

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention Programs**

[OJP (OJJDP-1154)]

RIN 1121-ZA91

**Notice of the Fiscal Year 1998 Missing
and Exploited Children's Program;
Proposed Program Plan and
Announcement of Discretionary
Competitive Assistance Grant****AGENCY:** Office of Justice Programs,
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention, DOJ.**ACTION:** Proposed Program Plan for
public comment.**SUMMARY:** The Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is
publishing its Missing and Exploited
Children's Fiscal Year (FY) 1998
Proposed Program Plan and soliciting
public comment on the proposed plan
and priorities. After analyzing the
public comments on this Proposed
Program Plan, OJJDP will issue its final
FY 1998 Missing and Exploited
Children's Program Plan.**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by
April 20, 1998.**ADDRESSES:** Public comments should be
mailed to Shay Bilchik, Administrator,
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention, 810 Seventh
Street NW., Room 8413, Washington,
D.C. 20531.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**
Ronald C. Laney, Director, Missing and
Exploited Children's Program, 202-616-
3637. [This is not a toll-free number.]**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The
Missing and Exploited Children's
Program is administered by the Office of
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention (OJJDP). Pursuant to the
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as
amended, section 406(a)(2), 42, U.S.C.
5776, the Administrator of OJJDP is
publishing for public comment a
Proposed Program Plan for activities
authorized by Title IV of the JJDP Act,
the Missing Children's Assistance Act,
42 U.S.C. 5771 *et seq.*, that OJJDP
proposes to initiate or continue in FY
1998. Taking into consideration
comments received on this Proposed
Program Plan, the Administrator will
develop and publish a Final Program
Plan that describes the program
activities OJJDP plans to fund during FY
1998 using Title IV funds.The actual solicitation of any
competitive grant applications under
the Final Program Plan will bepublished at a later date in the **Federal
Register**. No proposals, concept papers,
or other types of applications should be
submitted at this time.**Background: The Nature of the Problem
of Missing and Exploited Children**The issues involving missing and
exploited children can be divided into
four categories: family abduction,
nonfamily abduction, child exploitation,
and the impact these events have on
children and families. These issues are
summarized below, using data drawn
from the 1988 National Incidence Study
of Missing, Abducted, Runaway, or
Thrownaway Children (NISMART), the
most current available data. The
NISMART II study, funded in 1996, will
produce new data beginning in 1999.**Family Abduction**In 1988, NISMART estimated that
354,100 family abductions were
occurring each year. Forty-six percent of
these abductions (163,200) involved
concealment of the child, transportation
of the child out of State, or intent by the
abductor to keep the child indefinitely
or to permanently alter custody. Of this
more serious subcategory of family
abductions, a little more than half were
perpetrated by men who were
noncustodial fathers and father figures.
Most victims were children between the
ages of 2 and 11. Half of these
abductions involved unauthorized
takings, and half involved failure to
return the child after an authorized visit
or stay. Fifteen percent of these
abductions involved the use of force or
violence, and between 75 and 85
percent involved interstate
transportation of the child. About half of
family abductions occurred before the
parents' relationship ended. Half did
not occur until 2 or more years after a
divorce or separation, usually after
parents developed new households,
moved away, developed new
relationships, or became disenchanted
with the legal system. More than half
occurred in the context of relationships
with a history of domestic violence. An
estimated 49 percent of abductors had
criminal records, and a significant
number had a history of violent
behavior, substance abuse, or emotional
disturbance. As NISMART found, it is
not uncommon for child victims of
family abduction to have their names
and appearances altered; to experience
medical or physical neglect, unstable
schooling, or homelessness; or to endure
frequent moves. These children are
often told lies about the abduction and
the left-behind parent, event that the
left-behind parent is dead.**Nonfamily Abduction**NISMART reported that an estimated
3,200 to 4,600 short-term nonfamily
abductions were known to law
enforcement in 1988. Of these, an
estimated 200 to 300 were stereotypical
kidnapings where a child is gone
overnight, is killed, is transported a
distance of 50 miles or more, or is being
detained by a perpetrator who intends
to keep the child permanently. Young
teenagers and girls were the most
common victims. Two-thirds of short-
term abductions involved a sexual
assault. A majority of the victims were
abducted from the street. More than 85
percent of nonfamily abductions
involved force, and more than 75
percent involved a weapon. Most
episodes lasted less than a day. Most
researchers and practitioners consider
the number of short-term abductions to
be an underestimate because of police
reporting methods and lack of reporting
on the part of victims. Federal Bureau
of Investigation (FBI) data support
estimates of 43 to 147 stranger
abduction homicides of children
annually between 1976 and 1987. Using
FBI data, NISMART estimated that
114,600 nonfamily abductions were
attempted in 1988, most involving
strangers and usually involving an
attempt to lure a child into a car. In a
majority of these cases, the police were
not contacted.**Child Exploitation**Children are also at risk of being
victimized as a result of a range of
circumstances that fall into three
categories: running away; being
expelled from the home, or
"thrownaway," by parents or guardians;
or being otherwise lost or missing.NISMART estimated that each year
446,700 children ran away from
households and 12,800 children ran
from juvenile facilities. Many children
who ran from households also ran from
facilities. About one-third of these
runaways left home or a juvenile facility
more than once. Of all runaways
identified, 133,500 were without secure
and familiar places to stay during their
episodes. More than a third of runaways
ran away more than once during the
year. One in ten traveled a distance of
more than 100 miles. Of the runaways
from juvenile facilities, almost one-half
left the State. Runaways were mostly
teenagers, but almost 10 percent were 11
years old or younger. Runaways tended
to come disproportionately from
households with stepparents. Family
conflict seemed to be at the heart of
most runaway episodes. Between 60 and
70 percent of runaways reported being

