magazines enable any semiautomatic weapon to be used as an instrument of mass violence, yet they are once again legal and now come standard with many handguns and rifles. Congress needs to reinstate the prohibition on magazines holding more than 10 rounds.
- **Finish the job of getting armor-piercing bullets off the streets:** It is already illegal to manufacture and import armor-piercing ammunition except for military or law enforcement use.

But it is generally still not illegal to possess or transfer this dangerous ammunition. Congress should finish the job of protecting law enforcement and the public by banning the possession of armor-piercing ammunition by, and its transfer to, anyone other than the military and law enforcement.

## **GIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT ADDITIONAL TOOLS TO PREVENT AND PROSECUTE GUN CRIME**

In order to prevent and respond to gun violence, we must give law enforcement every tool they need to keep us safe. That includes passing stronger laws to stop those who would put guns into the hands of criminals, keeping 15,000 cops on the street, and eliminating restrictions that keep federal law enforcement from doing its job.

- **Create serious punishments for gun trafficking:** Today, criminals can easily buy guns from unlicensed dealers, or acquire them with the help of so-called “straw purchasers” who pass the required background check to buy guns from licensed dealers. But there is no explicit law against straw purchasing, so straw purchasers and others who traffic guns can often only be prosecuted for paperwork violations. We cannot allow those who help put guns into the hands of criminals to get away with just a slap on the wrist. Congress should close these loopholes with new gun trafficking laws that impose serious penalties for these crimes.
- **Help communities across the country keep 15,000 cops on the street:** One of the most important steps we can take to reduce gun violence is to keep police officers at their posts in our neighborhoods and communities. The President is calling on Congress to act on the Administration’s \$4 billion proposal to help keep 15,000 cops on the street in cities and towns across the country.
- **Take executive action to enhance tracing data:** When law enforcement recovers a gun during a criminal investigation, they can trace that gun’s path from its manufacturer, to the dealer who sold it, to its first purchaser. This gun tracing process helps law enforcement solve violent crimes by generating leads in specific cases and can reveal gun trafficking patterns when large amounts of tracing data are combined. However, not all federal law enforcement agencies are uniformly required to trace all guns they recover and keep in custody. The President will issue a Presidential Memorandum requiring them to trace all such firearms.
- **Take executive action to help law enforcement avoid returning guns to the wrong hands:** Law enforcement should never be put in the position of unknowingly returning a gun to an individual who is prohibited from having it. Currently, when law enforcement must

return firearms seized as part of an investigation, they do not have the ability to conduct a full background check on the owner. The Administration will propose regulations to ensure that law enforcement has access to the database needed for complete background checks.

- **Finally give the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) a confirmed director:** The ATF has not had a confirmed director for six years. There is no excuse for leaving the key agency enforcing gun laws in America without a leader. It is time for Congress to confirm an ATF director.
- **Eliminate restrictions that force the ATF to authorize importation of dangerous weapons simply because of their age:** ATF is required to authorize the importation of certain “curio or relic” firearms, and outdated regulations include all firearms manufactured more than 50 years ago in the definition of “curio or relic.” But today, firearms manufactured more than 50 years ago include large numbers of semiautomatic military-surplus rifles, some of which are easily convertible into machine guns or otherwise appealing for use in crime. Congress should get rid of restrictions that prevent ATF from changing this definition, enabling ATF to ensure that firearms imported as curios or relics are actually of interest as collectibles, rather than letting these rules be used as a way to acquire fully functional and powerful military weapons.
- **Maximize enforcement efforts to prevent gun violence and prosecute gun crime:** The Attorney General will work with all United States Attorneys to continue to ensure that every appropriate resource is focused on preventing gun violence. To this end, the Attorney General will ask all U.S. Attorneys to consider whether supplemental efforts would be appropriate in their districts, in areas such as prosecutions of people who have been convicted of a felony and illegally seek to obtain a firearm, or people who attempt to evade the background check system by providing false information.
- **Analyze information on lost and stolen guns and make it widely available to law enforcement:** The Department of Justice will publish an annual report on lost and stolen guns to ensure that data collected by ATF is available. This report will include state-by-state statistics about guns reported as missing. Making this data available will provide valuable information to law enforcement about how to target its resources, and give states and cities the information they need to pass laws and take other effective steps to make sure that lost and stolen guns are reported. The Department will also identify best practices that are working today and encourage states and cities to follow those models.

- **Provide effective training for active shooter situations for 14,000 law enforcement officers, first responders, and school officials:** One of the best ways to minimize the loss of life in a mass shooting is to make sure law enforcement, first responders, school officials, and others are prepared to respond to an active shooter. The Administration will immediately expand access to federal training, and federal agencies will ensure that protocols for responding to active shooter situations are consistent. And Congress should provide an additional \$14 million to help train 14,000 more police officers and other public and private personnel to respond to active shooter situations.

