$2013\ National\ Survey\ of\ Indigent\ Defense\ Systems-Table\ of\ Contents$

Attachment 1 - Title 42 Authorization	2
Attachment 2 - Certification Statement	
Attachment 3 - NSIDS Questionnaire – Web Version (screen shots)	
Attachment 4 - Pre-notification letter	
Attachment 5 - NSIDS brochure	
Attachment 6 - Letters of Support	
Attachment 7 - Survey invitation letter	
Attachment 8 - Postcard text	
Attachment 9 - Replacement letter	21
Attachment 10 - Telephone Scripts for NORC	

DERIVATION

Title I THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968 (Public Law 90-351)

42 U.S.C. § 3711, et seq.

AN ACT to assist State and local governments in reducing the incidence of crime, to increase the effectiveness, fairness, and coordination of law enforcement and criminal justice systems at all levels of government, and for other purposes.

As Amended By

THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1970 (Public Law 91-644)

THE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1973 (Public Law 93-83)

THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT OF 1974 (Public Law 93-415)

THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS ACT OF 1976 (Public Law 94-430)

THE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1976 (Public Law 94-503)

THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1979
(Public Law 96-157)

THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1984 (Public Law 98-473)

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1986 (Public Law 99-570-Subtitle K)

THE ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT OF 1988
TITLE VI, SUBTITLE C - STATE AND LOCAL NARCOTICS CONTROL
AND JUSTICE ASSISTANCE IMPROVEMENTS
(Public Law 100-690)

THE CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1990 (Public Law 101-647)

BRADY HANDGUN VIOLENCE PROTECTION ACT (Public Law 103-159)

VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1994 (Public Law 103-322)

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION ACT OF 1993, AS AMENDED (Public Law 103-209)

and

CRIME IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 1998 (Public Law 105-251)

BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS CHAPTER 46 - SUBCHAPTER III [TITLE I - PART C]

42 USC § 3731 [Sec. 301.] Statement of purpose

It is the purpose of this subchapter [part] to provide for and encourage the collection and analysis of statistical information concerning crime, juvenile delinquency, and the operation of the criminal justice system and related aspects of the civil justice system and to support the development of information and statistical systems at the Federal, State, and local levels to improve the efforts of these levels of government to measure and understand the levels of crime, juvenile delinquency, and the operation of the criminal justice system and related aspects of the civil justice system. The Bureau shall utilize to the maximum extent feasible State governmental organizations and facilities responsible for the collection and analysis of criminal justice data and statistics. In carrying out the provisions of this subchapter [part], the Bureau shall give primary emphasis to the problems of State and local justice systems.

42 USC § 3732 [Sec. 302.] Bureau of Justice Statistics

- (a) Establishment. There is established within the Department of Justice, under the general authority of the Attorney General, a Bureau of Justice Statistics (hereinafter referred to in this subchapter [part] as "Bureau").
- (b) Appointment of Director; experience; authority; restrictions. The Bureau shall be headed by a Director appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director shall have had experience in statistical programs. The Director shall have final authority for all grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded by the Bureau. The Director shall report to the Attorney General through the Assistant Attorney General. The Director shall not engage in any other employment than that of serving as Director; nor shall the Director hold any office in, or act in any capacity for, any organization, agency, or institution with which the Bureau makes any contract or other arrangement under this Act.
- (c) Duties and functions of Bureau. The Bureau is authorized to-
 - (1) make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with public agencies, institutions of higher education, private organizations, or private individuals for purposes related to this subchapter [part]; grants shall be made subject to continuing compliance with standards for gathering justice statistics set forth in rules and regulations promulgated by the Director;
 - (2) collect and analyze information concerning criminal victimization, including crimes against the elderly, and civil disputes;
 - (3) collect and analyze data that will serve as a continuous and comparable national social indication of the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution, and attributes of crime, juvenile delinquency, civil disputes, and other statistical factors related to crime, civil disputes, and juvenile delinquency, in support of national, State, and local justice policy and decisionmaking;
 - (4) collect and analyze statistical information, concerning the operations of the criminal justice system at the Federal, State, and local levels;