seriously abused physically. It is estimated that from 25 to 80 percent of all runaways are sexually abused. Runaways, particularly chronic runaways, are at higher risk for physical and sexual victimization, substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, unintended pregnancies, violence, and suicide.

NISMART reported that an estimated 127,100 throwaway children were told directly to leave their households, had been away from home and were not allowed back by their caretakers, had caretakers, who made no effort to recover them when they ran away, or had been abandoned or deserted. By comparison, for every throwaway child, there were four runaway children. An estimated 59,200 throwaway children were without secure and familiar places to stay during the episodes. Most throwaways were older teenagers, but abandoned children tended to be young (half under the age of 4). Throwaways were concentrated in low-income families and families without both natural parents. Compared with runaways, throwaways experienced more violence and conflict within their families and were less likely to return home.

An estimated 438,200 children were lost, injured, or otherwise missing each year, according to the 1988 study. Of these, 139,100 cases were serious enough for the police to be called. Almost half involved children under 4. Most of these episodes lasted less than a day. A fifth of the children experienced physical harm. Fourteen percent of the children were abused or assaulted during the episodes.

Impact on Children and Families

The majority of families of missing children experience serious psychological consequences and substantial emotional distress. The level of emotional distress equals or exceeds the emotional distress for other groups of individuals exposed to trauma, such as combat veterans and victims of rape, assault, or other violent crime, with families where the missing child is subsequently recovered deceased exhibiting the highest level of emotional distress. Once home, a third of abducted children live in constant fear of reabduction. Many child victims of family abduction experience serious psychological consequences and substantial emotional distress. Trauma symptoms may be evident for up to 4 or 5 years after recovery. More than 80 percent of recoveries of missing children are concluded in less than 15 minutes with no psychological or social service support. In most cases, the only

nonfamily person present is a police officer. Almost four-fifths of victims and families of missing children do not receive mental health or counseling services.

