JIM CLARK Joins the Criminal Justice Institute as New Director

The University of Arkansas System recently announced the appointment of Mr. James T. Clark as the new director of the Criminal Justice Institute.

Mr. Clark has an extensive background in law enforcement, both in the field and in administration. After serving with the North Little Rock Police Department for two years, he joined the Arkansas State Police in 1979, where he served as a Trooper, Trooper First Class, and Corporal. In 1984, he was appointed to the Arkansas State Crime Lab and has served as its Director for two terms, totaling more than 18 years. During his time with the Crime Lab, he earned a reputation throughout the State as an exemplary leader in law enforcement. He led the organization through a multi-year preparation period for national accreditation and oversaw the renovation of a 20-year old building, creating expanded work space for evidence analysis. He also implemented a computer system for evidence management, word processing and optical scanning, and later oversaw a system upgrade from minicomputer technology to microcomputer LAN technology.

To date, Mr. Clark has served nine governors and has held positions in several public organizations within the State including the Department of Finance and Administration, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Human Services, and the Arkansas Transportation Safety Agency.

The UA System began searching for a new director for the Criminal Justice Institute following the retirement of Don Kidd in December. After two months of intensive searching, Mr. Clark was chosen to fill the position and will join the Institute on April 1, 2004.

“The search committee which I chaired was gratified by the significant number of excellent applications for the position of director. It was a credit to the Institute and its programs that so many with such good credentials would be attracted to the directorship,” said Ms. Joyce Wroten, Vice President for University Relations and Administration of the University of Arkansas System. “We reviewed each applicant’s biographical information with care and finally selected four persons for interviews. All were impressive, to say the least. However, the background and experience of James Clark and his knowledgeable response to specific questions from the committee members, tipped the balance in his favor. On behalf of the search committee, the University of Arkansas System and President Alan Sugg, we are convinced we have made the correct choice and look forward to the continued development and growth of the Institute under the direction of Mr. Clark.”
CJI to Deliver Customized Programs in DNA Evidence

Forensic DNA technologies have had a tremendous impact on the U.S. criminal justice system, significantly enhancing the solvability of crimes and reducing the number of erroneous convictions.

Despite the important benefits associated with these technologies, there is a severe deficiency of DNA education and training courses available to the law enforcement community. To fill the void of DNA evidence education and training within Arkansas, the Criminal Justice Institute’s Forensic Sciences and Computer Education Center has received federal funding to create and deliver a series of biological evidence courses targeted to professionals within the criminal justice community. The Institute is currently conducting focus groups to ensure that course content meets the immediate needs of the law enforcement professionals in our State.

In February, representatives from law enforcement, prosecution, and the Arkansas State Crime Lab met at the Institute and discussed the development and implementation of a one-day course for first responders, investigators, and crime scene specialists. The recommended course, DNA Evidence for Law Enforcement, will be designed to assist participants in identifying and properly securing, documenting, collecting, and preserving biological evidence from a crime scene. Recommended topics for the course included: Physical Evidence Potential, Collection/Packaging, Transportation/Storage, DNA Technology/Lab Capability, Evidence Submission, and Prosecutorial Issues.

In cooperation with the Prosecutor Coordinator’s Office, the Institute will soon conduct a second focus group to assist in the development and delivery of a DNA seminar for prosecutors. Topics to be addressed during the seminar will be determined upon conclusion of a focus group to be held in May. Both the law enforcement and prosecution curricula will be designed to assist the Arkansas law enforcement community in more effectively utilizing DNA evidence to solve more crimes in their communities.

Funding for both initiatives, which were made possible through support from Senator Blanche Lincoln and her staff, are being provided through the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. For more information, please contact Dr. Cheryl May at (501) 570-8052 or Mira Frosolono at (501) 570-8072.

Nominations Now Accepted for Arkansas Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer for 2003

The Arkansas Chapter of the Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (SFSAFBI) is looking for qualified candidates for the 2003 Outstanding Arkansas Law Enforcement Officer Award. The criteria for this award are outstanding valor and achievement. Recommendations are accepted based on the candidate’s performance during the 2003 calendar year.

Members of the Arkansas Chapter will hear the qualifications of all candidates and select an award recipient at a business meeting held on April 16th. The officer will be recognized and presented with an award at a meeting to be held May 21st at the North Hills Country Club in North Little Rock.

