Research for Justice Solutions

For nearly 30 years, CNA has applied research, analysis, and technical assistance to solve complex problems in the public and government sectors. CNA's Center for Justice Research and Innovation (JRI) has worked with more than 650 agencies and organizations to assess challenges analytically and develop responses that reduce violent crime, improve the use of emerging technologies, and promote the safety and wellness of justice system stakeholders.

JRI conducts **evaluative and action-oriented research that adds to the knowledge base of what does and does not work. Our research enables justice leaders to improve their justice systems and enact positive change in their communities.** Key facets of our results-oriented research include the following:

- Analysis grounded in field operations
- Rigorous methodological approaches including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods analyses
- Production of scientifically valid, peer-reviewed findings
- Program evaluation expertise
- Interpretation of research and application to practice
- Expert analysts along with a strong network of practitioners and academic partners

Justice System Improvements

Objective Research and Analysis

- Data-driven analysis
- Sophisticated methodologies
- Credible results

Evidenced-Based Policy and Practice

Operational and Community Context

- Stakeholder perspectives
- Practitioner expert review
- Actionable findings

Leaders in Justice Research

As a national leader in criminal justice research, JRI specializes in translating academic research into practice in the field. By harnessing research findings, sophisticated analysis, and a robust understanding of systems, we encourage our nation's criminal justice leaders to approach problems using an evidence base that promotes safety, effectiveness, and efficiency. Examples of our justice research include the following:

- A **mixed-methods study** assessing the effect of correctional facility dog programs on officer well-being, agency cohesion, staffing retention, and police-community relations.
- Research and analysis for the National Institute of Justice Center of Excellence, which **bridges the gap between research and practice** to provide justice and violence-prevention practitioners with the data and tools to develop and implement successful prevention, intervention, and reintegration programs.
- An **action-oriented framework** in a state correctional agency to generate robust policy recommendations regarding program outcomes for residents and staff.
- A policy scan, comprehensive literature review, and case study inquiry into the effect of **the COVID-19 pandemic in the juvenile justice system nationwide**.
- A quasi-experimental assessment of the effects of **crime intelligence centers on law enforcement operations and response** in a major metropolitan police department.
- An assessment of an innovative **field training officer supervisory training program**.
- A **rigorous, quasi-experimental evaluation** of a comprehensive reentry program in Orange County, California, for individuals released from jail and suffering from mild to moderate mental health or substance use disorders.

- A **randomized controlled trial** assessing the impact of the St. Louis Police Partnership, a deterrence program that focuses on home visits.
- A **randomized controlled trial** examining the implementation of body-worn cameras in the Loudoun County, Virginia, jail system.
- A **randomized experiment with body-worn cameras** in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department that produced strong evidence that the cameras reduce use-of-force incidents and complaints against police officers, increase proactive policing responses, and save money.
- A **study to identify how adult correctional facilities use protective equipment** and its relation to officer perceptions of safety.
- An analysis of law enforcement agency use of **common operational picture technology**, which allows multiple agencies to share information during emergencies.

- A study on **police ambushes in the United States that identified environmental (e.g., violent crime rate), incident-related (e.g., perpetrator's criminal record), and survivability-related (e.g., distance from an assailant) factors** that can protect officers from such ambushes.
- **Reconstruction and after-action analyses** of critical incidents involving police (e.g., police shootings, police ambushes) that provide direct evidence to police officers on what they are doing well in these situations and what needs improvement.

Other CNA Justice Skills and Services

- Targeted technical assistance
- Curriculum development and training delivery
- Meeting planning and facilitation
- Peer learning
- Organization change management

- Cost-benefit analyses
- Strategic planning
- Topical assessments
- Interactive multimedia resource development and dissemination
- Embedded analysts

About CNA

CNA is a not-for-profit analytical organization dedicated to the safety and security of the nation. With nearly 700 scientists, analysts, and professional staff across the world, CNA's mission is to provide data-driven, innovative solutions to our nation's toughest problems. It operates the Center for Naval Analyses—the Department of the Navy's federally funded research and development center (FFRDC)—as well as the Institute for Public Research. The Center for Naval Analyses provides objective analytics to inform the decisions of military leaders and ultimately improve the lethality and effectiveness of the joint force. The Institute for Public Research leverages data analytics and innovative methods to support federal, state, and local government officials as they work to advance national and homeland security.

To learn more about the Center for Justice Research and Innovation, go to www.cna.org/justice, or contact:
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