Introduction to the Fiscal Year 1998 Program Plan

According to the most recent FBI National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Missing Person file statistics, approximately 2,200 children are reported missing to law enforcement every day in the United States. Many of these children are runaways; others are taken by noncustodial parents and used as pawns in custody battles between their parents. Some wander away and are unable to find their way home, and still others represent a parent's worst nightmare, the loss of a child to a predator.

In 1984, Congress recognized the need for a national response to missing children and enacted the Missing Children's Assistance Act to establish a Missing and Exploited Children Program within OJJDP. The Missing Children's Assistance Act authorizes assistance for research, demonstration, and service programs and for establishment and support of a national resource center and clearinghouse dedicated to missing and exploited children.

In FY 1997, OJJDP's Missing and Exploited Children's Program continued to coordinate the Federal Government's response to missing and exploited children and provided funding support for research, training, technical assistance, and demonstration projects. Some notable FY 1997 accomplishments are described below.

OJJDP and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) published A Report to the Nation: Missing and Exploited Children, which offers State action plans and advisory memorandums suggesting methods to enhance State and local responses to missing and exploited children cases. The report has been disseminated to all State Governors and attorneys general and is available through OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (JJC) and NCMEC. The JJC telephone number is 800-638-8736, and the NCMEC number is 800-843-5678.

OJJDP and the Washington State Attorney General's Office released the results of a 3-year, OJJDP-funded research project that analyzed the solvability factors of missing children homicide investigations. The study provided information regarding victim, offender, and serial offender composites; the importance of linking

all of the evidentiary sites within a homicide event; and the relationships between the various sites. Copies of the report can be obtained by calling the Washington State Attorney General's Office Homicide Investigation Tracking Office at 800-345-2793.

OJJDP, working with NCMEC and the FBI's Child Abduction and Serial Killer Unit (CASKU) and Criminal Justice Information Services Division, developed and implemented the Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center (JRLETC), which offers multitiered training for law enforcement executives and investigators. The training center, dedicated to the memory of 9-year-old Jimmy Ryce, who was abducted and murdered in Florida, opened April 15, 1997. OJJDP Administrator Shay Bilchik presided over the dedication ceremony, which included remarks from Assistant Attorney General Laurie Robinson, FBI Director Louis Freeh, Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, and Jimmy's parents, Donald and Claudine Ryce. Composed of several complementary elements, JRLETC offers 2-day seminars focusing on broad coordination and policy development issues for law enforcement executives and regional 5-day courses emphasizing investigative techniques for law enforcement officers who are responsible for investigating missing children cases.

In FY 1997, Fox Valley Technical College, an OJJDP cooperative agreement recipient, provided training to more than 4,100 law enforcement and other professionals working on missing and exploited children cases. These courses integrate current research and include modules pertaining to investigative techniques, interview strategies, comprehensive response planning, media relations, lead and case management, and other topics related to missing and exploited children cases.

To help investigators determine if a child is abused or exploited and collect the evidence necessary for effective prosecution, OJJDP released seven additional Portable Guides in FY 1997 (the first four in the series were issued in FY 1996) for police officers, medical professionals, and social service professionals investigating child abuse and exploitation cases. The Guides, sized to fit in patrol car glove compartments or detectives' briefcases, provide immediate reference materials for "on the scene" investigations. Subjects covered include methods of interviewing victims, evidence collection techniques, investigative strategies, and recognition of injuries caused by abuse. Two additional guides are currently under development: Multidisciplinary Team Approach to

Investigating Child Abuse and Computers and the Sexual Exploitation of Children.

Fiscal Year 1998 Programs

In FY 1998, OJJDP proposes to continue its concentration on programs that are national in scope, promote awareness, and enhance the Nation's response to missing and exploited children and their families.

New Programs

Title IV new programs to be funded in FY 1998 are summarized below. The grant to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to implement the Title IV national resource and clearinghouse function is considered a new program because the existing project period grant expires in FY 1998 and a new award will be made to support these functions during FY 1998. The Training and Technical Assistance program will be recompleted in FY 1998, and a new project period grant will be awarded. The Internet Crimes Against Children Regional Task Force Development program is a new program to be competitively funded in FY 1998. While funds for other new programs in FY 1998 are limited, OJJDP is interested in obtaining input from the field on program and service needs that will assist us in planning both FY 1998 and future programming.

