



IN BRIEF ...

OCTOBER 2006

Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government

Commercial Sources:

UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN AMERICAN COURTS

The operation of the rule of law is the most fundamental requirement of government in a democracy, writes political scientist Benesh. In this article, Benesh addresses the critical importance of understanding what drives the public's support for courts and confidence in the justice system. Benesh's analysis shows that the American public understands the law and respects the court system.

ANCHORAGE SUPERVISES SUSPENDED YOUTHS AS WAY TO CURB VIOLENCE

Alaska's capital city has asked the US Attorney's Office to assist local prosecutors in attacking gang, gun and drug crimes as part of a broad campaign to reduce violence that includes closer supervision of youths suspended from school.

CYBERBULLYING, THE INVISIBLE THREAT

As America's kids go back to school, a new threat awaits them in hallways, computer labs and in the playground-cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is the use of electronic devices and information, such as e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, mobile phones, pagers and web sites, to send or post cruel or harmful messages or images about an individual or a group. Here, Kopko discusses steps on how parents can stop cyberbullying from happening.

Government Sources:

More Global Effort Needed to Fight Sex Crimes Against Children

Laws on child pornography vary widely among countries -- in dozens of nations, it is not illegal -- and managers of pornographic Web sites can dodge investigators by hosting their pages on overseas servers, according to U.S. law enforcement officials. Tracking child pornography peddlers around the globe requires better international cooperation, agreed U.S. investigators and leaders of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) at a September 27 hearing before the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the Helsinki Commission.

U.N. Member States Search for Answers to Migration Problems



The United States' commitment to promoting "orderly migration as a positive development for all nations is firm and undiminished by the challenges of the post-9/11 world," said Assistant Secretary of State Ellen Sauerbrey, who oversees the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.

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Commercial Sources:

POLICE EDUCATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Today, law enforcement agencies face a dilemma. Departments across the nation confront new burdens, such as computer crimes, identity theft, and other domestic problems, unheard of a generation ago, let alone the threat of terrorism and the need for homeland defense. Unfortunately, resources are not growing at the same pace as the demand for police services. Many agencies actually have seen a drop in funding. In such cases, training often represents one of the first budget items cut because many administrators see education as addressing the future and use the analogy "fire prevention is great, but not when the house already is on fire".

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS IN SCHOOLS: TEACHERS' REACTIONS TO THE PROBLEM

For example, large-scale surveys, such as the Monitoring the Future Study and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance system, provide long-term data on general adolescent drug use with little focus on school use. While teachers reported that drugs were available, sold, and used in school and that students were sometimes under the influence of drugs or alcohol while in class, teachers paid only minimal attention to the problem because students' being impaired in class did not, in their view, interfere with teaching or classroom management.

Government Sources:

Tougher Border Security Showing Results, U.S. Official Says

The Bush administration's drive to secure U.S. borders is succeeding, says Michael Chertoff, secretary of homeland security. Based on the number of apprehensions, fewer individuals – from Mexico or other points of origin – are crossing the southern U.S. border illegally, Chertoff said during in August 23 press briefing.

OSCE Nations Urged to Crack Down on Child Pornography

In an effort to combat child pornography, parliamentarians from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has adopted a U.S.-sponsored resolution that condemns the sexual exploitation of children and urges member states to enact comprehensive laws that will lead to the prosecution of those involved in the multibillion dollar child pornography industry.

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Commercial Sources:

CRIME IN NATIONAL FORESTS: A CALL FOR RESEARCH

The aim of this article is to explain why research focusing on crime and violence on national forests is necessary and overdue. Four questions are offered to frame future research. First, how much crime is occurring on national forests, and how can the effects of crime and violence best be measured? Second, how is crime spatially distributed across national forests? Third, what actions are effective in mitigating crime in a recreation setting and what should we adopt for a successful crime-stopping arsenal? Finally, how do crime and violence affect recreation behavior and decisionmaking?

TOP COP

Ella Bully-Cummings is not your typical football fan. But the Detroit police chief developed a special relationship with the game when she was charged with protecting and serving 70,000 football enthusiasts (including a slew of celebrities, from the Rolling Stones to Stevie Wonder) as they descended on Ford Field for Super Bowl XL last winter. Of course, with her more than 20 years on the force, it's clear how she safeguarded this event and polices one of the country's most turbulent cities.

Government Sources:

US Senate Votes to Ratify Cyber Crime Convention

The U.S. Senate voted on August 3 to ratify the Council of Europe (COE) Convention on Cybercrime, a multilateral treaty addressing the problems of computer-related crime and electronic evidence gathering.

Scholar Discusses the Growing Role of International Law

International law covers more than just relations between states -- it addresses subjects ranging from rules of war to human rights to family relations, says Jose Alvarez, president of the American Society of International Law (ASIL).

