

Upcoming Webinar!

Technology Implementation: Preparation and Pitfalls

Presented by the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office, IPS Grantee

June 24, 2021 at 10 AM PT / 1 PM ET

Today, law enforcement officers not only address crime, but serve as front line responders to homelessness, mental health crises, and substance use disorders. While many police departments have mental health evaluation or Quality of Life teams, they often do not have the tools readily available to connect or reconnect the individuals they encounter to necessary services.

This webinar will spotlight the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office's efforts to tackle this real-time information gap for police officers. City Prosecutor Doug Haubert and Legal Technologist Byron Bolton will discuss the creation of the Government User Integrated Diversion Enhancement System (GUIDES), a phone application that allows officers to immediately access relevant criminal justice and treatment information about an individual from anywhere in the city. This app not only grants law enforcement an extra measure of safety when encountering new individuals—by

allowing them to search for any outstanding court orders or histories of mental health—but enables officers to make better-informed decisions about how to approach these individuals and which services to connect them to. Implementing this innovative technology required multiple partnerships and information-sharing protocols. The presenters will discuss these crucial steps as well as the hurdles they overcame to launch this innovative application.

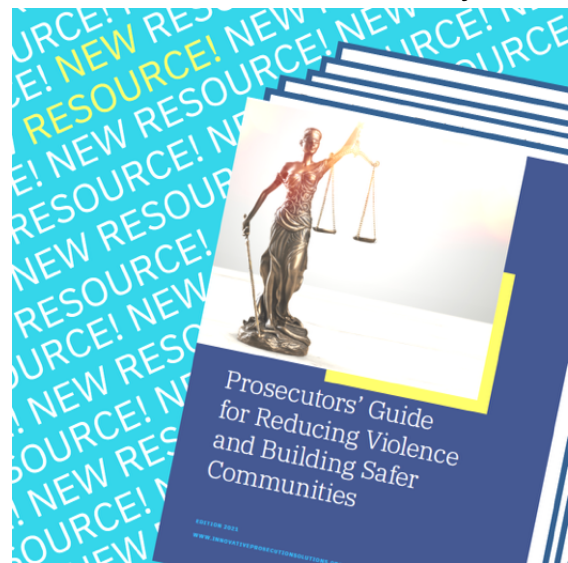
Register Here!

FEATURED RESOURCE

[The Prosecutors' Guide for Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities](#)

Informed by a roundtable of experienced prosecutors from around the country, this Guide provides a systematic way for prosecutors' offices to evaluate their practices with respect to the key elements of a successful violent crime reduction strategy.

This Guide is intended to enable the executives responsible for operating a prosecutor's office to identify policies and practices that can be readily implemented, as well as those that represent actionable goals to work toward. It suggests practices that are customizable and scalable, from foundational to enhanced, depending on an office's available resources and experiences, as well as jurisdiction-specific needs and challenges.



STRATEGIES IN FOCUS

York County District Attorney's Office



In 2016, the York City Police Department initiated a Group Violence Intervention (GVI) program in conjunction with the York County District Attorney's Office and other partners. Through IPS, the DA's Office hired a specialized prosecutor to assess GVI offenders for either diversion or traditional prosecution. If the GVI prosecutor determines that an offender is eligible for pre-charge diversion, the County's Human Services Family Engagement Unit (FEU) works with that offender to pursue alternatives to prosecution, including participation in Family Group Decision Making meetings.

A recent success of the FEU has been the diversion of a young man who was pulled over for driving without a license in his girlfriend's car with a small amount of marijuana present. Upon reaching out to the young man, the FEU team discovered that while he spoke Spanish, he did not know how to read it—and therefore was unable to study for and take a driver's test. Further, he disclosed that he was under levels of stress he was unable to cope with in a healthy manner and had turned to marijuana and driving "recklessly" to blow off some steam, as his Spanish-language capability had made it difficult for him to access the necessary mental health services.

