Gn-0089.009.018.007

HEARSAY / Criminal Justice News

Published by The San Diego Regional Criminal Justice Planning Board

Room 268–County Administration Center–San Diego–California 92101– Phone No. 236-2844

READER RESPONSE

The first edition of Hearsay included a questionnaire which was aimed at measuring the demand for an informal, system-wide newsletter for criminal justice personnel. The overwhelming majority of returns indicated solid support for the Hearsay concept. Most readers desired more information about the Criminal Justice Planning Advisory Committee, including composition, planning techniques and general policies. There was also substantial interest in more information about recent innovations in agency programs, as well as a desire for more analysis of controversial and divergent points of view.

Rather than fill an entire issue with by-laws, organization charts, etc., your editor has decided that a separate informational bulletin on CJPAC will be prepared to fulfill the first request. Look for it in January. The second request is a mutual responsibility. Let us hear from you!

PLANNING NOTES

CCCJ TIGHTENS PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY

Responding to a critical Congressional Report on the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, the California Council on Criminal Justice (CCCJ) has taken action which can be expected to directly effect regional grantees and project proponents. Two items are of primary importance:

> The auditing staff of CCCJ has been increased and attempts have been made to more clearly communicate to project directors and fiscal agents the expectations of CCCJ's fiscal and auditing section. Regional staff strongly recommends that all project directors and fiscal officers have access to a copy of the recently rewritten CCCJ Fiscal Affairs Manual.
>
> A second area where increased accountability is now expected is the requirement of "measurable objectives". This requirement will be applicable to projects financed under the 1972 Regional Plan. Simply translated, MO means a project must be able to demonstrate quantitatively its impact on the crime problem. This requirement can be expected to necessitate more preciseness in project design, statistical control and follow-up of the target population or geographical area.

FUNDING POLICY - IS IT TIME FOR A CLOSER LOOK?

At the October 27th meeting of CCCJ, the Prevention of Crime Task Force sought Council guidelines for future project review. Traditionally, a key test has been - "will the project have a direct impact on the criminal justice system?" Members of the Task Force admitted they were not sure what constitutes "direct impact". It was noted that in the past projects have been funded that are primarily oriented towards meeting health or vocational needs, and that CCCJ funds have been awarded to projects that are eligible for other sources of funding (e.g., NIMH, OEO, Short-Doyle, National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, etc.). The Council adjourned without answering the question posed by the Task Force: "Shouldn't criminal justice agencies have first priority on the only type of federal funds for which they are qualified?"

INFORMATION SERVICE OFFERED BY LEAA

Criminal Justice personnel may now register for a technical information service provided by LEAA's National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). Services and publications furnished free by NCJRS include:

Selective notification of information - A periodic distribution of abstracts selected to meet the user's specific interest in the law enforcement and criminal justice field.

A search of the NCJRS data base to provide the user with abstracts of publications relating to a particular request.

Selected topical digests which provide an analysis and summary of literature on a subject of current interest.

This is a personalized service. All information is mailed directly to the address on the registration form which may be obtained from the Liaison Office, California Council on Criminal Justice, 1927 13th Street, Sacramento, Ca. 95814.

MISCELLANY

A SECOND LOOK AT HONOR CAMPS

When the San Diego County Grand Jury handed the Board of Supervisors its critical report on the Honor Camps, the Board asked Chief Administrative Officer, Fred Morey, for his recommendations. Morey responded with the recommendation that a committee be formed to review and evaluate the Honor Camp System and report its conclusions to the Board of Supervisors. Such a committee was formed and is currently studying the Grand Jury Report and the Honor Camp system. Members are as follows:

Robert J. Cooney, Judge of the Municipal Court
John F. Duffy, San Diego County Sheriff
Kenneth F. Fare, San Diego County Chief Probation Officer
Hugo Fisher, Judge of the Superior Court
Raymond L. Hoobler, San Diego Chief of Police
R. B. James, Law and Justice Agency Coordinator
Fred Morey, Chief Administrative Officer
Frank Panarisi, Human Resources Agency Administrator

The committee will be a standing committee on corrections charged with the responsibility of maintaining an effective and balanced correctional system within the County. Review of the Honor Camp system will start immediately. An initial report is due in January, 1973.

CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR

You could say this is Hearsay's Christmas Edition. Kenneth F. Fare, San Diego County Chief Probation Officer doesn't want the season to be forgotten. In a plea which launched a drive for funds, gifts and clothing for his needy charges, Fare reminded us that "Christmas can be cruel, bringing loneliness, depression and anger to teenagers in trouble."