U.S. Passports Move Into a New Era

The U.S. Department of State began issuing electronic passports – e-passports – to the American public August 14 as another step in an ongoing program to enhance border security and to facilitate travel.

The new generation of passports includes biometric technology, a computer chip that contains the same data as those found on the biographic data page of the passport.

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Commercial Sources:

PROGRAM AWARDS MORE THAN \$17 MILLION TO STATES

The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs announced awards of more than \$17 million to 50 states and the District of Columbia to enforce state and local underage drinking laws. The awards are made through the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws program, which supports activities in law enforcement, public education programs and innovative methods for reaching youth.

JUVENILE FOCUS

Members of the Project Safe Childhood Task Forces will attend training programs facilitated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), the ICAC program, and other ongoing programs, in order to be taught to investigate and prosecute computer-facilitated crimes against children, as well as to pursue leads from national operations and from NCMEC's CyberTipline and Child Victim-Identification programs.

CHICAGO'S PROJECT CLEAR

Buice discusses the Chicago Police Department's project CLEAR, which is a unique way of making the most of limited resources by using information technology. Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting System, CLEAR provides front-line officers the information they need and involves intelligence driven crime fighting.

Government Sources:

OSCE Nations Urged to Crack Down on Child Pornography

In an effort to combat child pornography, parliamentarians from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has adopted a U.S.-sponsored resolution that condemns the sexual exploitation of children and urges member states to enact comprehensive laws that will lead to the prosecution of those involved in the multibillion dollar child pornography industry.

U.S. Backed Seminar Discusses Human Trafficking in Haiti

Haiti's transition to democracy is accompanied by heightened expectations for achievement in many areas, including success in countering human trafficking and smuggling, reported participants at a counter-trafficking seminar.

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JUNE 2006

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Commercial Sources:

CSI EFFECT

The author notes that the unrealistically quick way of solving crimes by forensic experts on fictional television shows is influencing the minds of real-world jurors, known as the "CSI effect". After seeing forensic methods on television shows like "CSI," "Cold Case," and others, jurors are demanding DNA, fingerprints, and other scientific evidence. The author interviews prosecutors, defense attorneys, CSI experts and others in the unglamorous world of criminal investigation, who describe the lack of the high-tech labs portrayed on television and the backlogs even when they are available.

THE DAY AFTER ROE

With two newly-appointed Supreme Court justices and the possibility of a third, the author notes that there is a real possibility that ROE V. WADE, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that struck down abortion laws in forty-six states and the District of Columbia, may be overturned. In this article, Rosen, a law professor at George Washington University, reviews the repercussions that would result from such a ruling in the states, Congress, the White House, and the courts.

THE MISSION OF MATTHEW BOGDANOS

Bogdanos, a classical scholar, Marine Corps Reserves colonel, middle-weight boxer, and Manhattan assistant district attorney, headed the interagency counterterrorism team that recovered about 5,500 artifacts out of the 14,000 that were looted from the Iraq Museum. While the museum's records and resources were "woefully lacking," Bogdanos found the international community's "response and commitment to stopping the flow of illegal antiquities no less inadequate," and contends that "by cracking down on the trade in illegal antiquities, law enforcement agencies would also uncover weapons and evidence of terrorist activity."

Government Sources:

[Independent Judiciary Protects Rights and Liberties of Citizens Separation of powers and the courts focus of Democracy Dialogues webchat](#)

It is especially challenging for courts and judges to serve as a check on the powers of presidents and prime ministers in countries where the judiciary is not considered a separate institution, said Louis Fisher, a legal expert at the Library of Congress, at a Democracy Dialogues webchat May 31.

[Police, Lawmakers Targeting Human Trafficking Worldwide U.S. State Department annual report cites progress in fight against trafficking](#)

More nations around the world are enacting laws to prevent human trafficking and prosecuting people who engage in this form of 21st century slavery, according to *Trafficking in Persons Report* released by the U.S. State Department June 5. The world's most comprehensive survey on human-trafficking activities found that courts handed down more than 4,700 convictions for trafficking-related crimes in 2005, increasing from about 3,000 the year before.

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Commercial Sources:

THE SNAKEHEAD: THE CRIMINAL ODYSSEY OF CHINATOWN'S SISTER PING

Illegal migration from China to the U.S. burst into public view in 1993 with the wreck of the tramp steamer Golden Venture; at least ten people died. This was not an isolated incident but part of a large human smuggling business run by "snakehead" Ping Jia, known in the U.S. as Sister Ping. The article details the nearly twenty year saga of Chinese criminal networks, operating in the U.S. and in China, that illegally transport people, at great personal risk, hardship, and expense, from China to the United States. Today Sister Ping is serving a 35-year prison sentence, and several of her associates are dead, murdered by rival gang members.