In response, the FEU printed out and delivered him a Spanish version of the driver's manual that his girlfriend could read to him, as well as a list of bilingual medical providers in his area. The young man has since obtained a doctor's note for an audio accommodation for his driver's license exam, when he is ready to take it, and has been advised of the available public transportation options to use in the meantime. By engaging with the young man and his girlfriend and providing them with the relevant services, the FEU team has been able to give them the tools to address and mitigate the circumstances that led them to the program in the first place, and lessen the likelihood he encounters the criminal justice system for these issues again.

For more information on York's project, please visit our IPS website [here](#).

CASE HIGHLIGHT

[United States v. Ruan, 966 F.3d 1101 \(11th Cir. 2020\)](#)

Dr. Xiulu Ruan was convicted of conspiring to run a medical practice in violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) and conspiring to violate the Controlled Substances Act by dispensing fentanyl, a Schedule II drug.

This case addresses whether a physician alleged to have prescribed controlled substances outside the usual course of professional practice may be convicted of unlawful distribution under 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) without regard to whether, in good faith, he "reasonably believed" or "subjectively intended" that his prescriptions fall within that course of professional practice.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit rejected Ruan's assertion of a "good faith" defense for a physician charged with violating the Controlled Substances Act. On April 5, 2021, Ruan filed a petition for writ of certiorari asserting that "good faith" distinguishes civil liability for malpractice from criminal liability, that six circuits allow the defense, and that the 11th Circuit's approach chills the legitimate practice of pain medicine.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

June 17, 2021, 10 AM PT / 1 PM ET: It Happens to Us Too: Investigating and Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence in the LGBTQ Community — The NDAA is hosting a webinar that will address domestic violence in LGBTQ communities. The webinar will discuss overcoming stereotypes; fear of public humiliation—exposure of sexual orientation as well as exposure of occurrence of the abuse; fear of loss of family, children and job; children within the relationship; availability of specialized support groups; increased incidence of mutual arrests based on the perception that same sex assaults are equivalent to mutual combat; and educating jurors to

overcome jury nullification and bias. Registration and more information can be found [here](#).

July 15, 2021, 11 AM PT / 2PM ET: AEquitas' Office Hours — Join AEquitas on the third Thursday of every month to discuss your questions regarding the prosecution of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, & stalking with experienced prosecutors and other participants in the field. For this session, we will highlight alcohol-facilitated sexual assault and overcoming the consent defense. Register [here](#).



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[FY 2021 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program](#)

[FY 2021 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative](#)

[FY 2021 Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative for Law Enforcement Agencies](#)

[FY 2021 Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force To Combat Human Trafficking](#)

A graphic with a teal background and diagonal stripes. On the left is a blue square containing a white 'AE' monogram. To its right, the text 'AEQUITAS IS HIRING!' is written in large, bold, black letters. Below this, a blue arrow points to the right, containing the text 'JOIN US IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF JUSTICE.' in white. At the bottom left, the text 'We are seeking an Attorney Advisor' is written in a black, italicized font. On the bottom right is a blue icon of a document with a magnifying glass over it, symbolizing search or investigation.

**AEQUITAS
IS HIRING!**

JOIN US IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF JUSTICE.

We are seeking an Attorney Advisor

An AEQUITAS Attorney Advisor serves as an expert to prosecutors and allied justice professionals through the provision of training and technical assistance and the development of publications. An Attorney Advisor researches the latest case law and legislation on issues related to the prosecution of sexual violence, intimate partner violence, stalking, human trafficking, and related crimes. An Attorney Advisor also identifies innovative programs, procedures, and strategies; provides technical assistance and case consultation to prosecutors and allied criminal justice professionals; develops materials and provides training for local, state, national, and international audiences; and synthesizes research to write articles and contribute to resources, training materials, and other legal publications.

Additional information about this exciting opportunity is included below and on our [Careers page](#). We encourage you to apply early if you are interested. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the position has been filled.



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