If you have an officer you feel deserves to be nominated, a letter of nomination must be sent to Gary E. McWhorter, Program Coordinator, no later than April 6, 2004. This will allow time for additional contact, if needed, and for preparation for the April business meeting.

Letters of nomination should be sent to:

Gary E. McWhorter
4004 Dunkeld Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72116
Phone: (501) 753-6079
Fax: (501) 753-0500
E-mail: gmcwhorter@aristotle.net

In addition, please contact Mr. McWhorter if an officer from your agency was killed in the line of duty during the 2003 calendar year. Society certificates will be issued to the supervisors of fallen officers.
CJI Receives Additional Computers for Distribution to Arkansas Law Enforcement Agencies

Through a partnership with the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center Southeast (NLECTCSE), the Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) has received a large shipment of surplus computers to be distributed among law enforcement agencies across the State.

The computers are being donated through the NLECTCSE, a division of the National Institute of Justice’s Office of Science and Technology that offers support, research findings, and technological expertise to help law enforcement and corrections personnel perform their duties more safely and efficiently.

While teaching a course at the Institute, instructors from the NLECTCSE learned of our recent initiative to provide computers to Arkansas law enforcement agencies in need. This initiative was made possible through recent state legislation that designated law enforcement agencies eligible, for the first time, to receive donated equipment from State organizations. To assist in these efforts, the NLECTCSE offered to provide federal surplus computers for distribution throughout the State. The Arkansas State Police, which serves as the State contact for surplus property from the federal government, approved of this donation and gave the Institute permission to retrieve the computers from Washington, D.C.

These computers, which originated from the Department of Defense, are equipped with Pentium III processors, a Windows 98 operating system, and include both a CD-ROM and a tape backup drive. Pursuant to CJI policy, they will be distributed to law enforcement agencies according to demonstrated need.

This initiative is scheduled to begin this spring. For additional information, contact Allison Hoffman at (501) 570-8061.

Responding to Children Exposed to VIOLENCE
A New Seminar from Yale University

On April 26th, Yale University will present a one-day seminar in Harrison, Arkansas regarding community response to children exposed to violence.

This seminar will examine the important role law enforcement plays in helping children cope with exposure to violence and will assist participants in planning collaborative interventions with other public service groups. In addition, the seminar will review (1) risk factors that contribute to poor outcomes for children exposed to violence; (2) research regarding models of early intervention; and (3) the Yale Child Study Center model for intervention for children exposed to violence. Law enforcement professionals are encouraged to attend.

The seminar will be held:
Monday, April 26, 2004
North Arkansas College, South Campus
JPH Conference Center
1515 Pioneer Drive • Harrison, Arkansas

For more information, contact:
Deanne Blach, MSN, RN
dblch@northark.edu
870-391-3367

The registration fee for the seminar is $10. The deadline to register is April 22, 2004.
InfraGard: Guarding the State’s Critical Infrastructures

The Criminal Justice Institute recently hosted a meeting of the Arkansas chapter of InfraGard, an association comprised of both private and governmental entities dedicated to increasing the security of U.S. critical infrastructures. The association’s motto—Guarding the Nation’s Infrastructure—succinctly describes its mission. Through a unique partnering of the federal government with the private sector, InfraGard members are able to effectively address a wide range of technological threats, from small-time recreational hackers to large-scale lapses in national security.

Representing the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the lead agency for InfraGard, Special Agent Jim Hill was in attendance to facilitate the Arkansas chapter meeting. Some of the topics discussed included the implementation and enforcement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), security issues related to HIPAA, and the massive power outage of 2003. In addition, participants had the opportunity to share information about infrastructure issues directly affecting their organizations.

Future meetings will focus on topics including homeland security, hacking and penetration, and physical security. For more information on the Arkansas chapter of InfraGard, contact Jill Hill at (501) 228-8469.

