

# About NCJA

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## National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA)

### Description:

The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, non-partisan, member association dedicated to assisting criminal justice agencies in the development and implementation of effective criminal justice policy.

### Stakeholder(s):

#### NCJA Members :

*Our members represent all facets of the criminal and juvenile justice community, including law enforcement, corrections, prosecution, defense, courts, victim and witness services, and academics, as well as elected officials.*

#### Criminal Justice Agencies

#### NCJA staff :

*The NCJA Staff has a wealth of experience in providing assistance to federal, state, local and tribal justice agencies to identify barriers and develop strategies to increase the effectiveness of criminal justice agencies and programs. Staff bios and contact information can be found below.*

#### Chris Asplen :

*Executive Director — Chris Asplen has served as Executive Director of the NCJA since January, 2016. Asplen is a former prosecutor, and a national and international expert on the use of DNA technologies. Previously, he served as Director of the DNA Legal Assistance Unit for the American Prosecutor's Research Institute and the National District Attorney's Association, as an Assistant United States Attorney and as the Executive Director of the National Commission on the Future of DNA Evidence for the U.S. Department of Justice. In private practice, Asplen has advocated for policy and legislative initiatives integrating DNA technology, including post-conviction DNA, into criminal justice systems around the world. He has worked with governments and law enforcement agencies in 35 countries to implement DNA technology to maximize its ability to identify and convict the guilty while protecting the innocent. A noted national and international speaker he has testified before the U.S. Congress, the South African and Philippine Parliaments and has appeared on, and written for, numerous news outlets. He also serves as a consultant to the U.S. Department of State and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism on the prosecution of nuclear terrorism crimes.*

#### Linda White-Ballou :

*Accountant — Linda White-Ballou has been the Accountant for the National Criminal Justice Association since July 2016. She received both her Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Masters degree in Finance from the University of Maryland. Linda is a seasoned professional with over thirty-five years of*

*experience in financial management, budgeting and accounting in the non-profit industry.*

#### Bethany Broida :

*Director of Communications — Bethany Broida develops and implements communications strategy for the association. She serves as Editor-in-Chief for the association's newsletters and develops content for the association website. She also oversees the planning for NCJA's annual conference, runs the Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Awards and supervises NCJA's internship program for college students. Prior to joining the NCJA, Bethany was a reporter at the Legal Times in Washington, D.C. She has also written about criminal justice and education issues for a variety of other publications including the Baltimore Sun, the Maryland Daily Record, the Chronicle of Higher Education and the Capital News Service. She also served as a writer/editor and communications manager for the National School Supply and Equipment Association. Bethany received her Bachelors degree in magazine journalism from Boston University and her masters in journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park.*

#### Allison Badger :

*Program Manager — Allison has over ten years of experience as a program manager with local and state criminal justice agencies. Her roles have included a focus on criminal justice reform and systems improvement. As the Criminal Justice Planner for Adams County (CO) she primarily served as the administrator for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. In this role, she focused on engaging stakeholders from all areas in criminal justice and the community to find creative and innovative ways to divert individuals from the criminal justice system. Additionally, she created a law enforcement/behavioral health co-response program, and constructed the first municipal court federated query portal that connects municipal court systems to give judicial officers the information they need when making decisions. Previously Allison worked for both the Colorado State Court Administrators Office and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (NC) focusing on utilizing best practices for systems improvements, program evaluation and the use of data based decision making in the criminal justice system. She received her Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and is a Certified Project Manager.*

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## Stakeholders (continued)

**Bob Greeves :**

*Senior Policy Adviser — Bob Greeves joined NCJA in 2014 following his retirement from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), where he served as a policy advisor on matters concerning the integration of local, state, tribal, federal and national justice information systems and networks, as well as the sharing of information among those domains. He was responsible for advising BJA leadership concerning strategic concepts associated with the Justice Information Sharing Initiative and the Attorney General's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative. In addition, he advised program officials concerning strategies for discretionary grant making that leverages information technology in the pursuit of law enforcement, justice, public safety and homeland security objectives and outcomes. Mr. Greeves was also the architect for creation of the Global Justice XML Data Model that became the premier standard for sharing government information and was adopted by over 200 organizations in the law enforcement, justice, public safety, homeland security and intelligence communities and became the baseline for the National Information Exchange Model. He spearheaded efforts to develop privacy policy guidelines for state and local criminal justice organizations as well as to identify technology solutions for aiding the implementation of privacy policies. He also participated in the development of the National Sex Offender Public Registry.*

