

Numbers Now....

Criminal Justice in Oklahoma

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OCJS Welcomes New Researchers

The Office of Criminal Justice welcomes three new researchers to the unit. Researchers are responsible for conducting research, providing technical assistance to other criminal justice agencies, and answering research requests.

John Flores-Hidone joined OCJS in November. John graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a master's degree in Criminal Justice Management and Administration. He is interested in comparative analysis between foreign justice systems, multidimensional studies of terrorism, and crime theory. As a graduate student, John worked as a teaching assistant for the UCO School of Criminal Justice and research assistant for the College of Liberal Arts. He has previously worked as a child welfare investigator for the Department of Human Services and as a 4-H program coordinator for the Latino Agency in Oklahoma City.

Nikki Lofftus joined the unit in December. She is currently working on the Oklahoma State-Tribal Liaison Demonstration Grant Program Evaluation. Nikki graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree in Criminology. She previously worked as a probation supervisor at Oklahoma Court Services, Inc. in Cleveland County.

Jessica Shouse also began working in the unit in December. Jessica earned her bachelor's degree in Applied Sociology from Oklahoma State University and her master's degree in Forensic Science from the University of Central Oklahoma. Jessica completed her master's thesis on behavioral characteristics of maternal filicide in May 2013. Her research interests include law enforcement education, gang violence, and behavioral characteristics of crime. Jessica began her career at OSBI in October 2011 with the Self-Defense Act Unit.

In this issue:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Victim Services Spotlight: Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)

Jessica Shouse

The Oklahoma Attorney General's Office implemented the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) in 2006. A free program, VINE is a computerized victim notification system designed to help victims and other interested parties stay informed on the status of criminals in Oklahoma. Subscribers are notified when the offender is transferred, released, and apprehended; a message is also sent to subscribers if the offender escapes from custody. VINE subscribers can sign up to receive telephone, e-mail, or text message notifications when the status of an offender changes.

VINE Protective Order (VINE VPO) is an additional component of the program created for victims. The System notifies victims and other interested parties when the order is served or set to expire.

Officials with the Attorney General's Office reported 142,000 Oklahomans registered for VINE in 2012. Oklahomans interested in VINE can obtain more information at www.vinelink.com or call 1 (877) OK4-VINE.

Recent Publications

Crime in Oklahoma, 2012

Arrest-Related Deaths, 2012

Murder in Oklahoma, 2012

Domestic Violence in Oklahoma,
2012

N-DEx: Law Enforcement National Exchange

Nikki Lofftus

The mission of N-DEx is to provide law enforcement agencies with an additional investigative tool. Participating law enforcement agencies from across the nation are able to search, link, analyze, and share criminal justice information. N-DEx is designed to integrate data from the entire criminal justice system from initial contact to completion of sentences. Agencies will be able to search local, state, tribal, and federal records.

Program support staff is responsible for providing implementation support and training to assist contributing agencies. Similar to other information sharing systems, the contributing agency retains ownership for all data contributed to the system.

For more information on N-DEx, please visit <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/n-dex/n-dex>

Reminder

The Office of Criminal Justice Statistics can assist you and your agency with statistics for grant applications or other research requests. [www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical Analysis Center](http://www.ok.gov/osbi/Statistical_Analysis_Center)

Baker's Dozen

Angie Baker, SAC Director

December is National Drunk Driving Awareness Month. The purpose of the public awareness campaign is to remind us that impaired driving is still a social problem across the nation. Select statistics related to drunk driving in Oklahoma are provided below. According to the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office:

1. In 2012, there were 4,291 alcohol-related crashes in Oklahoma, which represents 6.1% of total reported crashes;
2. Alcohol-related crashes in 2012 resulted in 261 fatalities;
3. Of the 261 fatalities, 223 were drivers, 34 were passengers, and three were pedestrians;
4. Of the 261 fatalities, 46.1% were occupants of passenger vehicles, 33.7% were occupants of pickup trucks, and 17.4% were occupants of motorcycles;
5. An estimated 83% of the driver fatalities in alcohol-related crashes were male;
6. Restraint use was known for 196 fatality accidents; of those, 66.3% were unrestrained;
7. Helmet use was known for 39 of the 45 motorcyclists killed in alcohol-related crashes; of those, 74.4% were not wearing a helmet;
8. Drivers age 21-25 had the highest percentage of alcohol-related accidents, followed by age groups 26-30 (15.7%) and 31-35 (13.1%);
9. Fatal and injury alcohol-related crashes occurred more often between 4:00 p.m. and 3:59 a.m.;
10. Fatal and injury alcohol-related crashes occurred more often on Saturday and Sunday;
11. Fatal crashes typically occur in rural areas; in 2012, 66.1% of alcohol-related fatal crashes occurred in rural areas;
12. In 2012, 66.9% of alcohol-related fatal crashes involved one vehicle, 27.7% involved two vehicles, and 5.4% involved three or more vehicles;
13. For more information, please visit: http://www.ok.gov/ohso/Data/Fact_Sheets.

Mission

To collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice research to educate and assist law enforcement and the citizens of Oklahoma.