



Division of Criminal Justice Services

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT **2024**

Kathy Hochul
Governor

Rossana Rosado
Commissioner

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services

This report fulfills the statutory requirement detailed in
New York State Executive Law §§837(4)(a) and 837(12).

Prepared by the staff of the



**Division of
Criminal Justice
Services**

www.criminaljustice.ny.gov

Table of Contents

Agency Overview	1
DCJS Operations by the Numbers	2
Major Initiatives and Accomplishments	3
Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE)	3
Retail Theft	4
Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE)	4
Crime Analysis Center Network	5
Support of SNUG Street Outreach	5
Project RISE (Respond, Invest, Sustain, and Empower)	6
Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes (SCAHC)	6
Probation, Alternatives to Incarceration and Re-entry	7
Youth Justice	7
Support for Criminal Justice Stakeholders	9
Public Safety Events	11
<i>Public Safety Symposium</i>	
<i>Elevating Equity and Fostering Healing in the Youth Justice System Conference</i>	
<i>SNUG Street Outreach Annual Conference</i>	
Data Transparency	12
Justice Lab	12
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility	12
Police Reform and Procedural Justice	13
Appendix A: Criminal Justice Policy and Advisory Boards	16
Appendix B: Statutorily Required Reports and Data Files	19

Agency Overview

The Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) has a mission to enhance safety within New York State communities by providing resources and services that inform decision making and improve the quality and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. As a multi-function support agency, DCJS plays a key role in ensuring criminal justice partners across the state have the resources they need to effectively combat crime and improve public safety.

DCJS maintains the state's criminal history records and fingerprint files and performs background checks for employment and licensure. The agency also administers the state's Sex Offender Registry; the Missing Persons Clearinghouse; the state's DNA Databank in cooperation with the New York State Police Forensic Investigation Center; and provides staff support to independently appointed commissions and councils, including the New York State Commission on Forensic Science, which monitors and accredits the state's forensic laboratories.

DCJS assists local government and not-for-profit partners in numerous ways, with a focus on the following key areas:

- Crime reduction, with an emphasis on reducing shootings and firearm-related homicides;
- Criminal justice grant administration;
- Criminal justice research and analysis;
- Programs that aim to reduce recidivism;
- Probation Department and Alternative to Incarceration funding and oversight;
- Youth justice funding and coordination;
- Criminal history record management and identification;
- Sex offender registry management;
- Repairing and certifying speed enforcement and Breathalyzer equipment;
- Ignition Interlock Program administration and regulation;
- Forensic services; and
- Law enforcement training, accreditation and support.

DCJS also collects, analyzes and publishes criminal and youth justice system data, including incidents of crime, arrests and dispositions. Data reported by local police departments, sheriffs' offices, probation departments and the state Office of Court Administration is compiled and made available on the DCJS [website](#) to provide the public and policy makers with important information about how the criminal justice system is operating in their communities.

The following Annual Performance Report outlines the core services provided and summarizes initiatives supported by DCJS during calendar year 2024.



Fingerprint & Criminal History Operations



415,778

ARREST
FINGERPRINT
REQUESTS

792,051

CIVIL
FINGERPRINT
REQUESTS



OPEN 24/7

Maintained Sex Offender Registry



1,530

NEW REGISTRATIONS

27,048

ADDRESS CHANGES

33,638

SEARCHES



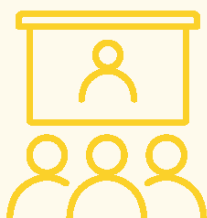
1,832

CASES OF MISSING CHILDREN,
COLLEGE STUDENTS OR
VULNERABLE ADULTS



366,580

DOMESTIC INCIDENT REPORTS
(DIRs) PROCESSED INTO
DIR REPOSITORY



43,000

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PROFESSIONALS TRAINED,
VIRTUALLY OR IN-PERSON



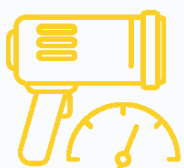
DNA HITS REPORTED TO LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

3,219

STATE
MATCHES

179

FEDERAL
MATCHES



7,000

ROADWAY SAFETY
INSTRUMENTS REPAIRED OR
CERTIFIED FOR LOCAL LEOS



303

STATISTICAL INQUIRIES FROM
PUBLIC, MEDIA, RESEARCHERS,
AND GOVERNMENT

Major Initiatives and Accomplishments

Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE)

In 2024, the state launched the Statewide Targeted Reductions in Intimate Partner Violence (STRIVE) initiative. STRIVE is modeled after the state's Gun-Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative and requires that partners in each identified county develop a comprehensive plan to reduce intimate partner violence using one or more evidence-based strategies. These include a domestic violence high-risk team model, lethality assessment program, or intimate partner violence intervention. STRIVE partners are required to actively involve community members and programs that serve victims and survivors in strategy selection and implementation.

The following 20 localities were identified for participation based on the volume and rate of domestic and intimate partner violence in their counties: Albany, Broome, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Cortland, Dutchess, Erie, Fulton, Genesee, Jefferson, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Suffolk, and Westchester. Participants will receive \$23 million in funding to support this initiative.

Counties participating in STRIVE will also receive training and technical assistance to implement their plans and chosen strategy or strategies and can access crime analysis, intelligence development and investigative support from the state's network of 11 Crime Analysis Centers to identify perpetrators and build effective cases for prosecution.

