

Highlights

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“Information Sharing” Remains a Priority for Justice Practitioners Across the Nation

The [2010 National Forum on Criminal Justice & Public Safety](#) (held August 1–3) recently wrapped, culminating another successful annual Forum event. Sponsored by the National Criminal Justice Association ([NCJA](#), a [Global](#) member agency), the [IJIS Institute](#) (Global’s long-standing industry partner), and the Bureau of Justice Assistance ([BJA](#), Global’s guiding federal agency), the Forum brings together justice and public safety practitioners with leaders from local, state, tribal, and federal governments and the private sector in a neutral venue to share real-life solutions that are working across the country. A standing agenda item is convening regional caucuses, providing participants a chance to meet with local colleagues to define the issues and priorities they face and discuss how neighbors are meeting these challenges. The identified priorities also provide valuable input in support of strategic planning: NCJA uses the information to guide its work over the course of the coming year, and BJA strongly considered the feedback when identifying the 15 topic areas that shape the agency’s [Justice Information Sharing: A 2010–2012 Strategic Action Plan](#) (see “Featured Downloads”).

The following are the “top justice and public safety issues for the next year,” as voted by Forum attendees. While enhanced justice information sharing can be assumed to play a key role in addressing each of the priorities, it is noteworthy that aspects of “information sharing” are explicitly enumerated by two of the four regions, underscoring that more than ever, **efforts of Global volunteers are necessary, relevant, and valuable** to colleagues in the field:

- Northeast:
 - Prisoner reentry/coordination of associated services
 - Mental health issues (i.e., the impact on/treatment by the justice system)
 - Competition for grants between large and small agencies
- Midwest:
 - Educating decision makers on evidence-based policy
 - Justice reinvestment
 - The system approach: “getting everyone to the table”

- South:
 - State and local criminal justice planning
 - Managing data/information sharing among agencies to address law enforcement- and victim-related issues (emphasizing an increase in collaboration between communities)
 - State budget deficits and the impact on public safety
- West:
 - Criminal justice information sharing
 - Offender assessment, treatment, and services
 - Identity theft and immigration (in the context of public safety and law enforcement efforts)

Congratulations to Global Member Bart R. Johnson

On August 4, Mr. Bart R. Johnson, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, U.S. Department of Homeland Security ([DHS](#)), was presented the DHS Medal of Distinguished Service by Secretary Janet Napolitano. The accompanying citation read, in part: “In recognition of exceptionally distinguished and transformational public service to strengthen homeland security, you personify the most honorable traditions of service in support of the Department of Homeland Security and the Nation.” In his past post as Colonel with the New York State Police, Mr. Johnson provided leadership to Global as the Global Advisory Committee (GAC) Vice Chair and Chair of the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC) and Global Intelligence Working Group (GIWG). He now represents DHS on the GAC. Per current CICC/GIWG Chair Ronald Brooks: “Bart is a tireless worker, a patriot, a man of great integrity, and a person who never forgot his service as a police officer and New York State Trooper.”



*Pictured: Mrs. Johnson (Maryann);
Bart R. Johnson; Secretary Napolitano.*