The Volunteers in Probation program is conducting a drive for gifts, clothing and funds. Mrs. Jane Schlimpf (279-4100) points out that items do not have to be new - just as long as they are usable. House plants, guitars, portable T.V.s and billiard equipment are especially favored.

Call V.I.P. - 279-4100

CRIME DECREASED IN 72 CITIES

FBI Uniform Crime Reports indicate that in the first six months of 1972, serious crime dropped below prior year levels in 72 cities. California's performance was so-so. San Francisco scored big with a 20.3% decrease, Los Angeles and Oakland also reflected decreases. Sacramento, San Jose, and San Diego struck out.

Mayor Ralph Perk of Cleveland, Ohio, has "ordered" a decrease of crime in that city. Discouraged by the city's failure to register a substantial crime decrease (although currently a target of LEAA's High Impact Anti-Crime Program - and $13 million in grant funds) Perk has ordered a crime decrease of at least 5% in all categories in the month of December - or police personnel will have their pay cut! Hearsay has been unable to determine if the axe will be applied to all criminal justice system personnel. Hearsay is certain, however, that planning and research personnel won't be touched.

SPOTLIGHT

This edition of Hearsay takes a look at San Diego Police Chief Ray Hoobler's "Youth Resources Program." Although still in the planning phase preparatory to funding, Hearsay believes the concept invites comment.

Each year police and probation officers make thousands of contacts with juveniles who are handled informally. By informally, we mean the police or probation officer in the exercise of his discretion disposes of the matter in a manner that does not place the youth in the criminal justice system. Frequently, the incident is the juvenile's first "brush with the law", and just as frequently an early diagnostic indication of future behavior. Unfortunately, there is no follow-up and all must hope for the best. Recognizing these young people were in a limbo between formal handling and no follow-up, Chief Hoobler and his staff believe these people might benefit by referral to existing non-criminal justice agencies for follow-up.

The proposal being developed would include a "Community Resources Coordinator" who will make every effort to involve this first offender in existing community programs, thus providing follow-up which is now lacking.

Chief Hoobler's proposal recognizes an early warning system which should not be ignored. It also recognizes the limits of the criminal sanction and provides a practical alternative; i.e., community based organizations which may ultimately deter pre-delinquents from further involvement in criminal activity. Good luck on the funding.

ACTION - REACTION

Some of you may prefer astrology, others palmistry or perhaps the occult may be your bag. Recently, the San Diego Probation Department working in concert with Western Behavioral Science Institute, published a forecast of life in the United States for the year 1985 based upon somewhat different methodologies. Following is a digest of the future scenario for the United States in the year 1985 written jointly by a Probation Department Task Force and W.B.S.I.

****

At the national level matters have improved greatly. Many reforms have been achieved and federal government is more responsible, responsive and relaxed; pressure is on local government to deliver the goods. Most individuals continue to find it difficult to participate in the management of society but there has been a sharp increase in "peoples' lobbies" which constitute a third force given serious and respectful attention by the White House and Congress. Socioeconomic conflict is much more obvious, frequent and severe, while ethnic conflict has lessened.

A national health plan, minimum guaranteed annual income and a shorter, more flexible work week is in effect. "Live and let live" is the moral standard and most criminal laws regulating sexual behavior and mind altering drugs have been repealed or are being ignored. Drug addiction and alcoholism are considered medical or mental health problems. Many current criminal offenses are handled as civil matters and enforcement agencies and offenders alike have shifted from physical control with lethal weapons to computers, surveillance, deception and non-lethal weapons. Many offenders voluntarily submit to "optional" behavior modification programs using drugs and other forms of therapy. Offender handling is characterized by treatment in the community as a substitute for incarceration. Prosecution for victimless crimes such as drunkeness, drugs, prostitution, gambling etc., has ended.

Despite an overall reduction in crime nationally, a population shift which finds 90% of the nation's 240 million people living in 10% of the land area intensifies crime problems in some megalopolitan regions. Rates of poverty, crime, disease and other forms of social disorganization and disintegration remain alarmingly high in these areas. Public and private resources for remedying such conditions remain severely inadequate.

Implications: End of prosecution for victimless ~~crimes~~; continued deterioration of the urban core; fewer prisons - more small local facilities; successful use of behavior modification therapy, therefore less recidivism; improved surveillance - more arrests; shorter time between criminal act, prosecution and disposition.

REACTION: WHAT'S YOUR BEST GUESS ???

TO SUBMIT NEWS OR COMMENTS TO HEARSAY, CALL
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING – 236-2844

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER
ROOM 268
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

C.U.R.E. CJ
3386 30TH ST.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92104