## END THE FREEZE ON GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH

There are approximately 30,000 firearm-related homicides and suicides a year, a number large enough to make clear this is a public health crisis. But for years, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and other scientific agencies have been barred by Congress from using funds to “advocate or promote gun control,” and some members of Congress have claimed this prohibition also bans the CDC from conducting any research on the causes of gun violence. However, research on gun violence is not advocacy; it is critical public health research that gives all Americans information they need.

- **Conduct research on the causes and prevention of gun violence, including links between video games, media images, and violence:** The President is issuing a Presidential Memorandum directing the Centers for Disease Control and scientific agencies to conduct research into the causes and prevention of gun violence. It is based on legal analysis that concludes such research is not prohibited by any appropriations language. The CDC will start immediately by assessing existing strategies for preventing gun violence and identifying the most pressing research questions, with the greatest potential public health impact. And the Administration is calling on Congress to provide \$10 million for the CDC to conduct further research, including investigating the relationship between video games, media images, and violence.
- **Better understand how and when firearms are used in violent death:** To research gun violence prevention, we also need better data. When firearms are used in homicides or suicides, the National Violent Death Reporting System collects anonymous data, including the type of firearm used, whether the firearm was stored loaded or locked, and details on youth gun access. Congress should invest an additional \$20 million to expand this system from the 18 states

currently participating to all 50 states, helping Americans better understand how and when firearms are used in a violent death and informing future research and prevention strategies.

## **PRESERVE THE RIGHTS OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS TO PROTECT THEIR PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES FROM GUN VIOLENCE**

We should never ask doctors and other health care providers to turn a blind eye to the risks posed by guns in the wrong hands.

- **Clarify that no federal law prevents health care providers from warning law enforcement authorities about threats of violence:** Doctors and other mental health professionals play an important role in protecting the safety of their patients and the broader community by reporting direct and credible threats of violence to the authorities. But there is public confusion about whether federal law prohibits such reports about threats of violence. The Department of Health and Human Services is issuing a letter to health care providers clarifying that no federal law prohibits these reports in any way.
- **Protect the rights of health care providers to talk to their patients about gun safety:** Doctors and other health care providers also need to be able to ask about firearms in their patients' homes and safe storage of those firearms, especially if their patients show signs of certain mental illnesses or if they have a young child or mentally ill family member at home. Some have incorrectly claimed that language in the Affordable Care Act prohibits doctors from asking their patients about guns and gun safety. Medical groups also continue to fight against state laws attempting to ban doctors from asking these questions. The Administration will issue guidance clarifying that the Affordable Care Act does not prohibit or otherwise regulate communication between doctors and patients, including about firearms.

## **ENCOURAGE GUN OWNERS TO LIVE UP TO THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO STORE GUNS SAFELY**

The President believes that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to bear arms, and he respects our nation's rich hunting and sport shooting traditions and the millions of responsible Americans who participate in them every year. But this right comes with a responsibility to safely store guns to prevent them from accidentally or intentionally being used to harm others. The Administration is encouraging gun owners to take responsibility for keeping their guns safe and encouraging the development of technology that will make it easier for gun owners to meet this

responsibility, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission is assessing the need for new standards for gun locks.

- **Launch a national responsible gun ownership campaign:** The Administration will encourage gun owners to take responsibility for keeping their guns safe with a national campaign. The campaign will promote common-sense gun safety measures like the use of gun safes and trigger locks, separate storage of guns and ammunition, and the reporting of lost and stolen weapons to law enforcement.
- **Review and enhance as warranted safety standards for gun locks and gun safes:** We also need to make sure that gun locks and gun safes work as intended. Several gun locks have been subject to recall due to their failure to function properly; that is not acceptable. The Chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) intends to review the effectiveness of gun locks and gun safes, including existing voluntary industry standards, and take any steps that may be warranted to improve the standards as well as to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury or death that arise when those products within the CPSC's jurisdiction fail.
- **Encourage the development of innovative gun safety technology:** Despite rapid advances in technologies in recent years, there are few readily available firearms that utilize these new technologies to help guard against unauthorized access and use. The President is directing the Attorney General to work with technology experts to review existing and emerging gun safety technologies, and to issue a report on the availability and use of those technologies. In addition, the Administration will issue a challenge to the private sector to develop innovative and cost-effective gun safety technology and provide prizes for those technologies that are proven to be reliable and effective.

### 3: MAKING SCHOOLS SAFER

We need to make our schools safer, not only by enhancing their physical security and making sure they are prepared to respond to emergencies like a mass shooting, but also by creating safer and more nurturing school climates that help prevent school violence. Each school is different and should have the flexibility to address its most pressing needs. Some schools will want trained and armed police; others may prefer increased counseling services. Either way, each district should be able to choose what is best to protect its own students.