In addition to STRIVE, several other actions to reduce intimate partner violence were undertaken:

- District attorneys' offices in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan and Staten Island will receive \$5 million to implement early case enhancement strategies to improve evidence collection, strengthen collaboration between police and prosecutors, and quickly connect survivors with support services. This coordinated, early intervention aims to increase victim safety, strengthen the prosecution of domestic violence cases, and ensure offender accountability.
- A multiagency review led by DCJS, in coordination with OPDV, is underway to modernize the state's current, paper-based Domestic Incident Report (DIR) and state DIR repository for law enforcement. Police officers are required to complete this report whenever they respond to a domestic call, regardless of whether an arrest is made.
- A summit sponsored by DCJS and OPDV was held in October 2024 to educate law enforcement, attorneys, social services staff, gender-based violence services providers, and other local and state professionals about tools to assess danger in intimate partner and domestic violence cases.
- DCJS also works with OPDV and other state agencies to inform local practices through its Domestic Violence Regional Councils, Fatality Reviews, and Survivor Listening Sessions.

Retail Theft

Commercial Security Tax Credit

In 2024, New York State Executive Law §845-E was passed and put into effect, creating the Commercial Security Tax Credit Program. The two-year program establishes a pool of \$5 million in tax credits per calendar year to be issued to eligible businesses, as described in the law.

DCJS staff coordinated with teams in the Department of Taxation and Finance and the Office of Information Technology Services to develop a certification pipeline for submitted applications. The 2024 application was made available on October 2, 2024, with a deadline for receipt of October 31, 2024.

Eligible businesses receive a tax credit equal to \$3,000 for each eligible retail location in New York State. Twenty-eight complete applications were submitted. The volume of applications for the second and final year of the program is anticipated to grow as the public awareness of the program increases.

Additional Funding

\$15 million was designated for District Attorneys' offices and local law enforcement for use in their collective efforts to detect, prevent, deter, and prosecute cases of organized retail theft.

Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE)

The Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative uses evidence-based strategies, data, and proven practices to target violent crime in 28 jurisdictions in the state's 21 urban centers outside of New York City. Most jurisdictions focus efforts on reducing shootings and firearm-related homicides. Where shootings are less frequent but violent crime is still significant, jurisdictions focus their efforts on reducing such crimes using evidence-based strategies. All jurisdictions are required to use problem-oriented policing to analyze crime trends and demonstrate the integration of procedural justice when they request funding or support.

2024 marked the 11th year of this initiative, and while the core structure has remained consistent since its inception, several enhancements were made to further improve the initiative and remain current with contemporary public safety practices. These changes include:

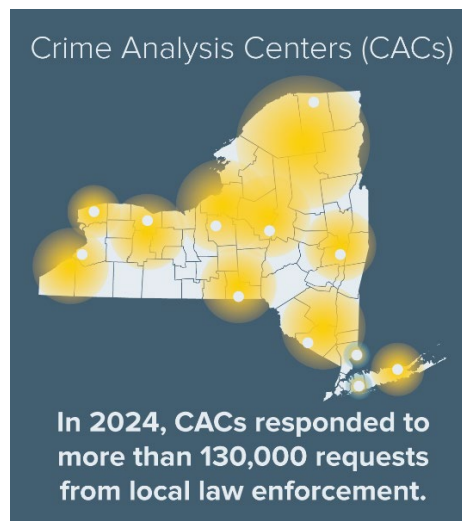
- Enhancing the community engagement requirement for participating agencies.
- Updating crime gun submission requirements.
- Improving non-fatal shooting investigations and community trust building.
- Modifying other requirements to ensure alignment with other violence reduction initiatives.

During 2024, approximately \$36 million was distributed to qualifying jurisdictions, with partner agencies receiving funding for personnel, including prosecutors and crime analysts, in addition to overtime and equipment.



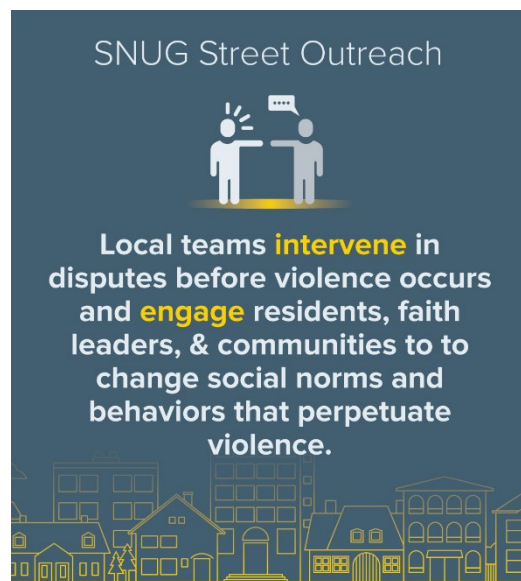
Crime Analysis Center Network

In partnership with local law enforcement agencies, DCJS provides funding and staffing support to a network of [11 Crime Analysis Centers \(CACs\)](#) [across the state](#). Each of these centers is staffed with sworn and civilian crime analysts and field intelligence officers and equipped with software and hardware to quickly capture, analyze, and disseminate law enforcement data and information to assist police and prosecutors. In addition to being connected to one another, the centers in the state-supported network have access to information from locally supported centers in Nassau and Westchester counties. The CACs directly support more than 350 public safety agencies in 59 counties.