THIS LEAKY WORLD

Powers, a National Journal columnist, describes how democracies in various parts of the world are dealing with questions about anonymous sources, the law, and the press. While Americans tend to see the problem as peculiar to the U.S., he points out that Australia has recently enacted anti-terrorism legislation that some observers see as already having a "chilling effect on the news." In Mexico, the government has passed a law which allows journalists to protect their sources because of the danger from drug cartels and gangs. A recent court case in Japan allowed some journalists to protect their sources. Powers concludes, "Freedom of the press is a delicate dance, a never-ending series of judgment calls. The more tightly a society ... tries to define that freedom, the harder it becomes for journalists to do their jobs."

Government Sources:

Rule of Law An Essential Component to Democracy
Concept helps prevent corruption, arbitrary rule by autocrats

The French philosopher Montesquieu wrote that the law of the land "should be like death, which spares no one." The idea that the highest officials are subject to the same legal restrictions and requirements that must be followed by the most vulnerable in society is known broadly as "the rule of law."

The concept is considered indispensable for a democracy. Living under the rule of law, as opposed to the rule of an individual or a group, prevents the government from exercising any authority outside the country's written laws, which were enacted under established legal procedures.

Law Enforcement in Americas Requires Coordination, Says Gonzales
U.S. attorney general cites need for transnational cooperation to combat crime, terrorism

Law enforcement officials throughout the Western Hemisphere must continue to coordinate efforts to ensure an effective "multinational response to the transnational threat of terrorism and organized crime," says U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.

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Commercial Sources:

PRO-LIFE NATION

Among the countries of the world that have moved to criminalize abortion, the author notes that El Salvador is "in the vanguard" -- not only is abortion forbidden under any circumstance, but there is an active law-enforcement apparatus, including police, medical investigators and special prosecutors charged with trying and convicting abortion practitioners and women suspected to have had abortions. After El Salvador's long civil war ended in the early 1990s, conservative politicians revisited various social issues, and with the help of a newly-appointed Catholic archbishop, pushed through sweeping anti-abortion legislation.

LOSING SERVICE-ORIENTED POLICE

One useful measure of the relative freedom of a given country is found in the way its citizens view the police. In dictatorships, the police are ubiquitous, and universally feared. Similar conditions prevail in "Banana Republics," where the police are usually too busy conniving in officially sanctioned crime to help those victimized by private criminals. Grigg discusses how state and local police departments, once independent and locally accountable, are succumbing to centralized control through myriad federal grants.

Government Sources:

Homeland Security Chief To Discuss Illegal Migration on Asia Trip Chertoff says cooperation vital to control smuggling, illegal immigration

On his first visit to Asia as the secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff plans to tackle the issue of illegal immigration and human smuggling.

At a March 23 meeting of the Council on Foreign Relations, a nonpartisan membership organization, in New York, Chertoff said the problem demands cooperation from the international community and from countries where migrants originate.

U.S., Canadian Authorities Crack Human Smuggling Gang Indian, Pakistani nationals illegally entering North America

U.S. and Canadian authorities have announced the breakup of a human smuggling enterprise suspected of illegally bringing dozens of Indian and Pakistani nationals through Canada into the United States.

A federal grand jury in Seattle indicted 14 suspects for their role in the scheme, after an investigation of more than a year, according to an April 12 press release from the U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE). The authorities have 12 suspects in custody and two more are being sought.

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Commercial Sources:

STOLEN LIVES

The most vulnerable victims of identity theft are the people whose personal financial information is stolen. For them, identity theft can wreak havoc with their lives, even though federal and state laws limit their liability for charges made in their name that they can prove were fraudulent. The San Diego-based Identity Theft Resource Center estimates that it takes the average person 175 hours and \$800 to repair the mess caused by an instance of identity theft. Under current federal and state laws, individuals have little recourse to seek damages for their losses.

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD LAUNCHED

Concord, Kannapolis, and Cabarrus County Law Enforcement Officers and the Cabarrus County District Attorney's Office have joined together to launch Project Safe Neighborhood. As part of this program officers will join with various local and state organizations to take repeat offenders of gun related crimes and either rehabilitate them or place them in federal prisons. Concord is now one of 21 cities in North Carolina participating in this program.

Government Sources:

Development Banks Must Step Up Corruption Fight, Official Says **Treasury's Lowery cites importance of good governance, measurable results**

Multilateral development banks (MDBs) have more work to do in making sure the money they spend improves good governance in the recipient countries and produces measurable results, a U.S. Treasury Department official says.