## PUT UP TO 1,000 MORE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS AND COUNSELORS IN SCHOOLS AND HELP SCHOOLS INVEST IN SAFETY

Putting school resource officers and mental health professionals in schools can help prevent school crime and student-on-student violence. School resource officers are specially trained police officers that work in schools. When equipped with proper training and supported by evidence-based school discipline policies, they can deter crime with their presence and advance community policing objectives. Their roles as teachers and counselors enable them to develop trusting relationships with students that can result in threats being detected and crises averted before they occur. School psychologists, social workers, and counselors can help create a safe and nurturing school climate by providing mental health services to students who need help. Not every school will want police officers or additional school counselors, but we should do what we can to help schools get the staff they determine they need to stay safe.

- **Take executive action to provide incentives for schools to hire school resource officers:** COPS Hiring Grants, which help police departments hire officers, can already be used by departments to fund school resource officers. This year, the Department of Justice will provide an incentive for police departments to hire these officers by providing a preference for grant applications that support school resource officers.
- **Put up to 1,000 new school resource officers and school counselors on the job:** The Administration is proposing a new Comprehensive School Safety program, which will help school districts hire staff and make other critical investments in school safety. The program will give \$150 million to school districts and law enforcement agencies to hire school resource officers, school psychologists, social workers, and counselors. The Department of Justice will also develop a model for using school resource officers, including best practices on age-appropriate methods for working with students.
- **Invest in other strategies to make our schools safer:** School districts could also use these Comprehensive School Safety Grants to purchase school safety equipment; develop and update public safety plans; conduct threat assessments; and train “crisis intervention teams” of law enforcement officers to work with the mental health community to respond to and assist students in crisis. And the General Services Administration will use its purchasing power to help schools buy safety equipment affordably.

## ENSURE EVERY SCHOOL HAS A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

In the unthinkable event of another school shooting, it is essential that schools have in place effective and reliable plans to respond. A 2010 survey found that while 84 percent of public schools had a written response plan in the event of a shooting, only 52 percent had drilled their students on the plan in the past year. We must ensure that every school has a high-quality plan in place and that students and staff are prepared to follow it.

- **Give schools and other institutions a model for how to develop and implement reliable plans:** The Departments of Education, Justice, Health and Human Services, and Homeland Security will release—by May 2013—a set of model, high-quality emergency management plans for schools, houses of worship, and institutions of higher education, along with best practices for developing these plans and training students and staff to follow them. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Department of Justice, will assist interested schools, houses of worship, and institutions of higher education in completing their own security assessments.
- **Help schools develop and implement emergency plans:** Congress should provide \$30 million of one-time grants to states to help their school districts develop and implement emergency management plans. But schools also need to take responsibility for getting effective plans in place. Going forward, Congress should require states and school districts that receive school safety funding from the Department of Education to have comprehensive, up-to-date emergency plans in place for all of their schools.

## CREATE A SAFER CLIMATE AT SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

A report issued by the U.S. Secret Service and the Department of Education after the Columbine shooting found that one of the best things schools can do to reduce violence and bullying is to improve a school's climate and increase trust and communication between students and staff. Fortunately, we already have evidence-based strategies which have been found to reduce bullying and other problem behaviors like drug abuse or poor attendance, while making students feel safer at school and improving academic performance.

- **Help 8,000 schools create safer and more nurturing school climates:** With technical assistance from the Department of Education, 18,000 schools have already put in place

evidence-based strategies to improve school climate. These strategies involve certain steps for the whole school (like consistent rules and rewards for good behavior), with more intensive steps for groups of students exhibiting at-risk behavior, and individual services for students who continue to exhibit troubling behavior. The Administration is proposing a new, \$50 million initiative to help 8,000 more schools train their teachers and other school staff to implement these strategies. The Administration will also develop a school climate survey, providing reliable data to help schools implement policies to improve climate.

- **Share best practices on school discipline:** Students who are suspended or expelled are far more likely to repeat a grade, not graduate, or become involved in the juvenile justice system. As a result, effective school discipline policies are critical to addressing school and community crime and violence issues. The Department of Education will collect and disseminate best practices on school discipline policies and help school districts develop and equitably implement their policies.

## 4: IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

As President Obama said, “We are going to need to work on making access to mental health care as easy as access to a gun.” Today, less than half of children and adults with diagnosable mental health problems receive the treatment they need. While the vast majority of Americans with a mental illness are not violent, several recent mass shootings have highlighted how some cases of mental illness can develop into crisis situations if individuals do not receive proper treatment. We need to do more than just keep guns out of the hands of people with serious mental illness; we need to identify mental health issues early and help individuals get the treatment they need before these dangerous situations develop.

### MAKE SURE STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS GET TREATMENT FOR MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

Three-quarters of mental illnesses appear by the age of 24, yet less than half of children with diagnosable mental health problems receive treatment. And several recent mass shootings, including those at Newtown, Tucson, Aurora, and Virginia Tech, were perpetrated by students or other young people.

