Supporting Statement B for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions Extension of a previously approved collection LEOKA

OMB Control Number 1110-0006

#### B. Statistical Methods

# 1. Respondent Universe

The potential respondent universe for the form 1-705 *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA)*, OMB Number 1110-0006, includes all United States LEAs who voluntarily report crime data via the SRS. The LEAs consist of federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies that correlate to all population group sizes and have many diverse attributes. These agencies serve areas with a mix of population density and degrees of urbanization; various compositions of population, particularly youth concentration; population mobility with respect to residents' mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors; different cultural factors and educational, recreational, and religious characteristics; climate; effective strength of law enforcement; policies of other components of the criminal justice system; citizens' attitudes toward crime; and crime reporting practices of the citizenry.

NIBRS eases the ability for LEAs to report LEOKA data because the information is collected within the NIBRS record layout. With SRS, LEAs and state UCR programs may receive National Crime Statistics Exchange funds to transition to NIBRS and make the necessary technical changes to collect the LEOKA data. NIBRS will improve the way the nation collects, reports, analyzes, and uses crime statistics to enable informed tactical and strategic decision-making. As the number of LEAs transitioning to NIBRS increases, the respondent universe for reporting LEOKA data to the FBI's UCR Program via form 1-705 will further decrease.

### 2. Collection of Information Procedures

The LEOKA data are collected/received from state UCR program participants monthly. The FBI's UCR Program has established various timeframes and deadlines for acquiring the monthly data. State UCR programs and direct contributing agencies are instructed to submit their monthly reports/submissions to the FBI by the seventh day after the close of each month. Annual deadlines are also designated to collect/assess receipt of monthly submissions. There are times when special circumstances may cause an agency to request an extension. The FBI's UCR Program has the authority to grant these extensions. Although monthly reports are preferred by agencies, the state UCR programs, upon approval, may submit data at intervals, e.g., monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, and annually; this minimizes the burden to the agency.

The LEAs participating in SRS submit the LEOKA data to the FBI's UCR Program via electronic files or by using the Microsoft Excel Workbook Tool, which contains an electronic version of the LEOKA.

As the UCR LEOKA data collection is intended to collect all reported LEOKA offenses from the LEAs in the United States, sampling methodologies are not used. Estimation procedures will not be applied to the LEOKA data collection. The FBI's UCR Program presents the actual number of reported officers killed and assaulted in the LEOKA publication. For assault data to be published, LEAs must have submitted information for all 12 months regarding their sworn officers who were assaulted as well as the number of officers and civilians their agencies employed full-time for the reporting year.

## 3. Response Rates/Non-Response

Response rates are maximized through liaison with state UCR programs. Communications encouraging data submissions occur frequently because of the relationship between the UCR staff and the LEAs. The UCR staff have a strong understanding of contextual challenges agencies face in reporting valid and reliable data and assist agencies in overcoming non-response challenges. The number of agencies active in the FBI's UCR Program in 2024 totaled 19,328. Of those, the number of agencies submitting data was 16,675 (86.3 percent). SRS agencies submitting data to the FBI's UCR Program in 2024 totaled 2,074 and 1,084 (52.3 percent) of those reported LEOKA data via form 1-705.

The mission of the LEOKA Data Collection is to establish guidelines for the collection, acquisition, and publication of the information. Although the FBI makes every effort through its editing procedures, training practices, and correspondence to ensure the validity of the data it receives, the accuracy of the statistics depends primarily on the adherence of each contributor to the established standards of reporting.

With increased marketing of the LEOKA Data Collection's refreshed LEOKA Officer Safety Awareness Training (OSAT), response rates are expected to increase for agencies to report those law enforcement officers killed or assaulted. Managers of the LEOKA Data Collection provide outreach, statistical support, training, research studies, and instructional services for an OSAT curriculum.

The Criminal Justice Information Services committees of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) provide the FBI's UCR Program with vital links to local law enforcement personnel. The IACP, as it has since the FBI's UCR Program began, represents the thousands of police departments nationwide. The NSA encourages sheriffs throughout the country to fully participate in the FBI's UCR Program. Members of both committees serve in advisory capacities concerning the operation of the FBI's UCR Program as part of the CJIS Advisory Process. The Association of State Uniform Crime Reporting Programs (ASUCRP) focuses on UCR issues within individual state law enforcement associations and promotes interest in the FBI's UCR Program. These organizations

foster widespread and responsible use of uniform crime statistics and lend assistance to data contributors when needed.

## 4. <u>Collection Development</u>

The FBI has conducted monthly LEOKA information collection since 1970. Today, the FBI's UCR Program receives guidance for implementing or making changes to a data collection from the CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB). The APB, which is organized and exists under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, was established to ensure a "shared management" concept with the nation's law enforcement community for all criminal justice information systems managed by the CJIS Division. It ensures law enforcement has the opportunity to discuss and vote on any policy or procedural changes to CJIS systems affecting the FBI's ability to collect, maintain, and share information with the nationwide criminal justice community. The APB reviews policy, technical, and operational issues related to CJIS services and recommends appropriate changes to the FBI Director. In addition to the APB, the CJIS Advisory Process also includes five regional working groups and many subcommittees, including the UCR Subcommittee. The CJIS Advisory Process is an effective way to discuss proposed concepts and develop the shared management of systems that support law enforcement and criminal justice agencies.

The working groups review topic papers on operational, policy, and technical issues related to CJIS Division programs and policies and make recommendations to the APB or one of its subcommittees. All fifty states, as well as United States territories, federal agencies, tribal representatives, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are represented in the five working groups. Working group meetings are conducted as closed meetings and take place once each cycle, with two cycles per year.

The UCR Subcommittee is comprised of APB members and other UCR subject matter experts. The UCR Subcommittee was established to review recommendations for the consideration of the entire APB. The chair of the APB, in consultation with the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), may invite any governmental or quasi-governmental entity involved in CJIS activities to attend any meeting of the APB Subcommittee for the purpose of consultation or providing information. Subcommittee meetings take place at least once each cycle.

The APB meets at the end of each cycle or twice during each calendar year. A notice of these meetings is published in the *Federal Register*, and the meetings are conducted as an open session unless determined otherwise by the DFO. The APB is composed of 35 executive representatives from criminal justice agencies and national security agencies throughout the United States. It ensures law enforcement have the opportunity to discuss and vote on any policy or procedural changes to CJIS systems affecting law enforcement's ability to share information.

The existing LEOKA form 1-705 remains the same and, therefore, requires no additional testing. No comments, suggestions, or issues with the form have been

reported through the working groups, UCR Subcommittee, or CJIS APB. These groups meet frequently throughout each year and are dedicated to improving the collection, use, and utility of crime data as reported through the FBI's UCR Program and all state and local crime reporting programs.

# 5. Contacts for Statistical Aspects and Data Collection

Contacts for statistical aspects and data collection can be reached via email (ucr@fbi.gov) or telephone (304-625-4830).

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