To register for a course, contact:

Kimberly Hendricks
LEMC Institutional Assistant
(501) 570-8041

Gloria Negual
FSCEC Institutional Assistant
(501) 570-8060

UPCOMING COURSES

Advanced Supervision
Basic Spanish for Law Enforcement
Biased-Based Policing for Executives
Bloodstain Pattern Documentation
The Bulletproof Mind
Case File Preparation
Civil Liability for Police Administrators
Conflict Resolution for Supervisors
Courtroom Testimony
Crime Prevention—A Tool of Community Policing
Crime Scene Courtroom Testimony
Crime Scene Digital Photography and Imaging
Internet Researching and E-mail
Leadership and Communication Excellence
Managing Informants and Cooperative Witnesses
Managing Interviews and Interrogations
Managing Media Relations
Managing Methamphetamine Investigations
Managing the Patrol Function
Managing the Patrol Response to Active Shooter Incidents
Principles of Supervision
Safety Issues for First Responders at Explosive/CBW Events and Mass Disasters
Using Microsoft Excel
Using Microsoft PowerPoint
Using Microsoft Word

Phil Propes, Assistant Director of the Criminal Justice Institute, opened the session with welcoming remarks and an overview of the Institute’s role in InfraGard.
Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department Receives National Award

Professionalism. Training. Service. These are just three attributes of the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department that recently earned them the Champions of Industry Award, an honor given each year by the Pat Summerall Corporation to organizations that have made exceptional achievements and contributions within their community. In recognition of this achievement, the police department received national television coverage on CNN Headline News and was honored at the corporation’s annual award gala.

Pat Summerall, retired NFL player and football commentator for CBS and Fox Sports, named the police department one of the “leading crime fighting units in the country.” He made this declaration after conducting extensive research and interviews, and procuring documentation on thousands of other companies and organizations across the country. The department was selected to receive the award based on a number of factors, including the organization’s rate of growth, ingenuity, entrepreneurship, size, financial strength, and contributions to the community. Consideration for the award is by invitation only, and only 300 organizations nationwide are selected to receive the award each year.

Prior to receiving this honor, the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department has been recognized at both the state and national level. The State of Arkansas recognized the department for excellence in training and standards. Nationally, they have been recognized for their success in curtailing major gang problems and for being one of the first law enforcement agencies in the Nation to plant an undercover officer in a public school.

We salute the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department and Chief Bob Harrison for this distinguished achievement.

Law Enforcement Response to the Mentally Ill

To assist law enforcement officers in gaining a better understanding of psychiatric illnesses, the Criminal Justice Institute and the United Methodist Behavioral Hospital are jointly presenting Law Enforcement Response to the Mentally Ill, an eight-hour course that emphasizes effective interaction between law enforcement and individuals in mental crisis.

The course, which will be delivered over a two-year period at various locations in the State, will assist participants in recognizing signs of a possible mental illness and in developing compassionate policies, procedures, and protocols for proper response to individuals in mental crisis. Arkansas law enforcement, public safety administrators, corrections officers, prosecutors, judges, and mental health professionals are encouraged to attend. Funding is being provided by the American Psychiatric Foundation.

To date, the course is scheduled to be delivered on the following dates:

March 18th, 2004
Criminal Justice Institute
Little Rock, AR

April 29th, 2004
Criminal Justice Institute
Little Rock, AR

May 13th, 2004
Jonesboro Holiday Inn
Jonesboro, AR

July 8th, 2004
Fayetteville, AR

For more information, contact
Deborah Flowers or Mike Mashburn
(501) 570-8000

To register for the course, contact
Kimberly Hendricks or Janet Harris-George
(501) 570-8000

Does your agency have news to share with the law enforcement community in Arkansas?

If so, contact the Criminal Justice Institute
and include it in the next CJ Bulletin:

Direct: (501) 570-8045
Toll-Free: (800) 635-6310
E-mail: bastark@cji.net
Federal Funding is Now Available for Bulletproof Vests

To purchase bulletproof vests, law enforcement agencies can now apply for financial assistance through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, a program of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. The application period began on January 12, 2004 and will remain open through April 1, 2004.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Grant Act of 2000 provides funding priority for smaller jurisdictions with populations under 100,000. Any remaining funds may be allocated to support grants to jurisdictions with populations at or over 100,000. In FY 2003, all appropriated funds were awarded to smaller jurisdictions. Additional information about the Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant program, including registration and application processing, can be accessed at the following web site: http://vests.ojp.gov.