- (5) collect and analyze statistical information concerning the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution, and attributes of crime, and juvenile delinquency, at the Federal, State, and local levels;
- (6) analyze the correlates of crime, civil disputes and juvenile delinquency, by the use of statistical information, about criminal and civil justice systems at the Federal, State, and local levels, and about the extent, distribution and attributes of crime, and juvenile delinquency, in the Nation and at the Federal, State, and local levels;
- (7) compile, collate, analyze, publish, and disseminate uniform national statistics concerning all aspects of criminal justice and related aspects of civil justice, crime, including crimes against the elderly, juvenile delinquency, criminal offenders, juvenile delinquents, and civil disputes in the various States;
- (8) recommend national standards for justice statistics and for insuring the reliability and validity of justice statistics supplied pursuant to this chapter [title];
- (9) maintain liaison with the judicial branches of the Federal and State Governments in matters relating to justice statistics, and cooperate with the judicial branch in assuring as much uniformity as feasible in statistical systems of the executive and judicial branches;
- (10) provide information to the President, the Congress, the judiciary, State and local governments, and the general public on justice statistics;
- (11) establish or assist in the establishment of a system to provide State and local governments with access to Federal informational resources useful in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs under this Act;
- (12) conduct or support research relating to methods of gathering or analyzing justice statistics;
- (13) provide for the development of justice information systems programs and assistance to the States and units of local government relating to collection, analysis, or dissemination of justice statistics;
- (14) develop and maintain a data processing capability to support the collection, aggregation, analysis and dissemination of information on the incidence of crime and the operation of the criminal justice system;
- (15) collect, analyze and disseminate comprehensive Federal justice transaction statistics (including statistics on issues of Federal justice interest such as public fraud and high technology crime) and to provide technical assistance to and work jointly with other Federal agencies to improve the availability and quality of Federal justice data;
- (16) provide for the collection, compilation, analysis, publication and dissemination of information and statistics about the prevalence, incidence, rates, extent, distribution and attributes of drug offenses, drug related offenses and drug dependent offenders and further provide for the establishment of a national

clearinghouse to maintain and update a comprehensive and timely data base on all criminal justice aspects of the drug crisis and to disseminate such information;

- (17) provide for the collection, analysis, dissemination and publication of statistics on the condition and progress of drug control activities at the Federal, State and local levels with particular attention to programs and intervention efforts demonstrated to be of value in the overall national anti- drug strategy and to provide for the establishment of a national clearinghouse for the gathering of data generated by Federal, State, and local criminal justice agencies on their drug enforcement activities:
- (18) provide for the development and enhancement of State and local criminal justice information systems, and the standardization of data reporting relating to the collection, analysis or dissemination of data and statistics about drug offenses, drug related offenses, or drug dependent offenders;
- (19) provide for research and improvements in the accuracy, completeness, and inclusiveness of criminal history record information, information systems, arrest warrant, and stolen vehicle record information and information systems and support research concerning the accuracy, completeness, and inclusiveness of other criminal justice record information;
- (20) maintain liaison with State and local governments and governments of other nations concerning justice statistics;
- (21) cooperate in and participate with national and international organizations in the development of uniform justice statistics;
- (22) ensure conformance with security and privacy requirement of section 3789g of this title and identify, analyze, and participate in the development and implementation of privacy, security and information policies which impact on Federal and State criminal justice operations and related statistical activities; and
- (23) exercise the powers and functions set out in subchapter VIII [part H] of this chapter [title].
- (d) Justice statistical collection, analysis, and dissemination. To insure that all justice statistical collection, analysis, and dissemination is carried out in a coordinated manner, the Director is authorized to—
 - (1) utilize, with their consent, the services, equipment, records, personnel, information, and facilities of other Federal, State, local, and private agencies and instrumentalities with or without reimbursement therefor, and to enter into agreements with such agencies and instrumentalities for purposes of data collection and analysis;
 - (2) confer and cooperate with State, municipal, and other local agencies;
 - (3) request such information, data, and reports from any Federal agency as may be required to carry out the purposes of this chapter [title];
 - (4) seek the cooperation of the judicial branch of the Federal Government in

gathering data from criminal justice records; and

- (5) encourage replication, coordination and sharing among justice agencies regarding information systems, information policy, and data.
- (e) Furnishing of information, data, or reports by Federal agencies. Federal agencies requested to furnish information, data, or reports pursuant to subsection (d)(3) of this section shall provide such information to the Bureau as is required to carry out the purposes of this section.
- (f) Consultation with representatives of State and local government and judiciary. In recommending standards for gathering justice statistics under this section, the Director shall consult with representatives of State and local government, including, where appropriate, representatives of the judiciary.