Support of SNUG Street Outreach

The SNUG Street Outreach program uses a public health model to address gun violence by identifying the source, interrupting its transmission, and offering services and support to those who wish to change their behavior. SNUG Street Outreach teams engage residents, religious leaders, and the greater community in areas most affected by gun violence to change social norms and behaviors that perpetuate violence.



SNUG outreach workers detect, interrupt, and intervene in high-risk disputes before violence can occur, offering alternatives to violence and dispute resolution. Outreach workers also proactively engage individuals ages 14 to 25 whose current behavior increases their risk of gun violence. During 2024, DCJS provided grants to administer SNUG programs to organizations in 14 communities: Albany, the Bronx, Buffalo, Hempstead, Mt. Vernon, Niagara Falls, Newburgh, Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Syracuse, Troy, Utica, Wyandanch, and Yonkers.

Starting in 2019, DCJS partnered with the New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) to add a comprehensive social work and case management component to each of the SNUG programs. Although SNUG is no longer receiving funding through OVS,

the partnership remains strong. The SNUG program also provides funding to five hospitals: Albany Medical Center, Erie County Medical Center, Jacobi Medical Center, Rochester General Hospital and Syracuse Upstate Hospital. Funding for these hospitals supports social workers, mental health professionals and physicians who provide specialized services to families and victims of gun violence. The SNUG social work and case management program focuses on addressing trauma and providing support to SNUG staff and communities around the state.

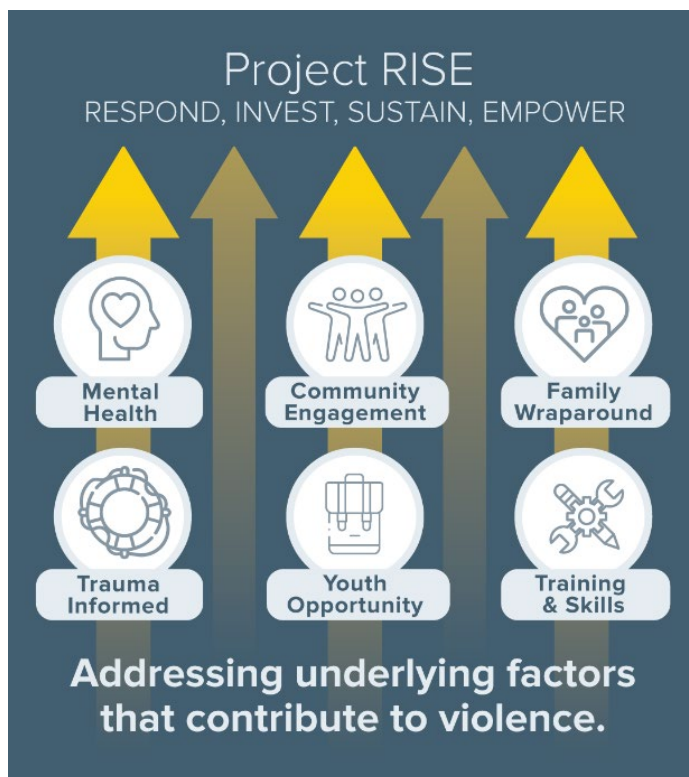
Project RISE (Respond, Invest, Sustain, and Empower)

In 2022, DCJS launched a new effort to address community-based gun violence. Project RISE provides \$20 million to communities impacted by gun violence. Project RISE has two main goals:

Goal 1: Build local capacity to implement and sustain programming to address factors contributing to violence in the community.

Goal 2: Enhance responses to violence within the community through increased community partnerships and programming with a healing and equity lens.

Utilizing a data-driven approach, DCJS partnered with communities in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Albany, Newburgh, Mt. Vernon, and Yonkers to fund prevention and intervention efforts and to address the underlying factors contributing to violence.



To advance equity and build local capacity, Project RISE awarded funding to larger, more established organizations, known as lead organizations, and required the lead organizations to pass through a minimum of 25 percent of the award to smaller, grassroots organizations who might not otherwise qualify. Project RISE also required the lead organizations to provide capacity-building support to the grassroots grantees. As a result, in year two of programming (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), 21 lead organizations and 68 grassroots community-based organizations received funding across the seven jurisdictions, with just over 50 percent of the funding passed on to those smaller organizations.

DCJS engaged with the Youth Justice Institute to conduct a five-year project evaluating the implementation of Project RISE. The first year of the project was completed in 2024, during which DCJS expanded the project with Hempstead, Troy, and Utica each in the planning phase for their \$2 million allocation.

Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes (SCAHC)

In October 2021, DCJS released a request for applications (RFA), making \$25 million available for grants supporting safety and security projects at nonprofit organizations at risk of hate crimes or attacks because of their ideology, beliefs, or mission. Eligible organizations could submit applications for grants of up to \$50,000 per facility, with a maximum of four facilities per organization, for interior and exterior facility hardening projects, physical security

enhancements, and related training. Funding supported 327 projects at 204 organizations. In November 2022, DCJS issued a second RFA, making \$50 million available and allowing up to \$50,000 per applicant to also fund cybersecurity projects. Funding supported 1,082 projects at 440 organizations.

