

respond: 500–600 respondents to complete a one-time 15 minute mail survey.

(6) An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection: 125–150 annual burden hours.

Public comment on this proposed information collection is strongly encouraged.

Dated: May 29, 1996.

Robert B. Briggs,

*Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 96–13870 Filed 6–3–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1121–18–M

### **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection under review; individual gang member interview and associated tests, evaluation of the “Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach To Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Program”.

The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days from the date listed at the top of this page in the Federal Register.

Request written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

(1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumption used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Comments and/or suggestions regarding the item(s) contained in this notice, especially regarding the estimated public burden and associated response time should be directed to Marilyn Landon, Program Manager, Office of Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at (202) 307–0586. To receive a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, or additional information, please contact Marilyn Landon, 202–307–0586, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Room 782, 633 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20531.

Additionally, comments may be submitted to the Department of Justice, (DOJ), Justice Management Division, Information Management and Security Staff, Attention: Department Clearance Officer, Suite 850, 1001 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20530, or via facsimile to (202) 514–1534

Overview of this information collection:

(1) *Type of Information Collection:* New Collection.

(2) *Title of the Form/Collection:* Individual Gang Member Interview and Associated Tests, Evaluation of the “Comprehensive Community-Wide Approach To Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Program”.

(3) *Agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department of Justice sponsoring the collection:* Form: None. Sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Not-for-Profit Institutions. Other: State, Local, or Tribal Government. The study will obtain interview and test information on youth background, social adjustment, deviancy/crime activity, self-esteem, and depression/personality adjustment. It will determine the effectiveness of the program, comparing program subjects to non-program gang youth of the same ages, approximately 13 to 20 years old, and their backgrounds.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* 1,227 responses at 2 hours, per response.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* 2,454 annual burden hours.

If additional information is required contact: Mr. Robert B. Briggs, Clearance Officer, United States Department of

Justice, Information Management and Security Staff, Justice Management Division, Suite 850, Washington Center, 1001 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530.

Dated: May 28, 1996.

Robert B. Briggs,

*Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 96–13907 Filed 6–3–96; 8:45 am]

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### **National Institute of Justice**

[OJP (NIJ) No.1082]

RIN 1121–ZA35

### **National Institute of Justice Solicitation for Technology Research and Development Partnership Projects for Community Policing**

**AGENCY:** Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice.

**ACTION:** Announcement of the availability of the National Institute of Justice Solicitation “Technology Research and Development Partnership Projects for Community Policing.”

**DATES:** The deadline for receipt of proposals is close of business on August 1, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** National Institute of Justice, Office of Science and Technology, 633 Indiana Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20531.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tawana Waugh, U.S. Department of Justice Response Center, at 800–421–6770 (in Metropolitan Washington, DC, 202–307–1480).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following supplementary information is provided:

#### **Authority**

This action is authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, secs. 201–03, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 3721–23 (1988).

#### **Background**

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, is soliciting proposals to conduct research, development, and application of new and innovative technologies in support of the implementation and enhancement of community-oriented policing on a national level. Successful proposals will receive grant funding to conduct research and development projects. Proposals are expected to describe research and development efforts to

move technologies in support of community-oriented policing beyond current state of the art. The solicitation seeks proposals representing partnerships between the public and private sectors to support the research and development of new technologies or the innovative adaptation of existing technologies that could be used as tools for community policing. The solicitation is not intended to fund the purchase of currently available commercial off-the-shelf technologies, systems, or products.

The National Institute of Justice anticipates a funding level of up to \$4 million, which will support several awards under this solicitation.

Interested organizations should call the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) at 1-800-851-3420 to obtain a copy of NIJ's "Technology Research and Development Partnership Projects for Community Policing." (refer to document no. SL000149).

The solicitation is available electronically via the Justice Technology Information Network (JUSTNET) on the Internet. JUSTNET's address on the World Wide Web is <http://www.nlectc.org>. The solicitation is also available through the NCJRS Bulletin Board, which can also be accessed via Internet. Telnet to <ncjrsbbs.ncjrs.org>, or gopher to <ncjrs.org:71>. On World Wide Web, connect to the NCJRS Justice Information Center at <http://www.ncjrs.org>. Those without Internet access can dial the NCJRS Bulletin Board via modem: dial 301-738-8895. Set modem at 9600 baud, 8-N-1.