42 USC § 3733 [Sec. 303.] Authority for 100 per centum grants

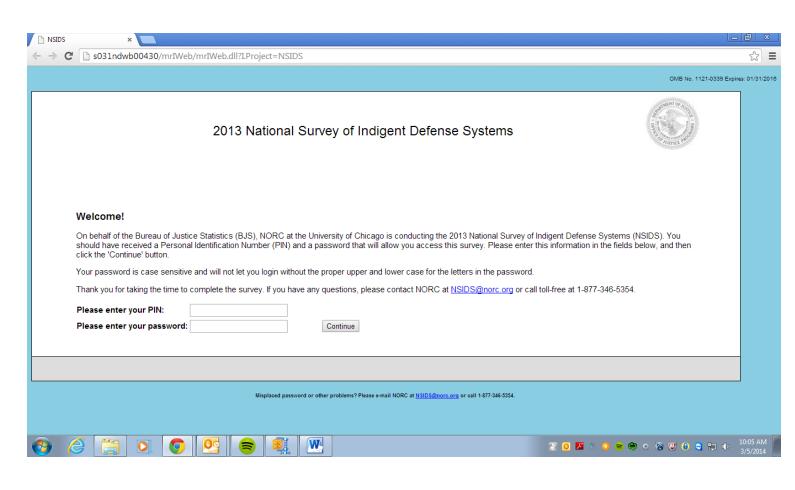
A grant authorized under this subchapter [part] may be up to 100 per centum of the total cost of each project for which such grant is made. The Bureau shall require, whenever feasible as a condition of approval of a grant under this subchapter [part], that the recipient contribute money, facilities, or services to carry out the purposes for which the grant is sought.

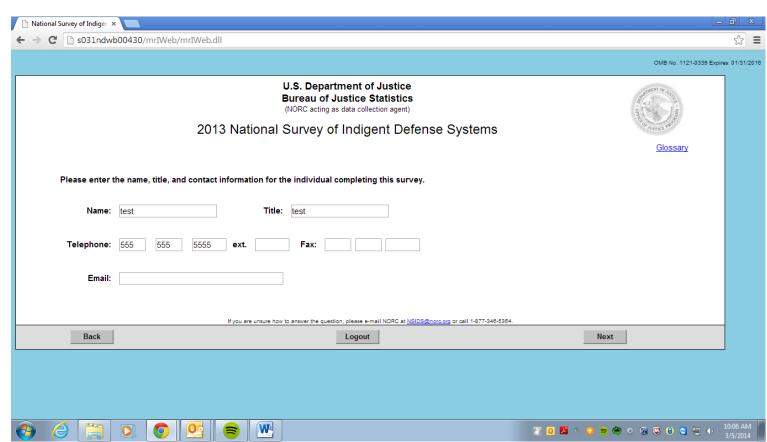
42 USC § 3735 [Sec. 304.] Use of data

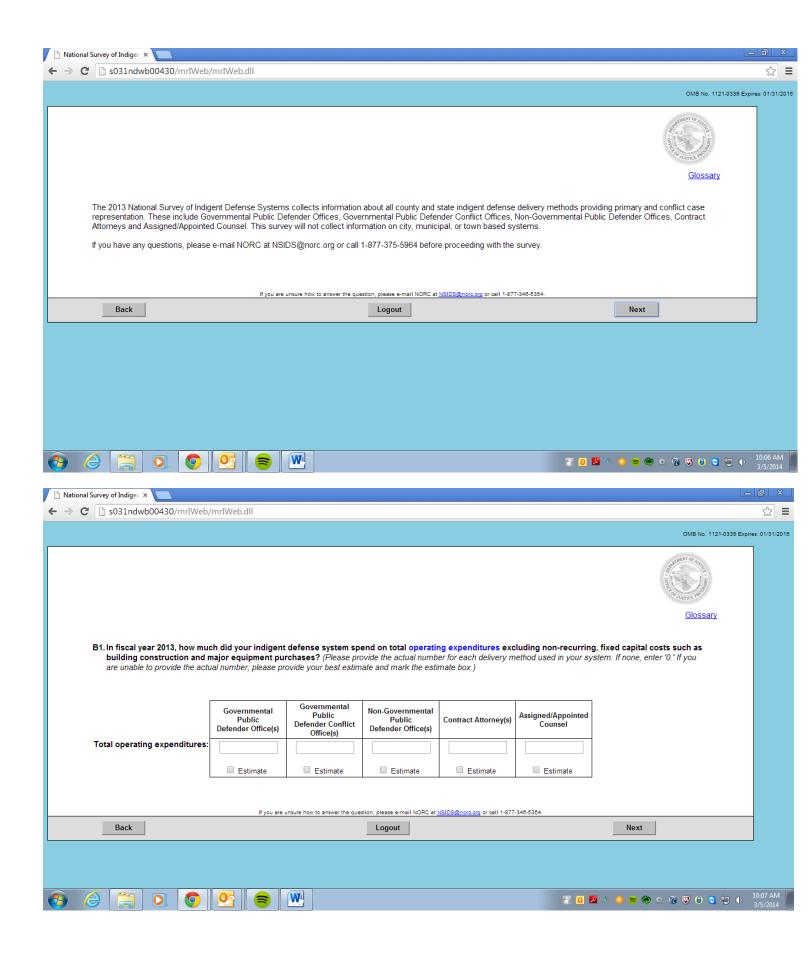
Data collected by the Bureau shall be used only for statistical or research purposes, and shall be gathered in a manner that precludes their use for law enforcement or any purpose relating to a particular individual other than statistical or research purposes.