- **Reach 750,000 young people through programs to identify mental illness early and refer them to treatment:** We need to train teachers and other adults who regularly interact with students to recognize young people who need help and ensure they are referred to mental

health services. The Administration is calling for a new initiative, Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education), to provide this training and set up systems to provide these referrals. This initiative, which would reach 750,000 young people, has two parts:

- **Provide “Mental Health First Aid” training for teachers:** Project AWARE includes \$15 million for training for teachers and other adults who interact with youth to detect and respond to mental illness in children and young adults, including how to encourage adolescents and families experiencing these problems to seek treatment.
- **Make sure students with signs of mental illness get referred to treatment:** Project AWARE also includes \$40 million to help school districts work with law enforcement, mental health agencies, and other local organizations to assure students with mental health issues or other behavioral issues are referred to the services they need. This initiative builds on strategies that, for over a decade, have proven to decrease violence in schools and increase the number of students receiving mental health services.
- **Support individuals ages 16 to 25 at high risk for mental illness:** Efforts to prevent school shootings and other gun violence can’t end when a student leaves high school. Individuals ages 16 to 25 are at high risk for mental illness, substance abuse, and suicide, but they are among the least likely to seek help. Even those who received services as a child may fall through the cracks when they turn 18. The Administration is proposing \$25 million for innovative state-based strategies supporting young people ages 16 to 25 with mental health or substance abuse issues.
- **Help schools address pervasive violence:** Twenty-two percent of 14 to 17 year olds have witnessed a shooting in their lifetime. Research shows that exposure to community violence can impact children’s mental health and development and can substantially increase the likelihood that these children will later commit violent acts themselves. To help schools break the cycle of violence, Congress should provide \$25 million to offer students mental health services for trauma or anxiety, conflict resolution programs, and other school-based violence prevention strategies.
- **Train more than 5,000 additional mental health professionals to serve students and young adults:** Experts often cite the shortage of mental health service providers as one reason it can be hard to access treatment. To help fill this gap, the Administration is proposing \$50 million to train social workers, counselors, psychologists, and other mental health professionals. This would provide stipends and tuition reimbursement to train more than 5,000 mental health professionals serving young people in our schools and communities.

- **Launch a national conversation to increase understanding about mental health:** The sense of shame and secrecy associated with mental illness prevents too many people from seeking help. The President is directing Secretaries Sebelius and Duncan to launch a national dialogue about mental illness with young people who have experienced mental illness, members of the faith community, foundations, and school and business leaders.

## ENSURE COVERAGE OF MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

While most mental illnesses are treatable, those with mental illness often can't get needed treatment if they don't have health insurance that covers mental health services. The Affordable Care Act will provide one of the largest expansions of mental health coverage in a generation by extending health coverage to 30 million Americans, including an estimated 6 to 10 million people with mental illness. The Affordable Care Act will also make sure that Americans can get the mental health treatment they need by ensuring that insurance plans cover mental health benefits at parity with other benefits.

- **Finalize requirements for private health insurance plans to cover mental health services:** The Administration will issue final regulations governing how existing group health plans that offer mental health services must cover them at parity under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008. In addition, the Affordable Care Act requires all new small group and individual plans to cover ten essential health benefit categories, including mental health and substance abuse services. The Administration intends to issue next month the final rule defining these essential health benefits and implementing requirements for these plans to cover mental health benefits at parity with medical and surgical benefits.
- **Make sure millions of Americans covered by Medicaid get quality mental health coverage:** Medicaid is already the biggest funder of mental health services, and the Affordable Care Act will extend Medicaid coverage to as many as 17 million hardworking Americans. There is some evidence that Medicaid plans are not always meeting mental health parity requirements today, an issue that will only become more important as Medicaid is expanded. The Administration is issuing a letter to state health officials making clear that these plans must comply with mental health parity requirements.

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# NOW IS THE TIME

GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION  
EXECUTIVE ACTIONS



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JANUARY  
SIXTEENTH  
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN

**PRESIDENT OBAMA IS NOT WAITING TO TAKE ACTION. ON JANUARY 26, 2013, HE ANNOUNCED 23 EXECUTIVE ACTIONS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE THAT WILL:**

