



U.S. Department of Justice

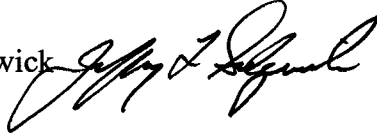
Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20531

MAY 15 2008

MEMORANDUM TO: Lynn Bryant
Deputy Program Manager, PRA
Information Management and Security Staff
Justice Management Division

FROM: Jeffrey L. Sedgwick 
Director

SUBJECT: Submission of changes to the National Crime Victimization Survey
for approval by the Office of Management and Budget

Attached please find OMB Form 83-c requesting changes to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). These changes will result in a reduction of 312 hours of the current burden. Currently, some of the questions in the NCVS-1 are used to collect information regarding vandalism and hate crime from all household respondents. We propose removing these questions and adding questions to measure the emotional response for victims of violent crime in the NCVS-2. The questions used to measure emotional response were cognitively tested when we developed the Identity Theft Supplement and are approved under clearance 1121-0317.

These changes are prompted by the fact that we did not previously have the capability to measure the emotional impact on crime victims. In the course of developing the Identity Theft Supplement, BJS staff consulted with trauma experts and incorporated a short battery of questions to measure the emotional impact on victims. The current questions on the NCVS-1 on vandalism and hate crime are underutilized, and we believe there will be more utilization of questions about the emotional impact on violent crime victims in the NCVS-2 now that we have a set of tested questions. A list of the questions to be added is included with this package.

In addition to these proposed changes, the survey experienced a 14% sample cut in July 2007. The overall burden hours in the 83-c reflect both the sample cut and proposed changes to incorporate emotional impact measures.

If there are any questions concerning this request, please contact Katrina Baum, Statistician, Bureau of Justice Statistics, at (202) 307-5889 or by email at Katrina.Baum@usdoj.gov.

Attachments