Fact Sheet: President Bush Signs the Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act, **March 16, 2006**

The Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act protects the work of American innovators, strengthens the rule of law, and helps keep American families safe. Counterfeiting Hurts Businesses, Workers, Consumers, Government, And Our National Security. In recent years, the problem of counterfeiting has grown rapidly. Counterfeiting costs America hundreds of billions of dollars a year and has harmful effects throughout the economy. Fake products can expose consumers to serious health and safety risks. Government loses out on tax revenues and is forced to divert law enforcement from other purposes.

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Commercial Sources:

WHY THE PATRIOT ACT NEEDS TO BE REAUTHORIZED

Specifically, the Patriot Act allows federal agents to follow sophisticated terrorists trained to evade detection; to conduct investigations without tipping off terrorists; and to ask a court for an order to obtain business records in national security terrorism cases. In the past, law enforcement personnel were required to obtain a series of search warrants, one by one, from a series of different judges everywhere suspected terrorists may be hiding documents about planned attacks or other evidence.

MAP QUEST

While one respected study demonstrated that using a crime mapping program was five times as likely to predict a serial crime than manual methods, the simplest methods have been shown to be as effective as more expensive, sophisticated programs. This article covers current geographic information systems (GIS) research and the transfer of the technology for practical use.

Government Sources:

U.S. Envoy Praises Bush State of the Union Remarks on Immigration
Ambassador Antonio Garza urges secure U.S.-Mexican border with "open doors"

The United States wants a secure border with Mexico, "with open doors," that is capable of allowing for trade between the two countries at legal entry points, says Antonio Garza, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico.

In a January 31 statement, Garza praised the comments President Bush made that evening during his State of the Union speech on immigration reform. Garza said Bush's comments showcased the U.S. desire for a border that allows Mexican workers to legally enter and work in the United States.

Equal Protection Essential Component of Rule of Law
Constitutional rights ensure all people in United States are treated equally

Equal protection under the law is a fundamental component of the rule of law and ensures that all federal and state laws are applied to citizens of the United States equally, regardless of their race, religion, gender or minority status. This tenet has been the catalyst for much of the social progress made in the United States in the 20th century.

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Commercial Sources:

COMMUNITY ORIENTED PUBLIC SAFETY: THE LONG BEACH EXPERIENCE

As policing continues into the 21st century, agencies worldwide plot uncharted courses in their search to provide the enduring core services expected of police organizations--reducing and preventing crime in communities. In this regard, most departments now know the community oriented public safety (COPS) philosophy, a concept that evolved out of the order maintenance theory of the 1980s and community policing concepts of the 1990s. Renaud details how the city of Long Beach CA, in spite of the obstacles, has been successfully integrating the COPS philosophy at all levels of the organization.

NOTES FOR THE OCCASIONAL MAJOR CASE MANAGER

Day-to-day administrative responsibilities consume the time of most law enforcement managers, causing them to lose touch with the tactical and strategic aspects of criminal investigations. Many do not directly respond to crime scenes and seldom manage investigations. Here, Rothwell discusses the importance of brief reacquaintance with basic investigative concepts that will help managers react to major crime incidents with increased confidence by knowing what to do initially, as well as through familiarity with case management practices that enhance opportunities for investigative success.

Government Sources:

**U.S. Law Enforcement Steps Up Hunt for Human Traffickers
2,300 smuggling, trafficking convictions since 2003, ICE reports**

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) reports it has made 5,400 arrests and obtained 2,300 convictions in cases of human trafficking and smuggling since 2003.

The January 9 announcement came as President Bush signed the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, renewing the U.S. commitment to eradicating the crime of human smuggling.

**European Parliament Warns of Human Trafficking at World Cup
European body cites State Department report on trafficking problem**

The European Parliament is warning about the trafficking of women and children during the 2006 World Cup of Soccer, being hosted by Germany. Soccer's world championship, in which teams from the United States and 31 other countries will compete from June 9 through July 9, is expected to attract not only soccer fans from all over the world but also traffickers of human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

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Commercial Sources:

IT'S THE ILLICIT ECONOMY, STUPID

The anti-money-laundering laws that many countries enacted after September 11, 2001, have done little to stem the global flow of illicit funds, says Naim. In fact, he points out, money launderers face only a 5 percent chance of being convicted; governments have failed to stop a wide range of illegal commerce, which today is valued at \$400 to \$600 billion a year. Three of the most profitable of these enterprises are the illegal arms trade (\$10 billion), international human trafficking (\$10 billion) and stolen art (\$3 billion). In the last decade, Naim reports, all of these illegal international trades have grown in size and scope. Since 1990, money laundering has grown at least twofold, reaching \$1 to \$1.5 trillion today as the criminals become more sophisticated.