In 2024, DCJS continued to work with grantees to develop and execute grant contracts resulting from previous RFAs. In addition, a third RFA was released in January 2024 making additional funding available. This RFA allowed eligible organizations to submit a single application for up to \$200,000 to support projects at multiple facilities or multiple projects at a single facility. In December 2024, DCJS issued awards through the RFA, funding 338 projects totaling \$64 million.

Probation, Alternatives to Incarceration and Re-entry

In 2024, DCJS's Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) and community corrections re-entry portfolio served over 41,000 participants through 169 programs, supported by approximately \$36 million in local funding. Local assistance grants support the following program models within this portfolio: Recidivism and Incarceration Reduction, Jail-Based Cognitive Behavioral Intervention, Employment Focused Services, County Re-Entry Task Forces, and a range of ATI programs, funded pursuant to New York Executive Law Article 13-A, including pre-trial services, community services, TASC, defender-based advocacy, and behavioral health services. DCJS offers extensive training for provider staff and local probation officials to ensure the effective delivery of high-quality services.

In 2024, the DCJS Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives Interstate Compact Unit managed 5,485 adult interstate probation cases, completing 11,473 transfer activities in the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System (ICOTS) while maintaining over 90 percent compliance in all audit areas. The Unit also managed 218 juvenile probation interstate cases, maintaining 100 percent compliance in all audit areas.

Youth Justice

The Youth Justice Institute (YJI) is a partnership between DCJS, the Office of Children and Family Services, and the University at Albany to improve the practice of youth justice across the state by providing technical assistance, education, training, and research. In 2022, DCJS continued its partnership with the YJI and the Center for Children's Law and Policy and completed the training and technical assistance phase of the New York State Policy Equity Academy. This included virtual learning sessions, with an additional training and technical assistance session regarding data capacity building and infrastructure to enable tracking of outcomes. In 2024, each of the five county teams (Albany, Monroe, Onondaga, Schenectady, and Westchester) continued to receive technical assistance to implement their work plans and grants of \$50,000 supporting their equity-centered work. Programming is expected to be completed by September 2025.

In 2022, DCJS launched a pilot alternative to arrest program in Buffalo and Yonkers. Designed to address system involvement at the earliest point, this program provides diversion and alternative opportunities to youth in lieu of an arrest. Supported by a federal delinquency

prevention grant, city police departments will partner with a local community-based organization over a five-year period to design and implement a diversion program, outline eligibility criteria, identify a referral process, and ensure the sustainability of the program. Designed to improve relationships between the law enforcement and communities of color, this initiative also includes a trust building component for law enforcement and youth to authentically and continually engage in trust building dialogue and events.

In 2024, the police departments continued to implement their programming. After a significant start up period, the Buffalo initiative finalized contracts with a community-based organization to begin programming. The Yonkers ASAP program expanded to include referrals from all the Yonkers schools. In 2024, ASAP received 78 referrals to the program, with 64 students successfully completing program requirements. In addition, they have added the Youth Police Initiative (YPI) to their program to increase trust and relationship building between youth and law enforcement in the Yonkers community. In 2024, monthly trust building sessions were held with a total of 108 students participating.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group Programming

In 2024, the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group completed a three-year strategic plan to implement and advance youth justice in New York State and requirements of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act). The three main priority areas identified in the strategic plan are:

1. Increase Meaningful Youth, Family, and Community Engagement – equal focus on prevention and intervention, and greater emphasis on geographic community and adolescence.
2. Increase Access to Trauma, Healing, and Behavioral Health – focus on intervention, geographic community, and adolescence.
3. Increase Prevention Efforts and Youth-Centered Service Delivery – focus on prevention, geographic community, and childhood.

In an effort to implement strategies in a sustainable and cost-effective manner, the JJAG adopted a three-pronged approach to funding: small, medium, large investments. This includes funding for:

- Creation of four Transformative Youth Justice Hubs designed to coordinate and sustain partnerships and cross-pollinate prevention efforts and best practices at the local level.
- Development and support of data infrastructure in collaboration with communities on the creation of standardized metrics of youth success and system equity.
- Investment in direct youth-service programming that builds on successful or promising existing initiatives.

In 2024, DCJS entered into an MOU with the Youth Justice Institute (YJI) to establish a new Youth, Family, and Community Toward Success (YFACTS) Center within the YJI to facilitate collaboration with communities. This will enhance the ability of New York State to better serve

those who encounter the youth justice system; allow, through participatory approach, youth and families to define success and thriving measures; and support the Transformative Youth Justice Hubs in developing an innovative learning community of best practices and resources that can serve as a model for other jurisdictions in New York.

In October of 2024, DCJS released a bid request to support 15 grants of \$50,000 for community-based organizations to improve services and support for justice-involved youth and families. Funding could be used to:

- engage with youth and families to better understand their needs and give them a voice when making decisions about programs and service delivery;
- Increase access to trauma, healing and mental health services; and
- expand youth-centered programs that work to prevent justice-system involvement and increase opportunities for young people.

Additionally, DCJS drafted two Request for Applications (RFA) to implement the Transformative Youth Justice Hubs and Youth Action Committee to be released in 2025.