National Resource Center and Clearinghouse

Congress has provided \$5 million to continue and expand the programs, services, and activities of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, a national resource center and clearinghouse dedicated to missing and exploited children and their families. As provided in Title IV, the functions of the Center include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide a toll-free hotline where citizens can report investigative leads and parents and other interested individuals can receive information concerning missing children.
- Provide technical assistance to parents, law enforcement, and other agencies working on missing and exploited children issues.
- Promote information sharing and provide technical assistance by networking with regional nonprofit organizations, State missing children clearinghouses, and law enforcement agencies.
- Develop publications that contain practical, timely information.
- Provide information regarding programs offering free or low-cost

transportation services that assist in reuniting children with their families.

In FY 1997, NCMEC's toll-free hotline received 127,796 calls ranging from citizens reporting information concerning missing children to requests from parents and law enforcement for information and publications. NCMEC also assisted in the recovery of 4,607 children, disseminated millions of missing children photographs, distributed thousands of publications, and sponsored four regional meetings of State missing children clearinghouses.

In a major effort to broaden its photograph distribution capacity, NCMEC is displaying missing children posters on hundreds of Web sites by using push technology to automatically broadcast photographs and case information to requesting Web sites. In addition, NCMEC worked with private industry representatives to create a wide array of awareness and prevention activities that include public service announcements, direct mail campaigns, and distribution of mousepads that list safe Internet practices for children.

In FY 1998, in addition to performing the ongoing functions of the national resource center and clearinghouse, NCMEC will complete the development of a Web site that will enable State missing children clearinghouses and law enforcement agencies to post missing children posters on the Internet. In response to research documenting that adolescent females are at greater risk than adolescent males of sexual victimization, NCMEC will revise its Internet safety publication, Child Safety on the Information Highway, and will implement a new safety awareness program focusing on teens.

Congress has appropriated \$1.9 million in FY 1998 for NCMEC to develop a national training and technical assistance program designed to enhance the national investigative response to Internet crimes against children. NCMEC, in partnership with OJJDP and in cooperation with the U.S. Customs Service; the U.S. Postal Inspection Service; the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section and the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and the National District Attorneys Association, will initiate a broad program of activities in FY 1998 to combat crimes against children by criminals using computer technology or the Internet. As envisioned, these activities will include the installation of a NCMEC CYBER Tipline to collect information regarding child pornography and other computer crimes against children. Once the Tipline is implemented, citizens will be able to

use the Internet to provide information about criminal Internet activity targeting children.

Additional project activities include an Internet crimes against children teleconference for law enforcement and a national law enforcement training program that will include regional investigative seminars in the field and policy development seminars at JRLETC. NCMEC and OJJDP will be using a national technical advisory group composed of representatives from Federal, State, and local law enforcement, prosecutors, and private industry (including the agencies referenced above) to guide implementation of this initiative.

A 1-year cooperative agreement will be awarded to NCMEC in FY 1998 for the performance of the national resource center and clearinghouse functions. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 1998.

Missing and Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance

OJJDP proposes to issue a solicitation for an assistance award to provide Title IV national training and technical assistance on missing and exploited children to law enforcement, prosecutors, and health and family services professionals. The purpose of this program is to ensure the provision of up-to-date, practical training and technical assistance for professionals working on missing and exploited children issues.

