



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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PUBLICATION ADVISORY

National Institute of Justice Publication Brings Officer Safety Research to the Field

WASHINGTON – The Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has released a pamphlet that summarizes the science behind actions law enforcement agencies can take to improve officer safety and wellness. The pamphlet provides specific life-saving, evidence-based tips for the people who need it most: police officers on the street.

Each year, nearly 200 officers are killed in the line of duty. Last year, 177 officers lost their lives – a 16 percent increase from 2010. This pamphlet, based on findings in NIJ’s robust research portfolio, can help improve officer safety. It succinctly summarizes the findings of several notable studies and gives additional resources in areas such as body armor, less-lethal alternatives in use-of-force incidents, traffic safety, and officer wellness. The pamphlet will be available at NIJ’s annual conference in Alexandria, Va. next week, and is also available online at the link below.

TITLE: Protecting our Protectors: Using Science to Improve Officer Safety and Wellness

WHERE: <https://ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/bc000786.pdf>

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About NIJ

The National Institute of Justice — the research, development and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice — is dedicated to improving knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science. NIJ provides objective and independent knowledge and tools to reduce crime and promote justice, particularly at the state and local levels.

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The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary Lou Leary provides federal leadership in developing the nation’s capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has six bureaus and offices: the

Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART). More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.