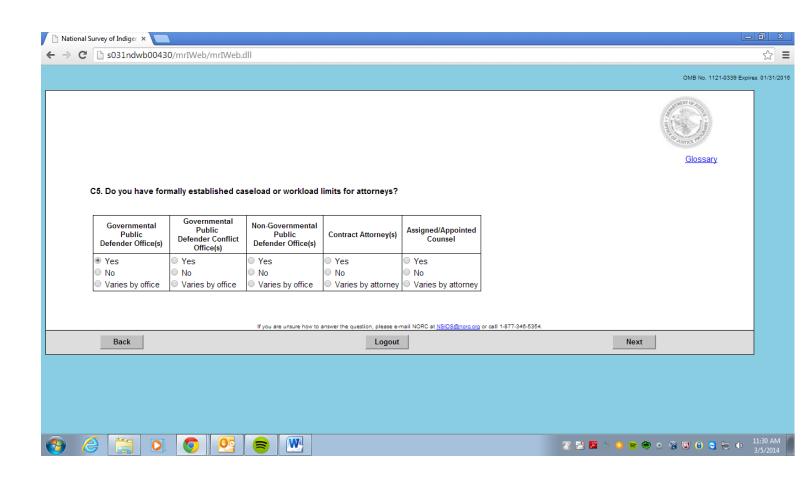
PAPERWORK CERTIFICATION

In submitting this request for OMB approval, I certify that the requirements of the rivacy Act and OMB directives have been complied with including paperwork regulations, attistical standards for directives, and any other information policy directives promulgated under Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.	
William J. Sabol, Acting Director Bureau of Justice Statistics	Date











U. S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20531

<Date>

<<SALUTATION>><<FIRST_NAME>> <<LAST_NAME>> <<SUFFIX>> <<COMPANY>> <<STREET>>, <<UNIT>> <<CITY, STATE ZIP>>

Dear <<FIRST_NAME>> <<LAST_NAME>>:

On behalf of the Bureau of Justice Statistic (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice, NORC at the University of Chicago is conducting the 2013 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS). In approximately 1-2 weeks, you should receive an invitation to participate in the 2013 NSIDS. The 2013 NSIDS will be a census of the nation's indigent defense systems. The questionnaire requests much needed information on the operations, staffing, caseloads, and funding for agencies that provide indigent defense services.

For your convenience, you can also respond to the 2013 NSIDS via the web. To access the web survey, please use this link: << web link>>.

For security purposes, we have assigned you a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) and password. Please use the PIN and password below to access the web survey:

PIN: <<pi>Pin>> Password: <<password>>

The National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), and the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (ABA SCLAID) have expressed their support for this survey. BJS and NORC have worked closely the NLADA to ensure that data collected is useful to the indigent defense community. Findings will be available from the BJS website (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs) in 20XX.

If you need assistance with the questionnaire, contact NORC at 1-877-346-5354, or email them at NSIDS@norc.org. Although this survey is voluntary, we urgently need and appreciate your cooperation to make the results comprehensive, accurate and timely.

Sincerely,

William Sabol, PhD BJS Acting Director

- How many personnel were paid by your indigent defense system in 2013?
- What were your system's salary ranges at the end of fiscal year 2013 for the following positions.

Managing Attorney

Supervisory Attorney

Line Attorney, entry level

Line attorney, with 5 years or less experience Line attorney, with 6 years or more of experience

- Does your indigent defense system conduct regular attorney performance reviews?
- Are attorneys reimbursed for case related outof-pocket expenses?