PHOTO CHOP SHOP

Digital forensics has emerged as a growth industry to combat the ease with which images can be manipulated and altered with software programs like Photoshop. Recent cases of newspapers doctoring photos, coupled with the concern that digitally altered images could be used as court evidence, led Polytechnic University computer scientist Nasir Memon to join the effort to expose digital alterations. One method of detecting tampering, known as digital watermarking, adds identifying data to an image, which is corrupted when the image is altered in any way, though the process is costly and not widely practiced. Because not every photo submitted in court has a digital watermark, digital forensics can be used to determine if an image has been altered and then match it to the camera used to take the picture.

Government Sources:

Rule of Law Is Key to Advancing Democracy, Rice Says

United States will continue to aid countries in strengthening rule of law

Governments must support and promote the rule of law in their countries if democracy and freedom are to take hold, according to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. "The advance of freedom and the success of democracy and the flourishing of human potential all depend on governments that honor and enforce the rule of law," Rice tells the American Bar Association's International Rule of Law Symposium.

United States Joins U.N. Anti-Trafficking Protocol

Action coincides with International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

The United States on December 3 will become an official party to the U.N. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, the State Department says. The agreement, also known as the Palermo Protocol, seeks to prevent trafficking, protect victims and promote anti-trafficking cooperation among nations, the department said in a December 1 media note.

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Commercial Sources:

CASES AND CONTROVERSIES

Neil, a lawyer and writer for the ABA Journal, discusses judges' role in hearing "cases and controversies." The title, "Cases and Controversies," is what the Constitution says that judges decide, but judges also decide rights, according to Ted Olson, former US Solicitor General. The public, Congress, and losing parties in judicial decisions argue that judges and their decisions have over-reached their intended powers. Neil discusses important, emotional cases that have reached the courts and a new commission designed to educate the American public about the appropriate structure of government.

WHIPSAWED ON THE BORDER

The author notes that illegal immigrants now outnumber the legal ones along the U.S.-Mexico border, particularly in the Sonora Desert area in Arizona, estimating that three illegal aliens get through for every one that is caught. Patrolling the border has become more difficult, because of lack of equipment, reduced Congressional funding and increased violence from organized criminal smuggling rings.

OH BEHAVE! CONGRESS'S RECENT EFFORTS TO PUNISH FEDERAL JUDGES FLOUT THE CONSTITUTION; IT SAYS SO IN THE GOOD BEHAVIOR CLAUSE

The Good Behavior Clause in the Constitution guarantees judges the right to keep their positions based on just that, "good behavior." The framers saw the Constitution as the mechanism to guarantee an independent judiciary, in which federal judges would be removable only by impeachment (requiring a Senate trial).

Government Sources:

U.S. Welcomes Ecuador's Re-establishment of Supreme Court State Department says people of Ecuador are beneficiaries of action

U.S. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack says the people of Ecuador are the Beneficiaries of this "transparent and objective selection of new justices for a re-established Court."

Rule of Law Is Key to Advancing Democracy, Rice Says United States will continue to aid countries in strengthening rule of law

Governments must support and promote the rule of law in their countries if democracy and freedom are to take hold, according to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. "The advance of freedom and the success of democracy and the flourishing of human potential all depend on governments that honor and enforce the rule of law," Rice tells the American Bar Association's International Rule of Law Symposium.

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EIGHT QUESTIONS ABOUT CORRUPTION

According to the author, the most devastating forms of corruption include the diversion and outright theft of funds for public programs and the damage caused by firms and by individuals that pay bribes to avoid health and safety regulations intended to benefit the public. Corruption is also widespread in public procurement and service delivery programs. The author discusses what he considers to be the most frequently asked questions about public corruption. The answers are often not clear-cut and there are still many issues about corruption that we know little about. Also, most anticorruption programs rely on legal and financial institutions (judiciary, police, auditors) to enforce and strengthen accountability in the public sector but in many poor countries, the legal and financial institutions are often corrupt themselves.

THE INVISIBLE BANKERS

One of the most difficult and frustrating aspects of battling international terrorism is following the flow of money that supports it. Funds used to underwrite terror frequently start off "clean" and become "dirty" much later. The sheer size of the global financial industry has confounded prosecutors' attempts at untangling the illegal use of money transfers from the innocent one of sending money home for relatives' living expenses. Tracing any of the money to an individual in a remote corner of the world is all but impossible, and just as U.S. and other Western investigators clamp down on one sort of mechanism, terrorists figure out a new scheme.

Government Sources:

President Bush Proclaims National Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2005

"Domestic violence is a great evil and an offense against human dignity that shatters lives and robs children of their innocence. Where it occurs, homes are transformed into places of danger and despair. During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we renew our commitment to preventing domestic violence. "

**U.S. Officials Outline Efforts To Curb Illegal Immigration
Homeland Security's Chertoff urges three-tiered approach to address problem**

Illegal immigration is a severe and growing problem, and the United States is taking aggressive and innovative steps to address it, says U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff. In October 18 testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Chertoff told lawmakers that ending illegal immigration requires tough law enforcement, as well as action to reduce the demand that draws illegal migrants into the country.