1. Issue a Presidential Memorandum to require federal agencies to make relevant data available to the federal background check system.
2. Address unnecessary legal barriers, particularly relating to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, that may prevent states from making information available to the background check system.
3. Improve incentives for states to share information with the background check system.
4. Direct the Attorney General to review categories of individuals prohibited from having a gun to make sure dangerous people are not slipping through the cracks.
5. Propose rulemaking to give law enforcement the ability to run a full background check on an individual before returning a seized gun.
6. Publish a letter from ATF to federally licensed gun dealers providing guidance on how to run background checks for private sellers.
7. Launch a national safe and responsible gun ownership campaign.
8. Review safety standards for gun locks and gun safes (Consumer Product Safety Commission).
9. Issue a Presidential Memorandum to require federal law enforcement to trace guns recovered in criminal investigations.
10. Release a DOJ report analyzing information on lost and stolen guns and make it widely available to law enforcement.
11. Nominate an ATF director.
12. Provide law enforcement, first responders, and school officials with proper training for active shooter situations.
13. Maximize enforcement efforts to prevent gun violence and prosecute gun crime.
14. Issue a Presidential Memorandum directing the Centers for Disease Control to research the causes and prevention of gun violence.
15. Direct the Attorney General to issue a report on the availability and most effective use of new gun safety technologies and challenge the private sector to develop innovative technologies.
16. Clarify that the Affordable Care Act does not prohibit doctors asking their patients about guns in their homes.
17. Release a letter to health care providers clarifying that no federal law prohibits them from reporting threats of violence to law enforcement authorities.
18. Provide incentives for schools to hire school resource officers.
19. Develop model emergency response plans for schools, houses of worship and institutions of higher education.
20. Release a letter to state health officials clarifying the scope of mental health services that Medicaid plans must cover.
21. Finalize regulations clarifying essential health benefits and parity requirements within ACA exchanges.
22. Commit to finalizing mental health parity regulations.
23. Launch a national dialogue led by Secretaries Sebelius and Duncan on mental health.

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# PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE ACTIONS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

*"This effort is not over. I want to make it clear to the American people we can still bring about meaningful changes that reduce gun violence... Even without Congress, my Administration will keep doing everything it can to protect more of our communities."*

President Barack Obama, April 17, 2013

## *We Have Completed or Made Significant Progress on All 23 Executive Actions*

Although a minority of the Senate voted down common-sense legislation to reduce gun violence, President Obama is continuing to make progress.

When the President unveiled his [plan to reduce gun violence](#) on January 16<sup>th</sup>, it included 23 executive actions to make sure the Administration was taking essential and rapid steps to reduce gun violence and to save lives. As this report demonstrates, the Administration has completed or made significant progress on **all 23** executive actions.

These steps—ranging from ending the freeze on gun violence research, to addressing barriers that keep states from submitting records to the background check system, to making sure federal law enforcement agencies trace guns recovered in investigations—will help keep our streets and our communities safe.

In addition, the Administration continues to develop [new executive actions](#). We have taken the first steps to close the “trust loophole” that allows individuals looking to buy some of the most dangerous firearms (including machine guns and short-barreled shotguns) to avoid background checks by registering the firearm to a trust or a corporation, instead of to themselves. Also, the Administration will deny nearly all requests to bring surplus military-grade firearms back into the country for resale to private entities.

## *But We Still Need Congress to Act*

The Administration has more work to do to continue making progress on these important actions in the weeks and months ahead, but Congress must also act. Passing common-sense gun safety legislation—including expanding background checks and making gun trafficking a federal crime—remains the most important step we could take to reduce gun violence. A vast majority of the American people supports this critical step, which would protect our kids and our communities without infringing in any way on our Second Amendment rights.

## *Strengthening the Existing Background Check System*

To prevent gun violence and mass shootings, we need to keep guns out of the wrong hands, and our most important tool for doing so is the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). Today, federally licensed firearms dealers are required to use this system to run background checks on those who buy guns. However, many gun sellers, such as private sellers at gun shows or on the Internet, do not have to run a background check on gun purchasers. The President called on Congress to pass legislation that would expand the background check requirement to most private gun sales (with the exception of sales between families and friends). However, a minority in the Senate blocked this common-sense legislation.

But even as Congress refuses to act, the President is taking action to strengthen the existing background check system. The President took action to make sure states and federal agencies add more records of dangerous people prohibited from owning guns into the existing background check system. He also called on private sellers to transfer firearms through licensed dealers who run background checks, and took steps to make it easier for dealers to conduct these checks for private sales.

- ✓ **Hold federal agencies accountable for sharing reliable information with the background check system:** The President [directed](#) federal agencies to make all relevant records, including criminal history records and information related to persons prohibited from having guns for mental health reasons, available to the federal background check system. This effort is beginning to bear fruit. In the nine months since the President's directive, federal agencies have made available to the NICS over 1.2 million additional records identifying persons prohibited from possessing firearms, nearly a 23% increase from the number of records federal agencies had made available by the end of January.
- ✓ **Address unnecessary legal barriers that prevent states from reporting information about those prohibited from having guns:** In April 2013, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [began the rulemaking process](#) to assess and address any unnecessary legal barriers under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule preventing states from making appropriate data available to the federal background check system. HHS has reviewed public comments received in response to the initial notice and will be issuing a proposed rule that includes consideration of this feedback.
- ✓ **Encourage private sellers to run background checks through licensed dealers:** The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) published a [letter](#) to federally licensed gun dealers providing guidance on how to run background checks for private sellers.
- ✓ **Review categories of dangerous people prohibited from having guns:** The Attorney General has undertaken a comprehensive review of our laws that identify potentially dangerous individuals who should not have access to a gun. As part of the review, DOJ has solicited input from a variety of experts and stakeholders with a wide range of views.

