

Appendix B  
Informed Consent Form for Cognitive Interviews

## Consent Form

Thank you for your interest in helping us test a survey for a study we are conducting for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). BJS is interested in completing a survey of neighborhood concerns and safety in the [city name] area.

Today's session will involve completing a survey and then answering questions about the experience of completing it. The feedback will help us to develop recommendations for improving the survey.

This is a research project and your participation is voluntary. The only cost to you is the time and effort to answer questions. We expect that today's interview will last about 60 minutes. You may skip any question that you do not want to answer, both in the questionnaire and in the discussion afterwards. Everything covered today will be treated as confidential. You will never be identified by name. The things you say may be put in a written summary of this discussion, but there will be no way to identify who said what, and your name will not be used anywhere. While there are no direct benefits to you for participating in this study, you will be helping with an important research project. Also, as a token of our appreciation, we have \$40 cash for you once the interview is complete.

If you have any questions about this study, you can call Sherm Edwards, at 301-294-2010. We would like to record the interview. Sometimes listening to a recording of the interview helps us in making final improvements to the survey. If the recording is reviewed later, it will only be by a few Westat staff and possibly by some of the staff at BJS.

I have read and understand the statements above. I consent to participate in this session.

Signature

Date

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