NOTE: The Office of Justice Programs requires online processing of all applications. To assist in this process, the Internet Project staff at the Criminal Justice Institute will provide technical assistance and Internet access to any agency in need of this service. Other assistance is also provided, including the actual processing of an agency application if necessary.

If you are in need of Internet access or any other assistance to process an application for the Bulletproof Vest grant, please contact the Internet Project help desk at 1-888-411-1713.

Funding Available for Drug-Free Communities Support Program

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) have issued a Program Announcement for the fiscal year 2004 Drug-Free Communities Support Program.

The purpose of the program is to reduce substance abuse among youth and, in time, adults. Community coalitions whose members have worked together on substance abuse reduction initiatives for at least six (6) months and that meet all eligibility requirements outlined in the program announcement are invited to apply. Coalitions may be umbrella coalitions serving multi-county areas, and statewide coalitions may apply provided that they meet all other eligibility requirements.

Approximately 180 grants of up to $100,000 each will be awarded to community coalitions that are working to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth. Applications must be received by March 26, 2004. Interested applicants may view the Program Announcement on the program’s website http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/dfcs.

Technology Grants Now Available

Approximately $12.9 million is available for grants through the Technology Opportunities Program (TOP), a division of the U.S. Department of Commerce. TOP’s Federal Funding Opportunity Announcement was released on February 17, 2004. The deadline for applications is April 27, 2004.

The application kit is available online at www.ntia.com.gov/top and provides information on the program, rules for applying, suggestions for preparing an application, and the standards forms you need to prepare a TOP application.
NEW BOOKS

Juvenile Crime: Opposing Viewpoints by Auriana Ojeda
Domestic Violence: Opposing Viewpoints by Tamara L. Roleff
School Shootings by Laura K. Egendorf
Drunk Driving by James Haley
What is a Hate Crime? by Roman Espejo
Legalizing Drugs by Louise Gerdes
Is Media Violence a Problem? by James D. Torr
Policing Hatred: Law Enforcement, Civil Rights, and Hate Crime by Jeannine Bell
Police Accountability: The Role of Citizen Oversight by Samuel Walker
Criminal Justice Organizations: Administration and Management by Stan Stojkovic
Police Unbound: Corruption, Abuse, and Heroism by the Boys in Blue by Anthony V. Bouza
Drug Interdiction: Partnerships, Legal Principles, and Investigative Methodologies for Law Enforcement by George S. Steffen
Policing the Media: Street Cops and Public Perceptions of Law Enforcement by David D. Perlmutter
Practical Aspects of Rape Investigation: A Multidisciplinary Approach by Robert R. Hazelwood
Critical Issues in Crime and Justice by Albert R. Roberts
Management and Supervision in Law Enforcement by Wayne Bennett
Profiling Violent Crimes: An Investigative Tool by Ronald M. Holmes

Need information about a current issue in law enforcement?

The Criminal Justice Institute Library houses a collection of more than 3,400 books, serials, videos and CD-ROMs, all which address issues specific to the criminal justice community. All materials are available for loan free of charge to any Arkansas law enforcement professional.

The library is open Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During this time, CJI staff are on hand to provide assistance and process library loans for law enforcement personnel. In addition, library materials can be mailed free of charge to requesting law enforcement agencies across the State. Recipient agencies are responsible for any shipping costs they incur to return materials.

For more information, contact Gayle Harper or Angela Williams at (501) 570-8075 or (800) 635-6310

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Reserve your spot today for ARKANSAS LEADER, the Criminal Justice Institute’s premier management program designed exclusively for the top administrators of law enforcement agencies.

Designated as one of the FBI’s Command Colleges, the program features nationally recognized conference speakers and presenters who will discuss topics such as Leadership, Advancement of the Law Enforcement Profession, and Development of the Individual and Agency.

You don’t want to miss this opportunity! The 13th session of ARKANSAS LEADER will be held at the Criminal Justice Institute from June 13–June 18, 2004.

Space is limited, so please apply early. Call us at 501-570-8042 for more details.

To apply, agency heads should send a letter of request to:
Mike Mashburn
Assistant Director
Criminal Justice Institute
7723 Colonel Glenn Road
Little Rock, AR 72204

Criminal Justice Institute
University of Arkansas System
7723 Colonel Glenn Road
Little Rock, AR 72204