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Commercial Sources:

THE FUTURE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT SAFETY TRAINING IN THE FACE OF TERRORISM

The 9/11 tragedy caused a reexamination of training philosophies concerning law enforcement safety. The Future of Law Enforcement Safety Training in the Face of Terrorism conference examined two areas of law enforcement training, namely, issues regarding traditional training in law enforcement and the need to develop new and innovative ways to implement law enforcement safety issues in training curricula.

THE PATROL OFFICER: AMERICA'S INTELLIGENCE ON THE GROUND

Law enforcement officers constitute an effective resource in the light against terrorism. To be able to continue their protective role to ensure a safe future for all law-abiding individuals, officers need to study the modus operandi of the terrorists in other nations and determine ways in preventing and reacting to terrorist violence.

Government Sources:

U.S. Congress Cites Growing World Problem of "Street Children"

House Africa Subcommittee Chairman Smith calls it a "plague"

More than 100 million children worldwide are living hand-to-mouth, bereft of family and homes, and are "particularly vulnerable to abuse" in countries as wide-ranging as Uganda, Zimbabwe, Brazil and the Philippines, Representative Christopher Smith, chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Africa Subcommittee said September 13.

United States Welcomes Report on IRA Disarmament

Decommissioning is opportunity to move towards political settlement

The White House welcomed a September 26 statement by the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning (IICD) that the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) has comprehensively and verifiably disarmed, calling it "an historic day for Northern Ireland."

The IRA pledged on July 28 to end its armed campaign and resume disarmament, and to achieve its goals.

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Commercial Sources:

THE COMING PARADIGM SHIFT IN FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION SCIENCE

Converging legal and scientific forces are pushing the traditional forensic identification sciences toward fundamental change. At the core of these fields -- which include handwriting, fingerprints, footprints, shoe prints, bullet markings, tool marks, hair, tire marks, bite marks and blood spatter -- is the assumption that each of these marks is discernibly unique. But there is increasing evidence of errors in proficiency testing and in actual cases.

FIGHTING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF SMALL ARMS

Terrorist groups are dealing in small arms on a global scale, and combating this trade is critical to the U.S. campaign against extremism. Arms brokers operate freely because they are able to circumvent national arms controls and international arms embargoes or to obtain official protection. Stohl argues that policing the illicit trafficking in small arms cannot be done in a vacuum or by the United States unilaterally. Other countries must also develop stronger controls over the legal sales and illicit trade of small arms.

Government Sources:

U.S., Mexico Increasing Efforts To Prosecute Human Traffickers

Initiative seeks to save lives of migrants entering southwestern United States

The United States and Mexico are stepping up efforts to prosecute human-trafficking organizations that prey on migrants crossing over the Mexican border into the southwestern U.S. states of California, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas. In an August 17 statement, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency said the United States and Mexico are forming a new program that fights "the threat that organized crime and human trafficking organizations present to both countries."

Indictments Made in Case Involving U.S.-Honduran Smuggling Ring

Young Honduran women lured into forced-labor jobs in United States

A U.S. immigration agency has broken up a smuggling ring that lured young women from Honduras into the United States for forced-labor jobs.

In a July 21 statement, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency announced that it had indicted 10 alleged members of the ring, which operated in the United States and Honduras.

United States, Canada Dismantle Smuggling Organization

More than \$4 million in counterfeit currency seized in undercover operations

Two international undercover operations that targeted overseas smugglers have resulted in the dismantling of a criminal organization that sought to export counterfeit currency, drugs, weapons and other contraband to the United States, according to U.S. officials.

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IN BRIEF...

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Views expressed in the articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect U.S. government

Commercial Sources:

CHICAGO CITES REASONS FOR DIP IN YOUTH CRIME

Chicago Police Superintendent Philip J. Cline said a comprehensive effort to reduce violence that began two years ago has cut the homicide rate by 27% and shootings by 25%. Cline said, the steady progress is due in part to a series of violent-crime reduction strategies that include high-intensity patrols and saturating areas most prone to violent crime.

COPS, LIES AND VIDEOTAPES

The recent proliferation in law enforcement-related videotapes on newscasts makes the issue of recording police responses more critical, as well as more problematic. From helicopters following pursuits to the handcuffing of a small child, it's not unusual to find candid cameras recording the action - even cell phones can be used. This can be both a blessing and a curse.