- ✓ **Improve incentives for states to share information with the background check system:** States are one of the key sources of data on persons prohibited from having guns, including felons and those prohibited for mental health reasons. That's why the President took action to [invest more than \\$20 million](#) this year to improve incentives for states to share this information with the federal background check system. In September, the Department of Justice (DOJ) awarded \$27.5 million to 42 states and one territory to strengthen the firearms background check system by improving their abilities to share information with the NICS. In addition, the Administration is proposing \$50 million for this purpose in FY2014, and Congress should act to provide these critical resources.

## *Empowering Law Enforcement*

Law enforcement is on the front lines in keeping our streets safe by preventing and responding to gun crime. We have a responsibility to give them every tool they need to keep us safe. That's why the President's plan to reduce gun violence included both legislative proposals and executive actions to enhance law enforcement's ability to prevent and respond to gun crime. The President called on Congress to make gun trafficking a federal crime, eliminate restrictions that keep the ATF from doing its job, and keep 15,000 cops on the street. A minority in the Senate blocked a tough new gun trafficking law, but these remain critical steps to empower law enforcement officers and Congress should pass them right away.

Despite Congress's inaction, the Administration has made significant progress on executive actions to give law enforcement the tools it needs to keep our streets and communities safe.

- ✓ **Confirm a Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF):** The ATF went without a permanent director for seven years. The key agency enforcing gun laws in America needs a leader to make sure it has the full strength to do its job, which is why the President [nominated](#) B. Todd Jones as Director of the ATF and, on July 31, the Senate [confirmed](#) his appointment.
- ✓ **Enhance firearm tracing data:** The President [issued a directive](#) requiring federal law enforcement to trace guns recovered in criminal investigations. This tracing process allows law enforcement to follow a gun's path from its manufacturer, to the dealer who sold it, to its first purchaser. Making sure federal law enforcement consistently traces recovered guns will help solve violent crimes by generating leads in specific cases, and aggregating large amounts of this tracing data will help reveal national gun trafficking patterns.
- ✓ **Help law enforcement avoid returning guns to the wrong hands:** Law enforcement officers often must return firearms seized as part of an investigation, but they cannot currently use the federal background check system to conduct a check on the gun's owner. DOJ has issued a [proposed rule](#) to give law enforcement the ability to run a full federal background check on someone before returning a seized gun. Now that the official comment period has ended, DOJ will issue a final regulation shortly.
- ✓ **Provide effective training on responding to active shooter situations to law enforcement officers, first responders, and school officials:** DOJ and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) have provided and will continue to provide federal training for law enforcement, first responders, and school officials on active shooter situations. This includes trainings for local law enforcement at FBI field offices and active shooter roundtables, workshops, and site security assessments with police and fire chiefs and school officials. DHS also launched a new [active shooter webpage](#), which includes training resources for federal, state, and local partners and the public.

- ✓ **Publish data on lost and stolen guns:** DOJ issued a [report](#) analyzing information on lost and stolen guns, making it widely available to law enforcement and the public. This report includes state-by-state statistics about guns reported as missing by licensed gun dealers and individual gun owners.
- ✓ **Maximize enforcement efforts:** The Attorney General is continuing to work with all United States Attorneys to maximize enforcement efforts to prevent gun violence and prosecute gun crime. Since the release of the President's plan to reduce gun violence, the Attorney General rolled out his "Smart on Crime" initiative. As part of the initiative, U.S. Attorneys are putting in place updated anti-violence strategies that are specific to their districts. To monitor the success of these district-based anti-violence strategies, DOJ will, in the coming months, implement new information-sharing techniques to share data from high-crime communities across Justice Department components.

## *Making Schools Safer*

We need to make our schools safer places for our children to learn and make sure they are prepared to respond in the unthinkable event of another school shooting. That means making sure schools have effective and reliable emergency management plans in place, and that students and staff are prepared to follow these plans. It also means we need to help law enforcement agencies hire school resource officers for school districts that want them. These specially trained police officers, who work in schools, can deter crime with their presence and advance community policing objectives, while partnering with other school personnel to create a supportive school climate. The President has taken action to achieve both of these goals.

Congress must also act to make our schools safer, not only by enhancing their physical security, but also by investing in school counselors and other mental health professionals and by helping schools take steps to create safe and supportive school climates. The President's plan to reduce gun violence called on Congress to provide \$150 million for school districts and law enforcement agencies to hire school resource officers, school psychologists, social workers, and counselors. In addition, the Administration has proposed a new initiative to help thousands of schools train their teachers and staff to improve school climate, which evidence shows is a key step to reduce violence and bullying.