Support for Criminal Justice Stakeholders

Discovery Reform and Pre-Trial Services

The below activities represent the agency's commitment to, and support for, counties implementing discovery reform and providing pre-trial services in 2024:

- District attorneys' offices, probation departments, and law enforcement outside of New York City received \$40 million in support of discovery reform.
- District attorneys' offices within NYC received \$40 million to support services, expenses, and grants related to the acquisition and development of technology to support discovery.
- Counties outside NYC received approximately \$21 million to support public defense services and expenses related to discovery reform implementation.
- Six not-for-profit agencies within NYC received approximately \$18 million to support public defense services and expenses related to discovery reform implementation within their county.
- The New York State Prosecutors Training Institute (NYPTI) received \$6.5 million for services and expenses related to the Electronic Digital Evidence Management System, which provides system access to the 57 counties outside of NYC. These funds are to cover expenses for a two-year period.
- Counties received \$20 million to support pre-trial services.

Law Enforcement Technology Grant

Throughout New York and the United States, law enforcement agencies and departments are increasingly relying on emerging technologies (LETECH), such as license plate readers, mobile and fixed surveillance cameras, unmanned aerial vehicles, gunshot detection devices, smart equipment for patrol vehicles and officers, technology or software and other kinds of public safety equipment.

Such technologies allow law enforcement to perform their duties, collect potentially useful evidence, and help keep New Yorkers and our law enforcement partners safe. LETech also is proving to be an important tool to assist broader law enforcement, problem-solving, and community engagement strategies within jurisdictions across the state and country.

This deployment of LETech is intended to help prevent and solve crimes, particularly violent crimes by firearms, and serve as an integrated part of a law enforcement agency's problem-solving and community-engagement strategy, helping to increase public trust and communication.



Byrne JAG

Through the use of federal funding available under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program, DCJS awarded over \$9.7M to local police departments and sheriff offices across the state for law enforcement equipment and training. An additional \$4.5M was provided to support SUNY/CUNY colleges and universities across the state for the same purpose. This funding provided the opportunity to replace aging equipment such as livescan, tasers and radios, train and certify additional officers, create new programs such as K-9 Units, and increase public safety by providing equipment that small agency budgets could not support. This funding demonstrates DCJS commitment to supporting public safety in all areas of New York State in a way that is responsive to local needs.

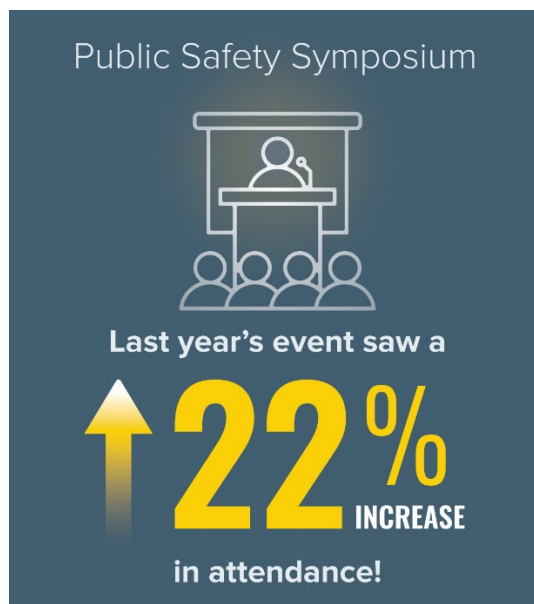
Public Safety Events

Public Safety Symposium

DCJS held the annual Public Safety Symposium from September 17 – 20, 2024, at the Empire State Convention Center in Albany. Over 1,100 people attended the Symposium, a significant and steady increase from the 900+ attendees in 2023 and the 600+ attendees in 2022.

The goal of the symposium was to bring together law enforcement executives, police command staff, prosecutors, community supervision personnel, crime analysts, researchers, community members, and other public safety professionals from around the state and country. Over the course of four days, these professionals shared innovative ideas/programs, evidence-based violence reduction practices, updates on police reform and reinvention collaboration, and other contemporary public safety topics.

The 2025 Symposium will be held September 16 – 18, 2025 at the Empire State Convention Center in Albany.



Elevating Equity and Fostering Healing in the Youth Justice System Conference

DCJS held the inaugural Elevating Equity and Fostering Healing in the Youth Justice System Conference from March 27 – 28, 2024, at the Empire State Convention Center in Albany.

The goal of the conference was to convene youth service providers and practitioners, credible messengers, mentors, and peer advocates; law enforcement, probation, education, child welfare and court professionals; and youth and families. Funded by the New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, the 400 conference attendees explored national research and best practices, and innovative programs and promising strategies across the state aiming to promote equity and healing within systems that serve New York State's youth. DCJS will host its second Youth Justice Conference in May of 2025.

SNUG Street Outreach Annual Conference

DCJS held the annual SNUG Street Outreach Conference in April 2024 with 160 attendees representing various stakeholders throughout NYS. The conference, which used the theme of “building community”, brought together representatives from all SNUG programs to hear from speakers who presented on violence prevention strategies, the impact of trauma on outreach work, utilizing music as a form of therapy, and wellness/self-care.