IN BRIEF: FTC TO GET ID-THEFT INFO FROM BIG BANKS

A group of large financial companies announced a partnership on Tuesday with the Federal Trade Commission to provide law enforcement agencies with up-to-date information on identity-theft cases. Each week the Identity Theft Assistance Center, which has 48 members, will send the FTC information it collects from identity theft victims. The information will include the consumer's name, address, and other personal detail, along with any information the consumer provided about how the crime occurred.

L.A.'s NEW MAYOR NEEDS TO WORRY ABOUT THE BORDER

One of America's most dangerous gangs is the 18th Street gang based in Los Angeles. According to state and local law enforcement, illegal immigrants constitute a large majority of the gang's estimated 30,000 members. The 18th Street gang not only recruits recently arrived illegal immigrants, but it also has organized smuggling operations to bring in illegal immigrants from Mexico who pay off their "transportation" costs by working as drug dealers for the gang.

Government Sources:

U.S., Canadian Police Cooperate in Border Tunnel Arrests
Three men charged for smuggling marijuana across border

Three men are under arrest in Seattle, charged with marijuana distribution and import using an elaborately constructed tunnel under the U.S.- Canada border, authorities announced July 21. The tunnel is about 110 meters long running from British Columbia, Canada, into Washington State, according to a press release from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). A Quonset hut hid the entrance on the Canadian side, and the American entrance was beneath the floor of a house in Lynden, Washington.

Head of Homeland Security Department Says More Changes Coming
Chertoff lists four additional changes, four guiding principles

Speaking at a Washington conference on excellence in government July 25, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said a "second-stage review" of the agency -- which was amalgamated from 22 separate federal entities by the Bush administration in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks -- indicates the need for additional steps.

"We have to measure our success in terms of the outcomes we produce," Chertoff said. Ordinary citizens don't care about process, he said; they care about their safety while going about their daily lives.

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Commercial Sources:

AN INSIDE LOOK

Careless recounts the new Internet-connected surveillance cameras deployed in Spotsylvania VA's schools for security purposes. With this equipment in place, any first responder equipped with a wireless-capable laptop computer can not only access these feeds live, but switch between them at will using a Web browser.

COMPSTAT FOR SMALLER DEPARTMENTS

Dorriety discusses why the decrease in crime was directly linked to the New York's use of CompStat. The philosophy behind the CompStat program is four-fold: the program requires accurate and timely intelligence for effective crime fighting to occur; the program develops effective tactics and strategies; the program provides rapid deployment of personnel and resources; and all phases of the program require relentless follow-up and assessment.

DISCRETION IS VALOR IN TRAFFIC STOPS

Discretion is the better part of valor, especially for police officers making motor vehicle stops. Sharp shares why the results of a recent author-conducted survey indicate that discretion is a vital part of law enforcement operations.

Government Sources:

The United States and International Civilian Policing (CIVPOL)

The CIVPOL Mission

Civilian police (CIVPOL) from over 50 countries are deployed around the globe in support of international peacekeeping operations. Their presence promotes peace and stability in areas recovering from conflict and their efforts to develop modern, democratic indigenous police forces help to ensure that peace and stability can be sustained, even after international peacekeepers depart.

U.S. Indicts Suspect Involved with Colombian Terrorist Group Colombian accused of drug trafficking, illegal arms shipments

U.S. law enforcement authorities have indicted a Colombian national for importing illicit drugs into the United States and for supplying firearms to a right-wing terrorist organization known as the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC).

U.S. Says Marijuana, Opium Cultivation Dropped in Mexico in 2004
Mexico said to continue intensive effort against marijuana crop

The cultivation of marijuana and opium poppy in Mexico declined between 2003 and 2004, says the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

In a June 20 statement, the ONDCP said marijuana cultivation fell 23 percent during that time period -- an estimated 5,800 hectares in 2004, down from 7,500 hectares in 2003. Meanwhile, opium poppy cultivation declined 27 percent in 2004, to an estimated 3,500 hectares, down from 4,800 hectares in 2003.

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Commercial Sources:

Database Aids Fight Against Crime

The National Retail Federation is building a database that retailers and **law-enforcement** agencies can access to gather information on organized retail crime and petty theft. The Retail Loss Prevention Intelligence Network database, referred to as RL-PIN, will allow retailers to look at potential trends at the local, state, and federal level to see what types of items are being stolen and where. **Law-enforcement** agencies and retailers will be able to search the data using keywords to find information on specific regions, stores, and even brands. The FBI and local **law-enforcement** agencies are providing guidance as the National Retail Federation develops RL-PIN.

Can Citizen Police Academies Influence Citizens' Beliefs and Perceptions?