The program was competitively funded in FY 1995 for a 3-year project period under a cooperative agreement awarded to Fox Valley Technical College (FVTC) of Appleton, Wisconsin. In FY 1997, FVTC provided training to more than 4,100 law enforcement, prosecution, child welfare services, and medical professionals. FVTC supported missing and exploited children activities by providing direct technical assistance pertaining to information sharing, protocol development, response planning, child protection legislation, juvenile prostitution, and multidisciplinary team development to more than 40 State and local units of government and professional associations. FVTC also facilitated the development of several OJJDP publications including, *When Your Child is Missing: A Family Survival Guide*. Written by parents for parents, this publication, scheduled for release in spring 1998, will provide guidance for searching parents from the perspective of parents who have lost children to abductions. FVTC also provided substantial assistance in the creation of several titles in OJJDP's

Portable Guides series and the publication of the Federal Agency Task Force Joint Report.

One cooperative agreement with a 3-year project period would be awarded in FY 1998 under a competitive program announcement.

Internet Crimes Against Children Regional Task Force Development

Congress has appropriated \$2.4 million in FY 1998 to develop and support regional law enforcement task forces to address the problem of Internet crimes against children. OJJDP will issue a solicitation for assistance awards to States or local units of government, or combinations thereof, to support implementation of regional task forces to investigate Internet crimes against children. The purpose of the program design will be to assist communities to develop comprehensive multiagency responses that emphasize collaboration, information sharing, and victim assistance. Eight to twelve grants will be awarded to develop or expand regional multidisciplinary task forces under this solicitation.

Continuation Programs

Title IV continuation programs for FY 1998 are summarized below. Available funds, implementation sites, and other descriptive information are subject to change based on the plan review process, grantee performance, application quality, fund availability, and other factors. No additional applications will be solicited for these programs in FY 1998.

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association's Safe Return Program

OJJDP is responsible for providing oversight of this program, for which Congress has provided \$900,000 in FY 1998 to facilitate the identification and safe return of memory-impaired persons who are at risk of wandering from their homes.

In FY 1997, the Safe Return Program increased its registration data base to 30,000 individuals, assisted in the return of more than 1,700 wanderers, and continued the development of an image data base consisting of more than 25,500 photographs.

In FY 1998, the program will continue to expand the national registry of memory-impaired persons, maintain the toll-free telephone service, provide a Fax Alert System, conduct a "train the trainers" program for law enforcement and emergency personnel, develop information and educational materials, launch a national public awareness campaign, and transition current

"wandering persons" programs into the national Safe Return Program.

National Crime Information Center (NCIC)

OJJDP proposes to continue to transfer funds to the Department of Justice's Management Division through a reimbursable agreement to continue NCMEC's online access to the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Wanted and Missing Persons files. The ability to verify NCIC entries, communicate with law enforcement through the Interstate Law Enforcement Telecommunication System, and be notified of life-threatening cases through the NCIC flagging system is crucial to NCMEC's mission of providing advice and technical assistance to law enforcement.

NISMART II

Temple University Institute for Survey Research was awarded a 3-year project period grant in FY 1995 to conduct the second National Incidence Study of Missing, Exploited, Abducted, Runaway, and Thrownaway Children (NISMART II). This project builds on the strengths and addresses some of the weaknesses of NISMART I. Temple has assembled a team of experts in the field of child victimization and survey research capabilities, particularly surveys involving children and families concerning sensitive topics. Temple has contracted with the University of New Hampshire Survey Research Laboratory and Westat, Inc., to carry out specific components of the study and provide extensive background knowledge about the particulars of NISMART I. Specifically, the NISMART II study will (1) revise NISMART I definitions, (2) conduct a household survey that interviews both caretaker and child, (3) conduct a police records study, (4) conduct a juvenile facilities study, (5) analyze National Incidence Study-3 Community Professionals Study, (6) develop a single estimate of missing children, and (7) conduct analyses and prepare reports. The project is scheduled for completion in FY 2000.

In FY 1997, the NISMART II definitions were revised under the guidance of the project Advisory Board, and data survey collection instruments were developed and submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for clearance.

In FY 1998, project activities will include completing the Computer Assisted Telephone Interview program, pretesting the survey questionnaires and refining them as necessary, and collecting data. In addition, a Fact Sheet documenting the scope of the research,

definition revisions, and methodology changes will be published.