Data Transparency

In 2021, Governor Hochul directed state agencies to create plans to increase the transparency and accessibility of their work. In addition to previously published index crime dashboards, DCJS deployed public-facing dashboards displaying detailed data on felony and misdemeanor arrests, recidivism trends, and firearm activity in GIVE jurisdictions, providing enhanced access to criminal justice data.

DCJS also maintained compliance with required data and information reporting, such as use-of-force data among law enforcement agencies and posted four new program profiles on the Criminal Justice Knowledge Bank. DCJS also supported new research-practice partnerships through the Criminal Justice Research Consortium. These efforts to expand accessibility and transparency will continue.

Justice Lab

Launched in October 2023, the Justice Lab is a DCJS initiative that conducts timely, relevant, and objective research on programs, policies, and strategies in New York State to inform justice policy and planning. The Justice Lab leverages the expertise of DCJS staff who have a clear understanding of justice policies and practices, the data maintained by the agency, and the agency's data collection systems. Drawing upon this subject matter and technical expertise, the lab researches and evaluates the impacts of justice policies in New York State, building on the agency's commitment to promoting evidence-based policymaking to improve the justice system.

Since its launch, the Justice Lab has completed one research project and four more are underway in-house or by contracted research partners. Final reports will be published on the Justice Lab's [website](#), which went live in 2024.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

DCJS is committed to creating a culture where employees are respected, empowered, valued, and supported. We want employees to thrive, feel safe, seen, understood, and appreciated. We encourage all employees to share their diverse voices and opinions, to be their authentic selves at work, and to freely contribute their best ideas, perspectives, and talents in support of the agency's mission.

Diversifying the agency and improving recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce reflective of the NYS populations we serve is imperative. DCJS is dedicated to recruiting, developing, and sustaining a talented and diverse workforce, and creating a work environment that fosters equity and inclusion. To further those efforts, DCJS has:

- Renamed the program to include accessibility, recognizing the importance of disability inclusion.
- Provided the Executive Leadership Team with event planning guidance to ensure all people with disabilities are informed of accessibility and in-person participation accommodations (Executive Order 31).

-
- Hosted, collaboratively with the Advisory Council and Cultural Inclusion Alliance, six specialized events in-house and sponsored Civil Service events throughout the year, to foster an inclusive culture.
 - Participated in the Public Safety Symposium and four career fairs to reach diverse populations, to recruit and retain talent.
 - Backfilled three vacant Equal Opportunity positions and provided professional training opportunities and mentoring programs for all staff, to develop Strategic Leaders.
 - Continued a commitment to provide work-life balance for all DCJS employees by delivering effective Programs and Services like RAs, which help to maintain robust employee engagement, an Employee Recognition Program, and an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to support our workforce.

DCJS is committed to doing the challenging and rewarding work necessary to become a more diverse, inclusive, and sustainable criminal justice support agency, where all employees are welcome and enjoy equitable opportunities to succeed.

Police Reform and Procedural Justice

DCJS works with the Municipal Police Training Council (MPTC) and other partners to provide law enforcement with resources and guidance to support the continued professionalization of law enforcement.

Police and Peace Officer Decertification

The Professional Policing Act of 2021 strengthened the state's oversight of municipal police agencies, to ensure that individuals employed as police officers in New York State are qualified, ethical, and physically and psychologically fit to serve and protect their communities. To comply with the law, DCJS worked with the MPTC to strengthen regulations that require police and peace officer employers to report to DCJS officers removed for cause due to incompetence and misconduct.

These decertification regulations clarify the type of conduct that constitutes misconduct and incompetence and give DCJS the ability to permanently invalidate a police officer's basic training certification when an officer is reported by an employer as a removal for cause. The regulations also authorize DCJS to correct how an agency reported an officer no longer employed if there is a material inaccuracy and outline a process that allows the officer and agency to be heard before that correction is made.

DCJS publishes [a list of decertified police and peace officers](#) on its website and updates that list monthly.

Hiring Requirements

The Professional Policing Act also required the MPTC to establish standards for background investigations and psychological assessments that agencies must follow when hiring police officer candidates. The background investigation must include, but not be limited to:

- Comprehensive application and personal history statement;
- Fingerprint-based criminal history record check;
- Review of information from family members, DMV, and others, as required in state regulations;
- In-person interview;
- Search of the state's Central Registry of Police and Peace Officers, and the National Decertification Index; and
- Administration of a validated psychological written test for public safety personnel.

The psychological assessment determines whether the candidate is psychologically fit to perform the essential functions of a police officer for the police agency seeking to employ the candidate.

All agencies employing police officers as defined in paragraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (j), (k), (o), (p), (s), and (u) of the Criminal Procedure Law (CPL) §1.20(34) must also comply with two new Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program standards that detail hiring and reporting requirements, regardless of whether they participate in the [state's voluntary accreditation program](#). Agencies covered by the law were required to be certified by the state's Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Council no later than October 16, 2023. All covered agencies were certified by the due date, with proofs of compliance verified for each agency. Once agencies obtain initial certification, they must recertify every five years.

DCJS, at MPTC's direction, conducted a job task analysis to identify the bona fide occupational requirements related to the most frequent, arduous, and critical physical tasks performed by a 21st century police officer in New York State. The results of the analysis are being used to develop a validated physical ability test that is aligned with standards and operational needs for entry into and exit from the police academy.