Jeremy Travis,

*Director, National Institute of Justice.*

[FR Doc. 96-13975 Filed 6-3-96; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Employment and Training Administration

#### Federal-State Unemployment Compensation Program: Unemployment Insurance Program Letters Interpreting Federal Unemployment Insurance Law

The Employment and Training Administration interprets Federal law requirements pertaining to unemployment compensation as part of its role in the administration of the Federal-State unemployment compensation program. These interpretations are issued in Unemployment Insurance Program Letters (UIPLs) to the State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs). The UIPL described below is published in the

Federal Register in order to inform the public.

#### UIPL 23-96

The State agencies which administer the Unemployment Insurance program collect information concerning the wages paid by employers in the State. This information is required to be provided by State law, in accordance with Section 1137(a)(3) of the Social Security Act.

There has been a growing interest by private entities to have electronic access to the wage data collected by the State in order to verify income for individuals who apply for loans. This UIPL advises States to the Department of Labor's interpretation of Federal law in regard to the disclosure of this information to private entities.

Dated: May 29, 1996.

Timothy M. Barnicle,  
*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

Directive: Unemployment Insurance Program Letter No. 23-96

To: All State Employment Security Agencies  
From: Mary Ann Wyrsh, Director,  
Unemployment Insurance Service  
Subject: Disclosure of Confidential  
Employment Information to Private  
Entities

Rescissions: None

Expiration Date: continuing

1. *Purpose.* To advise States of the Department of Labor's (Department) position regarding the disclosure of certain Unemployment Insurance (UI) information to private entities.

2. *Reference.* Sections 303(a)(1), 303(a)(8) and 303(f) of the Social Security Act (SSA); 20 C.F.R. Part 97; Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular No. A-87; ET Handbook No. 336; the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), P.L. 91-508, 15 U.S.C. 1681 *et seq.*

3. *Background.* Norwest Mortgage, in the form of its subsidiary VIE (Verification of Income & Employment), has signed an agreement with the State of Iowa's Department of Employment Services (IDES) to allow VIE to utilize Iowa wage records in a novel way. It is our understanding that VIE operates as a credit bureau and provides electronic access to employment verification information to credit approving entities covered under the FCRA,<sup>1</sup> such as mortgage lenders which subscribe to its service. VIE requires individuals seeking credit to sign a consent form authorizing release of information pertaining to them. The current consent form does not, however, specify that State records will be accessed. VIE receives requests for verification from its subscribers in the form of the loan applicant's social security number and State and forwards the request electronically to the UI agency which accesses its wage records for the requested

information and returns it to VIE. VIE passes the information back to the requesting subscriber. Only a few minutes elapse between the subscriber's request and receipt of UI information via computer. The UI information available to VIE's subscribers is limited to the employer's name and address, and the employee's quarterly wages. Although the information exchange was originally inspired by mortgage lending, it is applicable to all consumer lending.

The Department has been told that the funds received from VIE as payments by the IDES are kept in a separate account and the VIE will pay for all IDES expenses in setting up the service. IDES will also receive a percentage of the amount VIE charges its subscribers as a processing fee for each transaction.

The procedure is marketed as offering benefits to: lenders, by reducing loan processing costs; loan applicants, by shortening the verification period from weeks to days; employers, who will no longer receive employment verification requests; the UI program, by providing program income; and the economy in general by reducing bad debt expenses.

The Department has examined the issue of disclosure to private entities under the circumstances described above. This UIPL is issued to advise the States that, provided certain conditions are met, no issues are raised with respect to Federal UI law requirements when State law permits the information to be released.

Questions exist when a governmental entity requires reports to be made for a given reason, such as the administration of a State's UI law or the Income Eligibility and Verification System required by Section 303(f), SSA, and subsequently releases the information, even if the release is made with the individual's consent and results in income to the UI program. Because the information comes from employers' private records, employers have an interest in its confidentiality. Therefore, States should seek the input of employers before entering into an agreement to release such information to a private entity.

4. *Discussion.* a. *Federal Law Requirements in General.* Section 303(a)(1), SSA, has long been interpreted to prohibit disclosure of claimant and employer UI information. The rationale is that the disclosure of UI information may deter individuals from filing claims or employers from filing reports and will impede the proper and effective administration of the UI program. Individuals/consumers have an interest in confidentiality. Confidentiality of UI records avoid publicity about individuals and employers, and possible notoriety resulting from publicity. Publicity could have disrupting effects on the operations of the State agency, would be likely to discourage many individuals from claiming a statutory entitlement, and may act as a disincentive for employers to cooperate with the State agency in the administration of the State UI law.

Further, Section 303(a)(8), SSA, limits grants use to purposes necessary for the proper and efficient administration of the Federal-State UI program. Since individuals have an interest in a release of sensitive

<sup>1</sup> The FCRA regulates the operations of consumer credit reporting agencies and users of consumer reports.