- ✓ **Give schools and other institutions a model for how to develop and implement reliable plans:** High-quality emergency management plans can help save lives. A 2010 survey found that while 84% of public schools had a written response plan in the event of a shooting, only 52% had drilled their students on the plan in the past year. The Department of Education, DOJ (led by the FBI), DHS (led by FEMA), and HHS have developed [high-quality emergency management planning guidance](#) for schools, institutions of higher education, and houses of worship.
- ✓ **Provide incentives for schools to hire school resource officers:** Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Grants, which help police departments hire officers, can already be used by departments to fund school resource officers. This year, DOJ provided additional points in the COPS grant competition to applicants who requested funds to hire school resource officers. On September 27, the Attorney General [announced](#) more than \$125 million for COPS grants to 263 cities and counties, including nearly \$45 million to fund 356 new school resource officer positions. DOJ has also begun their work to develop a model for, as well as training curriculum on, the effective use of school resource officers to help create safe and nurturing school climates.

## *Encouraging Responsible Gun Ownership*

The President believes that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to bear arms, but this right comes with a responsibility to use and store guns safely. The President's plan to reduce gun violence included executive actions to encourage gun owners to keep their guns safe and to encourage the development of safe gun technologies, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission committed to assessing the need for new standards for gun locks.

- ✓ **Launch a national responsible gun ownership campaign:** Working with the National Crime Prevention Council and the Ad Council, DOJ [will launch](#) a national safe and responsible gun ownership campaign to promote common-sense gun safety measures like the use of gun safes and trigger locks, separate storage of guns and ammunition, and the reporting of lost and stolen weapons to law enforcement. The campaign will roll out early next year.
- ✓ **Encourage the development of innovative gun safety technology:** DOJ issued a [report](#) reviewing the availability and use of new gun safety technologies. This report incorporated input from a meeting the Attorney General hosted with stakeholders, including manufacturers and technology experts. Building on this report, the Administration will issue a challenge to the private sector to develop innovative and cost-effective gun safety technology and provide prizes for those technologies that are proven to be reliable and effective.
- ✓ **Review and enhance safety standards for gun locks and gun safes:** Gun owners need to be able to count on gun locks and gun safes to make sure their firearms are neither accidentally nor intentionally used to harm others. The Office of the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission has reviewed the safety standards for gun locks and gun safes and fully engaged the relevant voluntary standards body, which has begun a process to improve the standards. That process is now underway, with regular monitoring by the Chairman's office.

## *Ending the Freeze on Gun Violence Research*

There are over 30,000 firearm-related homicides and suicides a year. This fact makes it clear that gun violence is a public health crisis that merits the attention of top public health researchers. But for years, Congress has effectively placed a freeze on gun violence research. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other scientific agencies are prohibited from using funds to “advocate or promote gun control,” and some members of Congress have claimed this ban extends to any research on the causes of gun violence.

Research on gun violence is not advocacy; it is critical public health research. So the President has taken action to immediately restart this important work and is calling on Congress to provide \$10 million to allow the CDC to conduct further research.

- ✓ **Conduct research on the causes and prevention of gun violence:** The President [directed](#) the CDC to research the causes and prevention of gun violence, including links between video games, media images, and violence. The CDC is starting this work by assessing existing strategies for preventing gun violence and identifying research questions. To inform this process, earlier this year the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council at the request of the CDC released a [report](#) recommending the most pressing research questions with the greatest potential public health impact.

To inform future research and gun violence prevention strategies, we also need to better understand how and when firearms are used in violent deaths. That’s why the Administration is calling on Congress to invest an additional \$20 million to allow all states to participate in the National Violent Death Reporting System, which collects anonymous data including the type of firearm used, whether the firearm was stored loaded or locked, and details on youth gun access when firearms are used in homicides or suicides. These funds would expand the reporting system from the 18 states currently participating to all 50 states within one year. For the first time, prevention researchers, practitioners, and policymakers will be able to gauge magnitude, trends, and characteristics of violent deaths at the national, state, and local levels to inform the development, implementation, and evaluation of violence prevention strategies, which will ultimately save lives.

## *Preserving Rights of Health Providers to Protect their Patients and Communities from Gun Violence*

Doctors and other health professionals play an important role in protecting the safety of their patients and the broader community. We should never ask them to turn a blind eye to the risks posed by guns in the wrong hands. Therefore, the President took two actions to clarify that no federal law prohibits health care providers from reporting threats of violence or talking to their patients about gun safety.

- ✓ **Clarify that no federal law prevents health care providers from warning law enforcement authorities about threats of violence:** In response to public confusion about whether federal law prohibits health care providers from reporting direct and credible threats of violence to the authorities, HHS issued a [letter](#) to providers clarifying that no federal law prohibits these reports in any way.
- ✓ **Protect the rights of health care providers to talk to their patients about gun safety:** HHS issued [guidance](#) clarifying that the Affordable Care Act does not prohibit or otherwise limit communication between health care professionals and patients, including about firearms. Health care providers can play an important role in promoting gun safety.

## *Improving Access to Mental Health Care*

The vast majority of people experiencing mental illnesses are not violent. But it is also true that most suicides each year involve someone with a mental illness or substance use disorder, and sometimes, when untreated, mental illness can lead to a large-scale tragedy. Even for individuals with no likelihood of violence, untreated mental illnesses too often cause immense distress and can prevent people from living healthy, fulfilling lives. The good news is that for many people living with mental illnesses, treatment is available and effective. So we need to do everything in our power to help them access the mental health services that can help them recover.