**Deb Matteucci :**

*Project Manager — Deb oversees our training and technical assistance program for state administering agencies on strategic planning and the implementation of evidence-based policies and practices. Prior to joining NCJA, Deb was the executive director of the Montana Board of Crime Control, the state's designated criminal justice planning entity and state administering agency. She also served as Western Regional Chair and a member of the NCJA Board of Directors and Advisory Council. Previously, she served as chief of the Adult Mental Health Services Bureau, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) where she was responsible for the planning, development, oversight and funding of community based mental health services for adults across Montana. She also worked six years as Montana's first Behavioral Health Program Facilitator, a boundary spanner between the Department of Corrections and DPHHS improving coordination of services for offenders with serious mental illness.*

**Elizabeth Pyke :**

*Director of Government Affairs — Elizabeth carries NCJA members' policy and funding priorities to Capitol Hill and Executive branch agencies. She also works closely with the other state, local and issue advocacy groups in Washington, DC in coalition on state and local criminal justice issues. For nearly a decade prior to joining NCJA, Elizabeth worked for three governors in their federal relations offices in Washington, DC. Most recently, she served as the Senior Advisor for Federal Relations in the Iowa Office of State-Federal Relations for Governor Tom Vilsack, managing a portfolio of policy issues that included criminal justice, homeland security, natural resources, agriculture and overall appropriations strategy. Prior to that, Elizabeth served as the Director of Federal Relations for Maryland Governor Parris Glendening, coordinating the State's federal policy and funding priorities and managed the Governor's responsibilities as chair of the National Governors Association and as president of the Council of State Govern-*

*ments. Elizabeth began her service to governors as Policy Director for Economic Development in the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations during Governor Ann Richards' administration, with emphasis on the North American Free Trade Agreement, U.S.-Mexico border issues and continued funding for the space station. Elizabeth also spent four years as a Legislative Consultant with the law firm of Verner Liipfert Bernhard McPherson and Hand, representing a variety of public and private sector clients on Capitol Hill. Elizabeth received her B.A. in Political Science from Wellesley College, and her M.Phil. in International Relations from the University of Cambridge (England). She is a graduate of the 1994 Leadership America class, and is an active member of various volunteer organizations.*

**Emma Montgomery :**

*Digital Content Coordinator — Emma works on the content and function of the NCJA website and partner websites, manages the Connect2Grants funding library, and helps create and maintain digital content for NCJA.*

**David Steingraber :**

*Senior Policy Adviser — David provides training and technical assistance related to justice information sharing. Previously, he served as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, a position to which he was appointed by Governor Jim Doyle in 2003 and served until 2011. The Office was responsible for strategic planning, program development, technical assistance and grant administration for a variety of state and federal programs related to criminal justice, public safety and homeland security. David was also the Administrator of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Law Enforcement Services (1995 to 2003), Chief of Police in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin (1980 to 1995) and Chief of Police in Middleton, Wisconsin (1975 to 1980). He is a life member and past president of the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association and a life member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. David is a past president of the NCJA, and has served on that organization's Board of Directors. He is an at-large member of SEARCH, the national consortium for criminal justice information and statistics and serves on that organization's Board of Directors. He represented the National Governor's Association on the US Department of Justice GLOBAL (Justice Information Sharing Initiative) Advisory Committee and served as a member of that organization's Executive Steering Committee between 2008 and 2012.*

**Matt Wade :**

*Program Manager — Matt joins NCJA as a Project Manager with over a decade and a half of experience working with government entities from a variety of US states and jurisdictions. Matt has spent the majority of his career working in government in the Commonwealth of Virginia with both the Department of Social Services (VDSS) and the Department of Veterans Services (VDVS). In those roles Matt held many titles, most notably the Manager of the Office of Program Accountability at VDSS and Regional Director of the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program at DVS. Additionally, Matt has worked with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency where he served as client relations manager for SafeMeasures, a web-based performance management tool, overseeing contract administration and client relations for more than 60 jurisdictions*