Effective Community-Based Approaches for Dealing With Missing and Exploited Children

In FY 1995, the American Bar Association (ABA) was awarded an 18-month grant to study effective community-based approaches for dealing with missing and exploited children. The objectives of Phase I of this study were to (1) conduct a national search for communities that have implemented a multiagency response to missing and exploited children and their families, (2) select five communities with working multiagency responses that hold promise for replication, (3) evaluate these five communities, and (4) prepare a final report. Phase I was completed in July 1997. In Phase II, which started in August 1997, the ABA is preparing a final report that synthesizes the research findings from Phase I into a modular training curriculum to help communities plan, implement, and evaluate a multiagency response to missing and exploited children and their families. The project will be completed in FY 1998 with no further funding anticipated at this time.

Parent Resource Support Network

In FY 1997, OJJDP entered into a competitively awarded 3-year cooperative agreement with Public Administration Services (PAS) to develop and maintain a parent support network. The need for victim parents to speak with other victim parents has emerged as a constant theme in several OJJDP focus groups. The goal of this project is to stimulate development of a network of screened and trained parent volunteers who will provide assistance and advice to other victim parents.

In FY 1998, PAS will install a case management system to document referrals and assistance activity, recruit parent mentors, develop and deliver a training curriculum for the volunteer parents, and begin direct service delivery to requesting parents. No funds will be required in FY 1998.

Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center Program

In FY 1997, OJJDP—in partnership with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the FBI, and OJJDP grantee Fox Valley Technical College—developed and implemented the Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center (JRLETC) program. JRLETC offers two law enforcement training tracks that are designed to

improve the national investigative response to missing children cases.

JRLETC's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) seminars approach missing children cases from a management perspective and offer information regarding coordination and communication issues, resource assessment, legal concerns, and policy development for police chiefs and sheriffs. The Responding to Missing and Exploited Children (REMAC) course offers modules focusing on investigative techniques for all aspects of missing children cases.

In FY 1997, 197 police chiefs and sheriffs and 634 investigators representing law enforcement agencies from every State participated in at least one of the JRLETC programs. In addition, representatives from every National Crime Information Center (NCIC) State Control Terminal Agencies received training at JRLETC about the NCIC flagging system and related missing children issues.

Congress appropriated \$1,185,000 in FY 1998 to continue operation of the Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center. OJJDP, NCMEC, the FBI, and FVTC will continue to provide training and technical assistance through the JRLETC and will augment the training with a new onsite technical assistance program to respond to the numerous requests for assistance from JRLETC graduates. It is envisioned that teams composed of FBI, NCMEC, and law enforcement management experts will merge FBI Child Abduction and Serial Killer Unit (CASKU) investigative expertise with proven law enforcement management practices to assist police chiefs and sheriffs in designing unique missing children investigative and response protocols for their communities.

Under the JRLETC appropriation, OJJDP plans to award \$500,000 to FVTC to support regional REMAC courses, with the remaining \$685,000 to be awarded to NCMEC to continue the CEO seminars.

Fiscal year 1998 funds will be awarded to supplement cooperative agreements to NCMEC and FVTC to continue operation of the Jimmy Ryce Law Enforcement Training Center. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 1998.

Criminal Parental Kidnaping Training and Technical Assistance

In FY 1997, OJJDP supplemented an FY 1994 competitive award by awarding continuation funding to the American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI) to provide parental abduction training and technical assistance for prosecutors and

to develop a training course pertaining to the prosecution of child exploitation cases. Child exploitation prosecutions are among the most complicated that prosecutors confront because of the age and immaturity of victims, societal and law enforcement attitudes toward these victims, the need for specialized understanding of the dynamics of sexual exploitation, and the jurisdiction and communication difficulties resulting from the involvement of numerous agencies. To effectively handle such cases, prosecutors must approach victims with great sensitivity and an understanding of the psychological dynamics involved.

