

Recommendations to Alleviate Impediments

Like the impediments, above, these recommendations represent the collective perceptions by participants in the regional meetings. They are presented here in a structured, but otherwise unedited form as suggested by participants.

A. Research and Statistics

1. Further research into the impact of NIBRS on crime rates
2. Survey police departments that have implemented NIBRS to determine the impact they have experienced operationally, and changes in crime rate and public perception
3. Develop a transition model for departments that report UCR and NIBRS in parallel
4. Review the complexity of relationship linkage between multiple offenders and multiple victims (which have limited value to law enforcement) and assess the costs and benefits
5. Clarify terms such as incident, offense and crime
6. Conduct a cost/benefit analysis for NIBRS implementation
7. Conduct audits of Summary UCR vs. NIBRS agencies to show that NIBRS produces more accurate crime information
8. Research the policy implications of states that are 100% NIBRS compliant
9. Create table shells and templates for reports

B. Data Analysis

10. Produce more reports demonstrating the operational and policy value of NIBRS
11. Demonstrate the practical/operational value of IBR/NIBRS data for local crime analysis
12. Present NIBRS data as a proactive activity (CompStat)
13. Demonstrate the benefits of NIBRS for police/community partnerships
14. Demonstrate the value of NIBRS for interagency/regional information sharing, investigation and crime analysis
15. Demonstrate the policy value of NIBRS
16. Demonstrate the benefits of NIBRS nationally

C. Education and Training

17. Provide good internal marketing of NIBRS within the department and buy-in from the officer in seeing value in the data being collected
18. Educate public and elected officials that NIBRS represents better delivery of services
19. Work with victim advocacy groups to demonstrate the benefits of IBR/NIBRS
20. Produce a video tape directed to agency administrators demonstrating the benefits of NIBRS
21. Develop a press package for police chiefs/sheriffs, public and media explaining NIBRS and changes in crime counts when a department moves from Summary UCR to NIBRS
22. Present NIBRS at state and national associations/conferences (at the general session level for higher attendance) and include chiefs, crime analysts and officers as speakers

D. Information Technology

23. Create a central repository for agency data models and incident reports
24. Work with state and local agencies to develop conversion tables of penal code/statutes to NIBRS offense codes
25. Provide ad-hoc access to NIBRS data at the federal level for analysis on local systems
26. Create a procedure to notify agencies when their NIBRS data is being released by the State or FBI
27. Create a public domain application for analysis that is vendor independent
28. Publish recommended functional standards (core values) for law enforcement information systems

29. Involve the FBI Behavioral Sciences Unit to help states and locals design investigative support systems that are NIBRS compliant
30. Model the NIBRS edits and most frequent errors using common programming languages

E. Funding

31. Link state and federal grant funds to NIBRS reporting and enforce these requirements
32. Don't do NIBRS until you have a NIBRS initiative in-place with sufficient staff to support and maintain the program/technology
33. Fund state and local agencies to assist them in securing NIBRS compliant systems
34. Fund and create state and federal-level systems that will support regional crime analysis
35. Fund NIBRS training for local agencies

F. Partnerships

36. Lobby the crime analysts associations and Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) directors to strongly endorse NIBRS
37. Include NIBRS in accreditation programs
38. Partner with CALEA to make NIBRS a part of their crime reporting standards.