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*Stakeholders (continued)*

serving both child welfare and juvenile justice populations. Matt's primary areas of expertise are in performance management, training, and strategic planning. He is a proud graduate of Virginia Tech where he earned both a Bachelor of the Arts degree in political science, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

**Tammy Woodhams :**

Director of Grants Management — Tammy promotes, coordinates, facilitates, and delivers "train-the-trainer" community based strategic planning sessions designed to enhance justice planning and build capacity of State Administrative Agencies and Tribal governments across the US. She assists in curriculum development, research and identification of model strategies, establishment of virtual communication tools, and creation of an information clearinghouse. Working closely with NCJA senior staff, Tammy serves as liaison to BJA, state and local agency representatives. She also is the principal staff assisting the Justice Information Sharing Practitioners (JISP) in managing their activities, policy initiatives, and periodic meetings. For more than 25 years, Tammy has in various positions within Kalamazoo County Government including serving as Executive Director for the Kalamazoo Criminal Justice Council and Community Corrections Director of the local Office of Community Corrections. In these positions she led the implementation of multi-disciplinary collaborative criminal justice projects and oversaw the implementation and expansion of eleven alternative programs including the nation's first drug court for women offenders and Project RETURN (Reentry of Ex-Offenders Through Unique Resource Networking.) She further assisted in the development and implementation Kalamazoo County's Integrated Criminal Justice Management Information System Plan. Tammy received her Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice and Master's Degree in Public Administration from Western Michigan University.

**NCJA Board of Directors****Christian Kervick :**

President — Executive Director, DE Criminal Justice Council

**Anne Jordan :**

Acting Vice President — Manager of Criminal Process and Specialty Dockets for the State of Maine Courts

**Karhlton Moore :**

Immediate Past President — Executive Director, OH Office of Criminal Justice Services

**Chris Asplen :**

Executive Director, National Criminal Justice Association

**Lori Pesci :**

Midwest Region Chair — Deputy Directory, Summit (OH) County Division of Public Safety

**Matt Raymer :**

Midwest Region — Criminal Justice Program Analyst, WI Department of Justice

**Melissa Pierson :**

Midwest Region Alternate — Deputy Director of Justice Services, Franklin County (OH) Office of Homeland Security & Justice Programs

**Anne Jordan :**

Northeast Region Chair — Manager of Criminal Process and Specialty Dockets, Administrative Office of the Courts

**Marc Pelka :**

Northeast Region — Undersecretary, CT Office of Policy & Management

**Christine Cole :**

Northeast Region — VP - Executive Director, Crime and Justice

**Scott McLaren :**

Northeast Region Alternate — Deputy Director, DE Criminal Justice Council

**Jennifer Brinkman :**

Southern Region Chair — Director, TN Office of Criminal Justice Programs

**Navin Puri :**

Southern Region — Senior Criminal Justice Planner, NC Governor's Crime Commission

**James Neal :**

Southern Region — Executive Director, GA Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

**Burke Fitzpatrick :**

Southern Region Alternate — Director, SC Attorney General, Crime Services Division

**Andrew LeFevre :**

Western Region Chair — Executive Director, AZ Criminal Justice Commission

**Dan Spencer :**

Western Region — Director of Administrative Services, AK Department of Law

**Anthony Vidale :**

Western Region — Deputy Director and Program Manager, AZ Criminal Justice Commission

**Joe Thome :**

Western Region Alternate — Director, CO Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice

**Alfred Blumstein :**

At-Large Member — Professor, H. John Heinz III College

## Vision

Effective criminal justice policy

## Mission

To represent criminal justice agencies on public safety issues

## Values

**Public Safety**

**Justice**

**Efficiency**

**Effectiveness**

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## 1. Safety

*Enhance public safety.*

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## 2. Criminality & Delinquency

*Prevent and reduce the harmful effects of criminal and delinquent behavior.*

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### 3. Adjudication

*Adjudicate defendants and sanction offenders fairly and justly.*

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## 4. Efficiency & Effectiveness