Section E – Indigency Determinations

- Do you have formally established guidelines defining when a person is indigent (i.e., financially eligible to receive publicly financed counsel)?
- What criteria are used to determine whether a potential client is indigent?

Section F - Professional Development

- Are attorneys in your system required to obtain Continuing Legal Education (CLE) in the areas of law in which they provide indigent defense representation?
- During fiscal year 2013, in which of the following areas did your system provide opportunities for professional development?

Criminal law or procedure

Motion practice

Ethics

Trial skills

Death penalty trial defense

Juvenile delinquency

Mental illness cases

Dependency cases

Appellate cases

Civil

Other

 Does your indigent defense system require that a minimum number of CLE hours or other professional training be related to criminal defense or other related indigent defense practice areas

Section G – Information Technology

- Does your indigent defense system operate its own automated case management/ tracking system, also known as an electronic Management Information System (MIS)?
- Are any of the following types of information available to system attorneys through your MIS?

Attorney time & billing

Court information

Conflicts checking

New case assignment notification and Attorney schedule/calendar

Client contact and billing information

Client case charging information

Client case defense investigation information

Section H – Standards & Guidelines

- How long after client arrest, detention or request for a lawyer is an attorney provided according to your indigent defense system's formal standards and guidelines?
- How long after arrest, detention or request for an attorney is permanent counsel assigned according to your indigent defense system's formal standards and guidelines?
- Does your indigent defense system have formal standards or guidelines requiring any of the following?

Vertical representation (same attorney represents client from appointment through all stages of the proceedings)

Attorney present at juvenile detention hearing(s)

Attorney present at bail setting proceeding(s) or arraignment on the charges

Attorneys advise defendants on whether to accept a plea bargain at all stages of prosecution

Attorney present at juvenile adjudication hearing(s)

Section I - Board or Commission

- Does your indigent defense system have an advisory board or commission?
- Who appoints the members of the board/ commission?
- What does your board/commission have the authority to do?



2013 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems

Reference List of Questions

General Information

The National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS) is a nationwide survey intended to gather information on the caseload, staffing, and budget for every state and county's s indigent defense system (IDS). For purposes of this survey, the IDS is responsible for the delivery of constitutionally mandated legal services including but not limited to: adult criminal, trial and appellate, juvenile and some civil matters. The configurations of IDSs vary from state to state and from county to county. The recipient of this survey is the public defender, county administrator or other knowledgeable person within the IDS.

This brochure is intended to give you a brief glimpse of the types of questions that are contained in the actual survey and to help you gather the proper information so that you can complete the survey quickly and efficiently on-line. The majority of questions can be answered by simply clicking on one or more of the pre-defined response categories (i.e., multiple choice).

If you have questions regarding the survey, please feel free to contact us at 1-877-346-5354 or at nsids@norc.org.

Section A – General Information

- What was your indigent defense system's fiscal year for 2013?
- What is the geographic jurisdiction served by your indigent defense system?
- Your indigent defense system is part of which branch of government?
- Which delivery methods does your indigent defense system utilize?

Section B - Fiscal Information

- How much did your indigent defense system spend on total operating expenditures?
- How much did your indigent defense system spend on personnel costs?
- How much did your indigent defense system receive in total revenue from all sources?
- How much revenue did your indigent defense system receive from each of the following sources?

State

County

City or town

Federal government (including Byrne Justice Assistance Grants)

Grants from private funders

Application fees paid

Assessments paid by clients, also known as recoupment

Other

- Excluding application fees, are clients required to pay for legal and support services?
- What is the amount of the application fee that clients are asked to pay?
- Are clients asked to pay an application fee in order to receive a publicly financed attorney?

Section C – Case Types, Caseloads, and Conflicts

- What types of cases does your indigent defense system provide counsel for?
- How many cases did your indigent defense system close in 2013?

 How many of the following types of cases did your indigent defense system close in 2013

Capital

Felony (non-capital)

Misdemeanor

Probation/Parole Revocation/Violation

Appeals

Total Juvenile-Related

Total Civil Proceedings

Other Criminal Proceedings

Other, cannot classify

- Do you have formally established caseload or workload limits for attorneys?
- Are attorneys allowed to refuse appointment to additional cases due to case overload?
- Do you monitor the number of outside cases handled by attorneys each year?
- Do you have formally established guidelines defining when an attorney cannot provide representation due to a conflict of interest?
- If an attorney cannot provide representation due to a conflict of interest, how is a conflict attorney obtained?

Section D – Personnel & Compensation

 How many of the following types of personnel were paid by your indigent defense system in 2013?

