



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

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### *WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF*

***BJA Awards Funds to Improve Safety in Distressed Neighborhoods*** –Attorney General Eric Holder and the Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Director Denise E. O'Donnell recently announced more than \$11 million in awards to address neighborhood-level crime in 15 locations nationwide. The awards, administered through the department's new Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation program, target neighborhoods with high levels of crime compared to the overall jurisdiction. [www.bja.gov](http://www.bja.gov)

***BJS Releases Report on Jails in Indian Country*** – At midyear 2011, a total of 2,239 inmates were confined in Indian country jails, a 5.7 percent increase from the 2,119 inmates confined at midyear 2010, according to a recently released report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), *Jails in Indian Country, 2011*. In 2011, 78,700 American Indians and Alaska Natives were under correctional supervision in the United States. Over 60 percent of these offenders (49,000) were under supervision in the community on probation or parole, 19 percent (14,600) were held in state prison, four percent (3,500) in federal prison, 12 percent (9,400) in municipal or county operated local jails, and three percent in Indian country jails. [www.BJS.gov](http://www.BJS.gov)

***Pennsylvania, Virgin Islands Substantially Implementing SORNA*** – The Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) recently announced that Pennsylvania and the U.S. Virgin Islands are the latest jurisdictions to implement the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. SORNA requires jurisdictions to share information about sex offenders who are relocating between jurisdictions or are required to register in more than one jurisdiction. For a list of jurisdictions that have implemented, please visit [www.smart.gov](http://www.smart.gov).

### ***Did you know ...***

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) recently launched the new "National Inventory of Collateral Consequences of Conviction" website, a searchable database listing federal and state restrictions faced by former offenders. Visitors to the site can choose a jurisdiction by clicking on an interactive map to search for restrictions by either the triggering offense or by the type of consequence (such as employment, education, housing, etc.). NIJ anticipates that the site will be useful to policymakers and practitioners who are working to understand the impact of rules and policies that challenge the ability of former offenders to reintegrate with their community and become tax-paying, productive citizens.

<http://www.abacollateralconsequences.org/CollateralConsequences/index.html>

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