In FY 1997, APRI—in addition to delivering training to 60 prosecutors—disseminated a quarterly newsletter, maintained an up-to-date parental kidnaping and child exploitation data base that included a compilation of statutes and case law summaries, and provided technical assistance to more than 100 prosecutors and investigators on an as-needed basis. APRI also produced a Judge's Guide benchbook, continued to update the National Directory of Parental Kidnaping Prosecutors and Investigators, created a Web site that provides access to case law information and law review articles, and provided assistance to numerous professional conferences.

In FY 1998, while continuing, updating, or expanding the above-mentioned technical assistance activities, APRI will offer an advanced dual track training course for prosecutors in the areas of child exploitation and parental kidnaping. The parental abduction track will concentrate on difficult case strategies, resource availability, preventive measures, and recovery techniques. The child exploitation track will discuss legal issues pertaining to computer search and seizures, juvenile prostitution, child pornography, and the emerging threat posed by criminals using Internet technology to victimize children. No additional funds are necessary in FY 1998.

National Center on Child Fatality Review

In FY 1997, OJJDP awarded a noncompetitive award to the National Center on Child Fatality Review (NCCFR) in Los Angeles, California, to develop State and local uniform reporting definitions and generic child fatality review team protocols for consideration by communities working on enhancing their child death investigations.

NCCFR developed a model for integrating data among the Criminal

Justice, Vital Statistics, and Social Services Child Abuse Indices. NCCFR also selected a National Advisory Board, which is composed of representatives from across the country and from relevant disciplines.

In FY 1998, OJJDP proposes to continue support to NCCFR to (1) disseminate the model protocols for integrating the data mentioned above to State and local child fatality review teams and other relevant agencies; (2) develop a Web site and update it with journal articles, references, new studies, new findings, and new resources; (3) maintain paper and electronic directories of State and local child fatality review teams, national associations, and Federal agency contacts; (4) maintain a listing of contacts for professional specialists such as head trauma, burns, neglect, NCCFR Advisory Board, and related organizations and systems in the respective fields; (5) provide information and training materials on basic team management and special problems such as confidentiality, risk assessment, and special case circumstances; (6) coordinate teleconferences and Internet meetings of the Advisory Board; (7) maintain and share published reports of State and local teams; (8) develop, coordinate, and implement multidisciplinary training; and (9) plan for a national conference.

Investigative Case Management for Missing Children Homicides

In FY 1993, OJJDP made a competitive award to the Washington State Attorney General's Office (WAGO) to analyze the solvability factors of missing children homicide investigations. During the course of that research, WAGO collected and analyzed the specific characteristics of more than 550 missing child homicide cases. These characteristics were recorded in WAGO's child homicide data base.

In FY 1998, OJJDP proposes to continue to provide funding support to WAGO to ensure the vitality and investigative relevance of its child homicide data base. This funding would support both the gathering of new case information and the development of specific case studies that will be used to illustrate the research findings in training presentations. In addition, the data base would be used by Federal, State, and local law enforcement to perform link analysis by identifying cases with similar characteristics. Law enforcement data base inquiries can be made by calling WAGO at 800-345-2793.

FBI Child Abduction and Serial Killer Unit (CASKU)

In FY 1997, OJJDP entered into a 3-year interagency agreement with the FBI's CASKU to expand research to broaden law enforcement's understanding of homicidal pedophiles' selection and luring of their victims, their planning activities, and their efforts to escape prosecution. This

information will be used by the FBI and OJJDP in training and technical assistance programs. Fiscal year 1997 activities included the drafting of the research manager position description and preliminary survey development.

In FY 1998, OJJDP will continue funding support to CASKU to (1) complete the research manager employment process to include background screening; (2) complete

development of the survey protocol; (3) identify specific individuals to include in the case studies; and (4) begin data collection.

Dated: February 12, 1998.

Shay Bilchik,

Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

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