Chief Executive(s)

Managing Attorney(s)

Supervisory Attorney(s)

Line Attorney(s)

Attorneys paid under contract(s) to represent clients

Attorneys paid under assignment(s)/appointment(s)

to represent individual clients

Investigator(s)

Social Workers/Mitigation Specialists/Sentencing Advocates

Paralegal(s)

Intern(s)/Law Clerks

Training personnel

Indigency Screener(s)/Analyst(s)

Clerical staff

Administrative staff

Other (all personnel not accounted for above)

May 20, 2011

Mr. David Herda, Senior Survey Director II National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at The University of Chicago 55 East Monroe Street, 30th Floor Chicago, Illinois 60603 (312) 759-5086

Dear Mr. Herda,

I write today on behalf of the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA) to support the application of the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) to conduct the 2011 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS) on behalf of the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) under grant solicitation number 2011-BJS-2994. NLADA is a national, non-profit membership association dedicated to quality legal representation for people of insufficient means. Created in 1911, NLADA has been a leader in supporting equal justice for nearly 100 years. NLADA has the time, substantive knowledge and qualified staff to partner with NORC on this important endeavor.

NLADA brings two critical capacities to the project. Since 2002, NLADA's Justice Standards, Evaluation and Research Initiative (JSERI) has been the nation's recognized leader in the development of assessment protocols by which to judge a jurisdiction's compliance with national standards for right to counsel services. JSERI staff has travelled to 47 of the 50 states to study indigent defense services and/or provide technical assistance to state and local policy-makers on the need to meet basic foundational criminal justice standards. JSERI has extensive knowledge about how services are provided in many of the nation's 3,143 counties or county-equivalents.

NLADA's American Council of Chief Defenders (ACCD) is a national community of public defense leaders dedicated to securing a fair justice system and ensuring high quality legal representation for people facing loss of life, freedom or family. The mission of the ACCD is to provide tools, strategies, mutual support, training and information to chief defenders; to speak as a national voice for public defense; to promote best practices in the leadership, management, and administration of justice; and to support development and reform of public defense systems. To the extent that many public defender leaders will be involved in filling out the NSIDS questionnaire, their support for this project is critical.

A successful NSIDS is critical step on the path toward one day ensuring that every person charge with a crime and facing jail time that lacks the resources to retain private counsel receives a constitutionally-adequate lawyer. Today, public defense delivery systems lag far behind the other components of the criminal justice system when it

comes to data collection, analysis, and the ability to form policy based on objective information. With scarce resources and ever-growing caseloads most right-to-counsel systems dedicate almost every available funding dollar to direct client services, rather than infrastructure, leaving most unable to build case-tracking management systems that could produce data to inform criminal justice decision-making. In many jurisdictions, almost no data is collected at all.

The lack of objective public defense data and information perpetuates poor decision-making about the right to counsel. Without accurate, verifiable, objective data readily available to them, decision-makers are left to form criminal justice policy based solely on anecdotal information, and public attitudes are consigned to speculation, intuition, presumption, and even bias. With access to the timely, accurate and complete information, policymakers can fulfill their duty to continually evaluate the efficacy of their criminal justice policy decisions, thereby assuring victims, the accused and the general public that our courts' resulting verdicts are fair, correct, swift and final.

The National Opinion Research Center proved their technical capabilities with the 2007 Public Defender Census, widely regarded as the moist comprehensive and detailed survey on public defender systems in the country ever. NLADA, and in particular the ACCD, appreciated that NORC took the time to listen to the concerns of people in the field in the development of the census instrument. The successful response rate is indicative of the trust the indigent defense community has with NORC. We look forward to partnering with you on this most needed project.

Sincerely,

David J. Carroll, Director of Research National Legal Aid & Defender Association 1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900 Washington, DC 20036 202-329-1318



May 26, 2011

Mr. David Herda, Senior Survey Director II National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at The University of Chicago 55 East Monroe Street, 30th Floor Chicago, Illinois 60603 (312) 759-5086

Dear Mr. Herda,

The N ational A ssociation of C ounties (NACo), t hrough i ts 501(c)(3) s ubsidiary, t he National Association of Counties Research Foundation (NACoRF), is pleased to be able to support the application of the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) to conduct the 2011 N ational S urvey of Indigent D efense S ystems (NSIDS) on be half of the U nited States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) under grant solicitation number 2011-BJS-2994. The National Opinion Research C enter proved their technical capabilities w ith the 2 007 P ublic D efender C ensus, w idely regarded a st he m ost comprehensive and detailed survey on public defender systems.

