



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF

Statistical Model Shows Promise in Forecasting Future Offending – The Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice (NIJ) released a final report demonstrating that a statistical forecasting model may help probation departments predict the offenders most likely to reoffend. Researchers created and tested statistical models based on random forest modeling techniques using data from nearly 120,000 cases from 2002 to 2007 where the amount and nature of any reoffending was already known. The model was designed to predict which offenders would reoffend and the severity of their likely offenses.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/238082.pdf>

Medal of Valor Nomination Period Is Now Open Public safety officers risk their lives to protect America's citizens and communities. To honor that commitment, Congress passed The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, creating the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. The medal is awarded annually by the president to public safety officers exhibiting exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect human life. The nomination period for the 2011 - 2012 Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor is May 31 to July 31, and covers acts of valor performed by public safety officers between June 1, 2011 and May 31, 2012. Nominations must be submitted through the online Medal of Valor Application System. For questions about the award or how to nominate a public safety officer, please contact BJA at medalofvalor@usdoj.gov.

Upcoming Event:

- Registration for the 2012 National Institute of Justice Conference, “Turning to Science – Enhancing Justice, Improving Safety and Reducing Costs,” June 18 -20, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Va., is now open to the press. Included in the topics planned for conference sessions are: “Dating Violence Among High Risk Populations: Risk, Protection and Intervention”; “When Actors Don’t Follow the Script– The Physical and Social Dangers of Combining Prescription Medication”; and “Body Armor in the Real World,” a workshop showing types of body armor worn by officers. Another concurrent session includes a demonstration of different types of body armor. <http://www.nijconference2012.com>

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