



State of New Jersey

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ATTORNEY GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 2022-02

TO: All Division Directors, Department of Law and Public Safety

FROM: Matthew J. Platkin, Acting Attorney General

DATE: March 22, 2022

SUBJECT: **Directive Codifying the Office of Justice Data**

The Department of Law and Public Safety (the Department) generates and receives substantial amounts of data, most significantly criminal justice data, across its 17 divisions, offices, and commissions. When these data are systematically collected and analyzed it is an invaluable tool for assessing ongoing policies and initiatives and informing future projects of the Department.

Last year, the Department announced the creation of the Office of Justice Data (the Office or OJD), which is responsible for coordinating the Department's various data collection obligations and ensuring that appropriate data are made available to the public in a timely and accessible manner. In addition, OJD works with other criminal justice and law enforcement stakeholders to ensure that New Jersey's criminal justice policymaking is rooted in data and rigorous statistical analysis. For example, OJD has already provided invaluable expertise and support in fulfilling the requirements of P.L. 2020, c.120 (criminal justice data), AG Directive 2020-5 (major discipline reporting), and AG Directive 2020-13 (use of force reporting). I have decided to formally establish the Office by Attorney General Executive Directive, creating a more defined organizational structure and ensuring OJD's long-term role within the Department.

Pursuant to the authority granted to me under the New Jersey Constitution; the Law and Public Safety Act of 1948, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-1, *et seq.*, which provides for general responsibility of the Department's operations and the supervision of the organization of the Department; and the


Criminal Justice Act of 1970, N.J.S.A. 52:17B-97, *et seq.*, which provides for the general supervision of criminal justice by the Attorney General as chief law enforcement officer of the State in order to secure the benefits of a uniform and efficient enforcement of the criminal law and the administration of the criminal justice throughout the State, I have determined that the organization described herein is necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the Department's functions and hereby direct all Department personnel to implement and comply with the following directives.

I. Office of Justice Data

- A. ***Establishment.*** There is established in the Department, the Office of Justice Data.
- B. ***Leadership of Office.*** The Office shall operate under the supervision of a Chief Data Officer, who shall be appointed by and operate under the authority of the Attorney General. The Chief Data Officer shall direct and supervise the work of the Office and its constituent organizational units, and shall devote their time to the duties of the Office.
- C. ***Organization of Office.*** With the approval of the Attorney General or designee, the Chief Data Officer, in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, may organize the work of the Office into any bureaus or other organizational units as may be necessary for the efficient and effective operation of the Office. The Chief Data Officer may delegate to employees in the Office and its constituent organizational units such powers as the Chief Data Officer deems appropriate, to be exercised subject to the supervision and control of the Chief Data Officer. The Attorney General shall assign to the Office such employees of the Department as may be necessary to assist the Chief Data Officer in the performance of their duties.
- D. ***Coordination on Data Requirements with LPS Divisions.*** In order to ensure a more unified and consistent approach to the treatment and use of data within LPS, as well as the efficient use of resources to accomplish the same, OJD is authorized, in conjunction with the Division of Administration, to issue Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and other guidance documents to LPS divisions that govern the process and procedure to be used when fulfilling LPS's data assessment, compilation, and reporting needs. Such SOPs and other documents shall not be inconsistent with reporting obligations imposed by state law or regulation.
- E. ***Access to Department Resources.*** OJD shall be authorized to call upon the expertise and assistance of every division, agency, office, bureau, and unit within the Department in order to carry out its mission. Such entities are hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate with OJD and to provide such assistance as the Office may require to accomplish the purposes of this Directive.

II. Other Provisions

- A. ***Non-enforceability by third parties.*** This Directive is issued pursuant to the Attorney General's authority to supervise operations of the Department. This Directive imposes limitations that may be more restrictive than the limitations imposed under the United States and New Jersey Constitutions, and federal and state statutes and regulations. Nothing in this Directive shall be construed in any way to create any substantive right that may be enforced by any third party.
- B. ***Severability.*** The provisions of this Directive shall be severable. If any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision of this Directive is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the validity of the remainder of the document shall not be affected.
- C. ***Questions.*** Any questions concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Directive shall be addressed to the Chief Data Officer of OJD, or his, her, or their designee.
- D. ***Effective date.*** This Directive shall take effect immediately and remain in force and effect unless and until it is repealed, amended, or superseded by Order of the Attorney General.


Matthew J. Platkin
Acting Attorney General

ATTEST:


Jonathan Garelick
Chief of Staff
Assistant Attorney General

Date: March 22, 2022