Taken together, these new requirements and the forthcoming physical standards will enhance public safety through the employment of the most effective, professional, and respectful police forces in the nation.

Law Enforcement Accreditation Program

The NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation Program provides formal recognition that an agency meets 112 professional standards. The program has four principal goals:

- Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment and facilities to the extent possible;

-
- Promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice system;
 - Ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and
 - Promote public confidence in law enforcement.

Accreditation acknowledges that an agency follows sound, effective policies. The cornerstone of the Accreditation Program lies in established standards that contain a clear statement of professional requirements. Agencies participating in the program conduct a thorough analysis of their organization to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet established standards. When an agency adopts policies and procedures that meet the standards, a team of independent professionals conducts an on-site assessment to verify that all applicable standards have been successfully implemented. This process culminates with a decision by the NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation Council that the agency is worthy of accreditation.

Standards, Best Practices, Model Policies, and Training Curricula

DCJS also works with the MPTC to ensure model policies and training curricula are updated to include the most recent legislative changes. During 2024, DCJS updated the MPTC Sexual Offense Evidence Kit Model Policy to include new procedures for the release of stored, untested kits to law enforcement if the survivor chooses to initiate an investigation. The MPTC's Extreme Risk Protection order model policy was also updated to reflect a statute amendment that allows for a law enforcement agency to be the petitioner.

In addition to model policy updates, the MPTC also adopted various training standards to reflect modern best practices in police-citizen interactions. The updated training standards provided further resources for instructors to deliver enhanced use of force decision-making and communication skills training to recruit police officers.

The MPTC also updated training standards in the Basic School Resource Officer training curriculum to reflect a new standardized response protocol to be used by schools during emergency situations. The use of the new protocol is designed to prevent unnecessary stress and trauma to students by operationalizing a universal language during an emergency situation that enhances communication among first responders and occupants of a school.

DCJS issued licenses to peace officers to further expand access to the Acadis Learning Management System (LMS) beyond just police officer access. The LMS now allows both police and peace officers to access a variety of online trainings in one location while automating the tracking of course completion and the issuance of course certificates to an officer's NYS training record.

DCJS also conducted 16 Principled Policing trainings during 2024 attended by 353 police officers. Previously known as Procedural Justice, this curriculum focuses on the way police interact with the public; how these interactions influence the public's view of police; and the public's willingness to obey the law. Principled policing seeks to strengthen the relationships and trust between police agencies and the communities they serve. Many of these trainings are conducted in a train-the-trainer format, allowing local law enforcement trainers to conduct their own in-service training.

Appendix A: Criminal Justice Policy and Advisory Boards

DCJS supports 12 criminal justice policy and advisory boards, whose members are appointed by the governor. These boards formulate public policy, develop strategic plans and advise the DCJS commissioner, the governor, and legislators in areas of DNA; juvenile justice; motor vehicle theft and insurance fraud prevention; police training and accreditation; probation practice; and security guard training through the following offices: Office of Public Safety, Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Office of Forensic Services, Office of Program Development and Funding, Office of Juvenile Justice and Office of Legal Services.

Board of Examiners

The Sex Offender Registration Act, enacted in January 1996, established a five-member Board of Examiners of Sex Offenders to assess registrants released from jail or prison and to recommend risk levels. The Board also determines whether an offender convicted in another jurisdiction must register with the state's Sex Offender Registry when the offender establishes a residence in New York State. Costs incurred by the board are supported by DCJS and DOCCS.

Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to Elderly Persons

The 16-member Committee develops programming to reduce victimization of older adults and assists law enforcement agencies by developing policies, training, and technical assistance to handle elder abuse cases, among other responsibilities. To do this, members consult with experts, service providers, and representative organizations engaged in the protection of the elderly.

Commission on Forensic Science

The 14-member Commission develops minimum standards and a program of accreditation for all forensic laboratories in New York State. Accreditation of a forensic DNA laboratory is granted through the seven-member DNA Subcommittee, which also advises the Commission on scientific controls and quality assurance for DNA analysis.

Council for the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision

Federal and state law requires the Council to include the state compact administrator, a representative from each the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government, and a victim representative. The Council brings together key stakeholders, serves as an advisory body to the state compact administrator, and makes recommendations on statewide supervision procedures that facilitate the effective tracking, supervision, and rehabilitation of adult probationers and parolees.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

Federal law requires all states to establish an advisory group to oversee the strategic planning and federal grant funding for juvenile delinquency prevention. The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) has between 15 and 33 members who must have training, experience, or special knowledge in the areas of prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency or the administration of juvenile justice. With DCJS staff support, the JJAG finalizes New York's three-year juvenile justice plan, which identifies funding priority areas. Federal juvenile justice funds are used as seed money to establish and support new and innovative projects that seek to measurably reduce juvenile crime, promote individual accountability, enhance public protection, and prevent delinquency through positive youth development.

Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Council

The 17-member Council provides overall direction for the Law Enforcement Accreditation Program by issuing standards and setting policy. The Council also has exclusive authority to grant accreditation status. Established in 1989, the program helps police agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. The program has four principal goals: to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment, and facilities, to the extent possible; to promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and criminal justice agencies; to ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and to promote public confidence.