Established in 1935, NACo is the only organization that represents the interests of the nation's 3,068 counties and their locally elected officials. Given their roles and responsibilities in the criminal justice system, counties are significant partners in efforts to ensure policymakers have access to critical information to address issues and make informed decisions.

As a partner in the proposed effort, NACoRF will provide assistance to meeting the project goals as outlined in the proposal by providing assistance in the design and development of the survey and assisting with county responses. NACoRF looks forward to the opportunity to work in partnership with NORC on this important project.

Sincerely,

Edward E. Ferguson

Deputy Executive Director

Edward Berguson

NACo

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers



Norman L. Reimer Executive Director

26 May 2011

Mr. David Herda NORC at the University of Chicago 55 East Monroe Street, 30th Floor Chicago, IL 60603

Reference: 2011 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems Solicitation, 2011-BJS-2994

Dear Mr. Herda:

The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) is pleased to submit this letter confirming its willingness to collaborate with the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago on the 2011 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems should they be awarded the contract.

NACDL is the preeminent organization in the United States advancing the mission of criminal defense lawyers to ensure justice and due process for persons accused of crime or other misconduct. A professional bar association founded in 1958, NACDL's more than 10,000 direct members – and 90 state, local and international affiliate organizations with another 35,000 members – include private criminal defense lawyers, public defenders, active U.S. military defense counsel, law professors and judges committed to preserving fairness within America's criminal justice system.

By leveraging its unique strength – its members – NACDL has made unparalleled contributions to the study of America's indigent defense system. Drawing almost entirely on research collected by volunteer NACDL members and staff, NACDL issued unprecedented studies of America's misdemeanor and problem solving courts, with another thorough study of a state-level misdemeanor system about to be released. These two published reports, entitled *Minor Crimes, Massive Waste: The Terrible Toll of America's Broken Misdemeanor Courts* and *America's Problem-Solving Courts: The Criminal Costs of Treatment and the Case for Reform* have together generated hundreds of newspapers, been cited in dozens of peer-reviewed law review, sociology and other scholarly articles, entered into the Congressional Record, and drawn upon in the formation of reform legislation.

The experience of NACDL's volunteer leaders and staff can provide unique support to NORC with respect to a number of the deliverables identified in the above-referenced proposal. Specifically, NACDL personnel are willing to assist NORC to design and refine the survey questionnaire. NACDL is also willing to assist in promoting the survey and encouraging responses.

By this letter we affirm our willingness to partner with NORC should they be awarded this grant. We look forward to working with you, and are confident that together we will produce significant results.

Sincerely,

Norman L. Reimer Executive Director

National Association of

Criminal Defense Lawyers



U. S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20531

<Date>

Dear <<FIRST_NAME>> <<LAST_NAME>>:

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice, is conducting the National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS) and has selected your indigent defense system to participate. The goal of the NSIDS is to obtain information on the operations, staffing, caseloads, and funding on all indigent defense systems in the United States. NORC at the University of Chicago is the data collection agent for the NSIDS. The National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA), is also assisting us with this important study.

You can participate in the NSIDS by accessing and completing the web survey available at:

<<web link>>.

For security purposes, we have assigned your agency a unique Personal Identification Number (PIN) and password to access the web survey:

PIN: <<pin>> Password: <<password>>

In order to complete the NSIDS in a timely manner, we ask that you complete the survey by XX XX, 2014.

We hope that you will be able to help us with this review. If you need assistance with the questionnaire or would prefer a hard copy version to fill out, please contact Rachel LeClere of NORC toll-free at 1-877-346-5354 or via e-mail at MSIDS@norc.org. Also, please feel free to contact Erinn Herberman, the BJS Project Manager, at Erinn.Herberman@usdoj.gov should you have any questions about the NSIDS.

Sincerely,

BJS Director

THANK YOU REMINDER POSTCARD TEXT

We recently sent you the 2013 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS)!

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is conducting a census of indigent defense systems throughout the United States and we need your help!

This data collection effort will provide much needed information on the current status of the indigent defense system. It is extremely important that your office responds so that the data is complete.

William Sabol, Ph.D. Director

LAST CHANCE POSTCARD TEXT

Data collection for the 2013 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS) is scheduled to end XXX XX, 2013!

We have not yet received a response from you!

We have been in contact with your agency and hope that you are able to participate in the Census. With ever increasing caseloads and reduced resources, it is extremely important that we have empirical data to document the current circumstances of indigent defense systems nationwide.