*Ensure that justice systems are effective and efficient.*

### Stakeholder(s)

#### Federal Justice Agencies

#### State Justice Agencies

#### Local Justice Agencies

#### Tribal Justice Agencies

The National Criminal Justice Association has extensive experience in providing assistance to federal, state, local and tribal justice agencies to identify barriers and develop strategies to increase the effectiveness of criminal justice agencies and programs. We offer training and technical assistance in strategic planning and strategy implementation, stakeholder engagement, grants management and administration, data access and information sharing. We also host events that bring together policymakers, practitioners, experts and advocates; promote programs from around the country; and engage in many legislative issues.

### 4.1. Training

*Offer training and technical assistance (TTA).*

Training and Technical Assistance — We offer training and technical assistance (TTA) in strategic planning and strategy implementation, stakeholder engagement, grants management and administration, data access and information sharing.

#### 4.1.1. Strategic Planning

*Offer training and technical assistance to SAAs to support your strategic planning efforts and the implementation of evidence-based policies and practices.*

Strategic Planning and Strategy Implementation — The National Criminal Justice Association, with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, offers training and technical assistance to SAAs to support your strategic planning efforts and the implementation of evidence-based policies and practices. This TTA is designed to help states meet the 2019 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant requirement of a comprehensive statewide strategic plan. TTA will be delivered in a variety of ways to best meet your needs; including onsite facilitation, phone/email contact, web based learning, regional trainings, and personalized support. In addition, NCJA will be providing grants management training, mentoring and leadership development to our SAA partners.

#### Stakeholder(s):

#### Bureau of Justice Assistance

#### 4.1.2. Grants

*Offer grants management training and workshops.*

Federal Grants Management and Administration — Accounting for funding provided by federal agencies as well as from other sources undergirds effective resource management. One wrong move can put your entire program at risk. Our training program supports recipients of funding from public and private entities to fulfill the requirements attached to this support. NCJA offers customized trainings and grants management workshops at our annual conference, the Forum on Criminal Justice. You can also find more information in our webinars archive and online guide to federal grants management.

### 4.1.3. Data

*Assess data needs and find solutions to enhance public safety.*

Data Access and Justice Information Sharing — Data is essential to determining which problems to tackle, to choose which initiatives to fund, and to measure how well programs are working. But do you have the data you need? If not, who does and will they share? How do we know if the data are telling us what we need to know? And how in the world do we pay for the analysis? We can help assess your data needs and find solutions to enhance public safety and maximize investments.

## 4.2. Convenings

*Convene policymakers, practitioners, experts and advocates to bring balance to state and local criminal justice systems.*

Crime prevention and suppression programs will only be fully effective when all parts of the criminal justice system are operating seamlessly and in balance. With the goal of bringing balance to state and local criminal justice systems, NCJA regularly convenes policymakers, practitioners, experts and advocates to discuss issues of common interest and concern. In addition to the National Forum on Criminal Justice, the NCJA also hosts webinars, regional seminars, issue-specific working groups and focus groups, monthly meetings of government affairs specialists (the "Brown Baggers"), a roundtable of executive directors from stakeholder groups, and online communities.

### Stakeholder(s):

**State Criminal Justice Systems**

**Local Criminal Justice Systems**

**Policymakers**

**Criminal Justice Practitioners**

**Criminal Justice Experts**

**Criminal Justice Experts Advocates**

### 4.2.1. Conferences

*Bring together leaders from federal, state, local and tribal government and the public and private sector to share real world strategies and solutions from around the country.*

The National Forum on Criminal Justice — The National Forum on Criminal Justice is the only criminal justice conference that brings together leaders from federal, state, local and tribal government and the public and private sector to share real world strategies and solutions from around the country. Sponsored by the NCJA, the Justice Research and Statistics Association and the IJIS Institute, our annual conference showcases programs, research and technologies that help justice practitioners and decision makers in states, local communities and tribal nations address pressing public safety issues.