Motor Vehicle Theft & Insurance Fraud Prevention Board

The 12-member Board oversees a demonstration program that supports initiatives designed to reduce motor vehicle theft and related motor vehicle insurance fraud. The program provides state funds to support police and prosecutors in communities with high incidents of motor vehicle theft and insurance fraud, allowing those jurisdictions to support specialized law enforcement strategies to combat motor vehicle and insurance-related crimes. The Board has representation from the motor vehicle insurance industry, consumers, law enforcement agencies, and the judicial system. The Board also develops an annual plan with statewide prevention strategies.

Security Guard Advisory Council

The 17-member Council addresses program and policy requirements and recommends rules and regulations to the DCJS commissioner related to: the approval or revocation of security guard training schools and training programs; the minimum courses of study and all training requirements to be fulfilled by schools; the minimum qualifications for instructors at approved security guard training schools and training programs; and the training requirements for unarmed and armed security guards. DCJS approves private security training schools and provides administrative oversight of mandated security guard training. The state Department of State is responsible for licensing security guards.

Municipal Police Training Council

The eight-member MPTC sets minimum training requirements for newly appointed police officers and a course of training for police officers appointed to supervisory positions. It also recommends rules and regulations for minimum standards for law enforcement and correctional training programs and instructor certifications. The Council develops and approves law enforcement model policies to enhance the way local law enforcement agencies serve and protect their communities.

Probation Commission

The seven-member Commission, which includes the state director of probation and six other members, considers, advises, and consults on all matters within the jurisdiction of state Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives.

Appendix B: Statutorily Required Reports and Data Files

In addition to this Annual Performance Report, DCJS is statutorily required to publish the following reports and data files, which are posted to the DCJS [website](#).

Arrest-related Deaths Annual Report: This report contains information provided by law enforcement agencies on incidents involving arrest-related deaths. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §837-v.

Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to the Elderly Annual Report: This report contains information about Committee activities and community-policing programs aimed at improving the quality of life and safety of elderly persons. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §844-b (3-a).

Crime in New York State Final Data: This report contains final index crime statistics for New York State. Historical crime data is also presented. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §837(4)(c).

Executive Law Article 13-A Classification / Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) Annual Report: This report details county planning and programming efforts regarding ATI services in New York State. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law Article 13-A.

Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative Annual Report: This report contains information about GIVE, which provides funding to law enforcement agencies in 17 counties Upstate and on Long Island and requires those agencies to use evidence-based strategies to reduce gun violence and firearm-related homicides. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §837-a (8).

Hate Crimes in New York State Annual Report: This report contains statistics on hate crime incidents that law enforcement agencies reported to DCJS, including data on the number of incidents reported and the type of reported bias. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §837 (4-c).

Interagency Human Trafficking Task Force Report: This report is submitted by the New York State Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking as required by Section 483-ee (c) of the New York State Social Services Law. It details information about the Task Force's activities and the individual agencies and their efforts to fight human trafficking throughout New York State.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) / Youth Justice Annual Report: This report contains information about the state's youth justice efforts. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program Annual Report: This report contains information and statistics about the state's Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §846-h (10).

Missing Persons Clearinghouse Annual Report: This report contains information and statistics about the state's Missing Persons Clearinghouse and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §§837-f (12) and 837-f-1 (3).

Motor Vehicle Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Board Annual Report: This report contains information and statistics on the activities of the state's Motor Vehicle Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Demonstration Program and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §846-l (3)(h).

New York State Asset Forfeiture Annual Report: This report contains information related to monetary assets forfeited and distributed and satisfies the reporting requirements found in Executive Law §837-a (6).

New York State Criminal Justice Case Processing Report, Arrest through Disposition: This report is prepared to satisfy the Violent Felony Offenses Report and the Mandatory Sentences of Imprisonment and Plea-Bargaining Restrictions Upon Violent Felony Offender Report and summarizes information and statistics on the processing of violent felony cases in New York State superior courts. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §§837-a (1), 837-a (2), 837-a (3) and 837 (4)(f).

New York State Environmental Conservation Law Offenses Annual Report: This report is prepared to satisfy the Environmental Crimes Report and the Environmental Conservation Law Felony Offenses Report and contains information related to the processing of persons charged with violations of various provisions of the Environmental Conservation Law. It satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §§837-a (1), 837-a (5) and 837 (4-a).

New York State Report on Felony Insurance Fraud Offenses: This report contains information related to the processing of persons charged with insurance fraud felony offenses and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §§837-a (1) and 837-a (5).

Pretrial Release Data File: This data file is prepared to satisfy the requirements found in Executive Law §837-u, which took effect on July 2, 2020, and contains information related to pre-trial release.

Sex Offender Registry and Registry Toll Free Telephone Number Report: This report contains an overview of Registry activities and statistics and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Corrections Law §§168-p (4) and 168-s.

Sexual Offense Evidence Kit Inventory Report: This report contains information and statistics related to sexual offense evidence kits submitted to DCJS by police agencies, district attorneys' offices and public laboratories. The testing of kits and satisfies the reporting requirement found in Executive Law §838-a.

Use of Force Incidents Data Files: These data files are prepared to satisfy the requirements found in Executive Law §837-t (2), originally effective July 11, 2019, and contain information related to incidents in which a police officer or peace officer employs the use of force under specific circumstances outlined in §837-t (1).