If you did not receive a questionnaire, or if it was misplaced, please contact NORC (acting as a data collection agent for the Bureau of Justice Statistics) toll-free at **1-XXX-XXXXXX** or by e-mail at **XXXX@norc.org**. We will be happy to assist you with completing the questionnaire over the phone or via the internet.

Thank you for your help with this important survey!

David Herda Senior Survey Director, NORC [Date] [SUID]

(PNAME) (PTITLE) (PADDR) (PCITY), (PSTATE) (PZIP)

Dear (PNAME),

About a month ago we sent you the 2013 National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems (NSIDS). According to our records, we have not yet received a completed questionnaire from your office.

We are writing again because, in order to ensure a complete accounting of the nation's indigent defense systems, we need your office to respond. The data collected will provide not only a benchmark against which future changes can be measured, but also a dataset that allows individuals to compare delivery models and variations in ways to meet national standards for the provision of indigent defense.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), U.S. Department of Justice is sponsoring the census. NORC at the University of Chicago has been engaged as the data collection agent. The National Legal Aid and Defender Association (NLADA), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), and the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants (ABA SCLAID) have expressed their support for this survey. Findings will be available from the BJS website (www.oip.usdoj.gov/bjs) in 20XX.

For your convenience, you can respond to the 2013 NSIDS in one of two ways:

Web: Please visit this user-friendly website to access the questionnaire: <<iinsert weblink>>

For security purposes, use the Personal Identification Number (PIN) and password printed below to access the web questionnaire:

PIN: <pin> Password: <pwd>

Paper: If you prefer to complete a paper version of the census, complete and return the enclosed questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope or fax each page toll-free to 1-888-836-7983. Please retain a photocopy of your responses for your records.

We ask that you respond to the questionnaire as soon as possible so that we can complete the data collection and publish the results in a timely manner. If you recently completed and returned the 2013 NSIDS questionnaire to us, please accept our sincere thanks. If not, please do so today.

Although this survey is voluntary, we need your cooperation to make the results comprehensive, accurate, and timely. If you need assistance with the questionnaire, please call NORC at 1-XXX-XXXX or via e-mail at XXXXXX @norc.org

Sincerely,

David Herda Senior Survey Director

Enclosures

Hello, may I please speak with [INSERT CONTACT NAME].

IWER: IF R NO LONGER WORKS THERE, ASK FOR PERSON WHO CURRENTLY HOLDS R'S POSITION. RECORD UPDATED INFORMATION IN SYSTEM, THEN PROMPT NEW R TO COMPLET ONLINE, ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEW OR BEGIN TO COMPLETE ITEMS OVER THE PHONE.

OPTION 1: My name is [IWER NAME]. I am calling on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Statistics regarding the National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems. About a week ago, we sent you a copy of the survey along with a postage-paid return envelope. Have you received this package?

OR

OPTION 2: My name is [IWER NAME]. I am calling on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Statistics regarding the National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems. About a week ago, we sent you an e-mail with information about the survey.

NO, did not receive package/e-mail:

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is inviting all indigent defense systems in the country to participate in a survey called the National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems or NSIDS. The NSIDS will provide the indigent defense community with information about number of persons served, budgets and staffing. We invite a representative from [SYSTEM NAME] to participate. You or your designate can complete online. If you have an e-mail address, I can send you information about the study including your PIN and password.

YES, did receive package/email:

Good! Do you have any questions about the NSIDS survey or who should complete it? You may complete the survey online (or by completing and returning the survey.) If you prefer, we can also schedule an appointment to complete the form over the phone.

If you have any questions, please call us toll-free at: 1-800-XXX-XXXX. This number can also be found on the questionnaire. Please remember to complete the questionnaire and return it within the next week. Thank you in advance for your participation.

NSIDS Draft Data Retrieval Contacting Script

Hello, may I please speak with [INSERT CONTACT NAME].

My name is [INSERT IWER NAME]. I am calling on behalf of the Bureau of Justice Statistics regarding the National Survey of Indigent Defense Systems. We recently received a completed questionnaire from your indigent defense system. Thank you for sending in your completed questionnaire. There were a few items that I wanted to confirm with you to ensure that we have the correct answer recorded correctly. It is very important that we have complete data from each system to ensure an accurate accounting of our nation's indigent defense system. This should only take a few minutes of your time.

BEGIN READING QUESTIONS THAT ARE MISSING, HAVE INCONSISTENT INFORMATION OR APPEAR OUT OF RANGE.