### Stakeholder(s):

**Justice Research and Statistics Association**

**Tribal Government Leaders**

**IJIS Institute**

**Private Sector**

**Federal Government Leaders**

**State Government Leaders**

**Local Government Leaders**

#### 4.2.2. Online Community

*Host an online community where NCJA members and employees of member agencies can ask questions, share ideas, network with colleagues, and conduct committee business.*

Connect2Justice — Connect2Justice (C2J) is an online community where NCJA members and employees of member agencies can ask questions, share ideas, network with colleagues, and conduct committee business. You will also find a regularly-updated library of criminal justice-related funding and a calendar of events for justice professionals hosted around the country. The C2J website contains discussion forums, shared libraries, an events calendars, a searchable member directory, and a library of funding solicitations, known as Connect2Grants.

#### 4.3. Promotion

*Spotlight promising programs.*

##### 4.3.1. Awards

*Honor outstanding criminal justice programs that showcase successful promising practices in criminal justice.*

Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Awards — Each year at the National Forum on Criminal Justice, NCJA honors five outstanding criminal justice programs that showcase successful promising practices in criminal justice. Award winners represent one of five regions - the Northeast, South, Midwest, West and Tribal regions. Programs are selected based on the following criteria: whether the program addresses important criminal justice issues, demonstrates collaboration among criminal justice, provides quantitative evidence of its effectiveness in accomplishing program goals; leverages federal, state, local, or other non-governmental funds and resources; and can easily replicated in other jurisdictions. Learn more about nominating programs, the selection process, and past OCJP award winners.

##### 4.3.2. Addiction Programs

*Highlight innovative and exemplary programs addressing addiction in the fields of prevention, treatment, recovery support, overdose reversal, criminal justice reform and law enforcement strategies.*

Innovative Addiction Programs — In January 2017, the Addiction Policy Forum, in partnership with the NCJA, launched the Focus on Innovation initiative to highlight innovative and exemplary programs addressing addiction in the fields of prevention, treatment, recovery support, overdose reversal, criminal justice reform and law enforcement strategies. Many states and communities have made great strides in addressing substance use disorders by developing innovative programs and projects that draw upon the latest research and evidence-based practices. The Focus on Innovation initiative was developed to showcase these programs as models for testing and replication across the country. View profiles of selected programs.

##### 4.3.3. Practices

*Explore practices across the criminal justice arena.*

Promising Practices — The NCJA Promising Practices Series explores practices across the criminal justice arena. By examining not only how programs, technologies and initiatives were created, but also how they have succeeded, we hope to provide readers with a more in-depth understanding of how communities are using

innovation to address identified needs. New programs are highlighted each month in our Justice Bulletin newsletter.

#### 4.4. Advocacy

*Advocate for effective criminal justice policy.*

**Key Issues and Legislation** — The NCJA advocates for effective criminal justice policy and funding for state, local, and tribal justice assistance programs. Because our members are engaged across all aspects of the criminal justice system, we engage in a wide range of policy issues in Washington, DC on our members' behalf. The NCJA staff supports our members by providing up-to-the-minute information about pending legislation and the federal appropriations process and by communicating with federal officials on Capitol Hill and in the Administration about how federal policy affects the delivery of services to the field. Recognizing that little gets done in Washington, DC by acting alone, the NCJA works in coalition with dozens of other stakeholder organizations which share common interests and policy goals. Visit our Policy section to learn more about current legislation and key issues. In the Congressional Affairs section (available to NCJA members only), we provide a wealth of information about the congressional appropriations process, legislation NCJA is monitoring, a toolkit for engaging with your congressional delegations, template letters for you and your stakeholders to use, and examples of past NCJA and grantee letters. We hope these resources will be helpful to you as you educate members of Congress, other policymakers, and your stakeholder community about the impact of the federal justice assistance programs in your communities. This section also contains our regularly-updated Justice Assistance Table, which tracks funding for the state and local justice assistance, homeland security, and substance abuse treatment grant programs, and the Status of Pending Legislation chart, which tracks bills moving through Congress that impact state, local and tribal criminal justice policy. Organized by topic, the chart includes appropriations bills and legislation on general justice assistance, victims issues, juvenile delinquency and gang prevention, law enforcement, courts, sentencing and prison reform, corrections and reentry, and homeland security.

### Administrative Information

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