Citizen police academies (CPA) are frequently seen in law enforcement agencies throughout America in the present. Here, Becton et al discuss the telephone survey by the Center for Government and Public Affairs of residents of the commonwealth of Virginia in their perceptions of police services. They found that the perceptions of those who participate in CPAs may already be somewhat positive, by design, which would skew the data in a positive direction.

The Senior Services Officer

Seniors are often a forgotten population in police work, yet they are at risk from crime, declining living conditions, and isolation. In Largo, located on the west coast of Florida, the police department is working to change this through the creation of a Senior Service Officer position.

Justices Decline to Rule on Limits for Drug-Sniffing Dogs

The Supreme Court in recent years has drawn constitutional rules for the use of newly popular law enforcement techniques. The police need a warrant before aiming a heat-detecting device at a private home in an effort to find out whether marijuana is growing inside under high-intensity lights. The police do not need a warrant before permitting a trained dog to sniff a car, or a piece of luggage at an airport, in order to detect drugs.

Government Sources:

U.S. Authorities Break Online Drug-Trafficking Ring

Arrests of 20 people made in United States, four foreign countries

U.S. law enforcement agencies are announcing arrests in connection with an online drug-trafficking ring peddling pharmaceuticals such as steroids, narcotics and amphetamines, according to an April 20 press release from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

United States Remains Committed to Aiding Colombia, Rice Says

Secretary affirms U.S. support of efforts to fight terrorism, illegal drugs

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice says the United States will continue to help Colombia by providing \$600 million to the Andean nation in 2005 to combat terrorism and drug trafficking, to improve the security of Colombian citizens and to promote democracy and human rights.

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Commercial Sources:

Out of the Past

Over the years Jerry Mitchell, a prize-winning investigative journalist for the Clarion-Ledger in Jackson, Mississippi, has helped bring many civil-rights crimes from 40-50 years ago to light, and his investigations has helped put many murderers behind bars. Mitchell's most famous case was the work he did to track down the killer of NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers. Mitchell's persistence and determination brought Ku Klux Klan member Byron de la Beckwith to trial in 1989, where he was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison. Mitchell has dug through thousands of files, and brought many more unsolved civil rights murders to justice.

The Verdict on Juries

Carter, a senior writer for the ABA Journal, describes jury reform initiatives going on at the state level. The American Bar Association has created 19 standards to reform the present jury system. These standards are ideals that court systems should try to achieve and some of the changes are as mundane as permitting note-taking by jurors, allowing jurors to ask questions, and requiring unanimous verdicts. The National Center for State Courts is examining the changes and reporting that most participants view the changes favorably.

The Condemned

State and local governments in the U.S., as well as the federal government, have long used the law of eminent domain to take property for the "public good," such as building roads and schools, and reimburse the owners for fair market value. Governments have also taken land on behalf of private interests -- the U.S. relied heavily on condemnations to build the railroad industry in the nineteenth century, since it was deemed a valuable industry for economic development. In recent decades, however, state and local governments have increasingly used the power of eminent domain to condemn neighborhoods deemed blighted or run-down, to lease to private companies for "upscale" commercial or residential development, to bolster tax revenues. The author describes the growing controversy over the use of eminent domain for private interests, and provides a chronology of court cases.

Government Sources:

Anticorruption Initiatives

The Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs is committed to strengthening the international fight against corruption. In recent years, INL has pursued a mix of diplomatic and programmatic efforts to attain four primary international anticorruption goals.

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Commercial Sources:

President Seeks Increases in Funds to Combat Family Violence, Child Porn

Pres Bush asked Congress to increase Justice Department resources to combat domestic violence and crimes against children. The proposals for funding to assist programs that benefit crime victims runs counter to many other requests for state and local law enforcement, which the president would sharply curtail. In furtherance of protection for women and children, the president said his administration would continue to raise the profile of programs that combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation of immigrant women and girls.

State, County Law Enforcers Gear Up For Human-Trafficking Prosecutions; Attorney General Forms Task Force as Criminal Legislation Nears Passage

Deputy Attorney General Linda Rinaldi, the director of the task force, said its main goal is to teach law enforcement to distinguish criminals who should be locked up from innocent people subjected to involuntary servitude. The distinction is often complicated by language and cultural barriers and by victims' fear of authorities due to threats from traffickers, experiences in their home countries and their illegal status here.

Government Sources:

Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs

The Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) advises the President, Secretary of State, other bureaus in the Department of State, and other departments and agencies within the U.S. Government on the development of policies and programs to combat international narcotics and crime. The bureau is headed by Assistant Secretary [Robert B. Charles](#) under the direction of the Under Secretary for Global Affairs.

[The 2005 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report](#) (INCSR) describes the efforts of key countries to attack all aspects of the international drug trade in calendar year 2004. Volume I covers drug and chemical control activities. Volume II covers money laundering and financial crimes. [[Special briefing](#)]

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