The President is taking steps to reduce the barriers that too often prevent people from getting the help they need for mental health problems. The President's FY2014 Budget includes a new \$130 million initiative to address several barriers that sometimes prevent people from accessing help. This initiative proposes to help teachers recognize signs of mental illness in students and refer them to mental health services if needed, support innovative state-based programs to improve mental health outcomes for young people ages 16-25, and train 5,000 more mental health professionals to serve students and young adults. Additionally, the President has made significant progress on or completed four executive actions:

- ✓ **Launch a national conversation to increase understanding about mental health:** The Administration hosted the [National Conference on Mental Health](#) to discuss how we can all work together to reduce negative attitudes and perceptions about mental illnesses, encourage people experiencing mental health problems to reach out for help, and encourage friends and family members to support their loved ones and connect them with help. The White House applauded the [dozens of commitments](#) to increase understanding and awareness of mental health that were made by organizations representing media, educators, health care providers, faith communities, and foundations. The Administration also launched [mentalhealth.gov](#), a new website featuring easy-to-understand information about basic signs of mental health problems, how to talk about mental health, and how to find help for you or a loved one.
- ✓ **Finalize requirements for private health insurance plans to cover mental health services:** To fill gaps in insurance coverage that too often make the cost of mental health services prohibitively expensive, the Administration finalized an Affordable Care Act [rule](#) that expands mental health and substance use disorder benefits and parity protections for 62 million Americans. Because of these parity protections, many insurance plans will include coverage for mental health and substance use disorders that is comparable to their medical and surgical coverage.
- ✓ **Make sure millions of Americans covered by Medicaid get quality mental health coverage:** HHS also released a [letter](#) to state health officials making clear how Medicaid plans must comply with requirements to ensure that mental health care is covered the same as other medical services.
- ✓ **Finalize rule under the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008:** The Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and the Treasury have issued a [final rule](#) on health plan coverage of mental health and substance use disorders. Under the rule, plan benefits for these conditions, when offered, must be covered at parity with medical and surgical care benefits. The regulation also includes important consumer protections, including making clear the information that insurance companies must provide to help ensure transparency and compliance with the law.

## Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)

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**From:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 4:15 PM  
**To:** Jerusalem, Sheila (OJP)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request for Comment, NIJ Funding for Smart Gun Development

Concur! Thanks Sheila

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**From:** Jerusalem, Sheila (OJP) <Sheila.Jerusalem@ojp.usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 3:57 PM  
**To:** Hornbuckle, Wyn (OPA) <whornbuckle@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Media Request for Comment, NIJ Funding for Smart Gun Development

Hi Wyn – I have a request regarding Smart Gun funding (NIJ). As you may know, very little is occurring with Smart Guns at this time.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Thoughts? Concur? sj

**From:** Brian Freskos [<mailto:bfreskos@thetrace.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 1:24 PM  
**To:** Jerusalem, Sheila (OJP) <[Sheila.Jerusalem@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Sheila.Jerusalem@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Media Request for Comment, NIJ Funding for Smart Gun Development

Hi Ms. Jerusalem,

My name is Brian Freskos and I'm a reporter with The Trace. I'm working on article about the development of guns outfitted with safety features such as fingerprint sensors and RFID tags that prevent anybody other than authorized users from firing them, otherwise known as smart guns, and I was hoping to obtain comment from NIJ on one aspect of this issue:

A 2016 report from the departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Defense noted that since the mid-1990s, NIJ had given more than \$11 million in grants to support this technology. The same report noted that as part a federal government effort to work with private industry to identify research and development gaps between existing smart gun technology and law enforcement specifications, NIJ had committed to considering additional smart gun-related research projects, supported with funds available in FY 2017 and beyond.

However, when I looked through NIJ's project solicitations and awards for 2017 and 2018, I didn't find any smart gun-related projects. Several sources have told me that government funding for smart gun-related projects has dried up, and they suspect that this is because smart guns remain extraordinarily controversial. With this in mind, I came up with the following questions that I was hoping NIJ would address:

Did NIJ solicit or award any smart gun-related projects in 2017 or 2018? If yes, would you please point me to the relevant project. If no, would you please explain why? Has the controversy around smart guns factored into NIJ's decision-making here?

Does NIJ plan on soliciting smart gun-related projects in the future, and if so, when, and what

will NIJ be seeking to accomplish with the project or projects?

My deadline for comment is end of day on Monday. However, please let me know if more time is needed and I will try and persuade my editors. I can be reached by phone at (b) (6)  
(b) (6)

Thank you for all that you and NIJ do!

Brian

Brian Freskos

[The Trace](#)

Cell: (b) (6)

On Twitter [@BrianFreskos](#)