

Jurisprudence Section – 2010

E3 Cold Cases, Missing Persons, and NamUs: Initiatives of the National Institute of Justice

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After attending this presentation, attendees will have a greater understanding of the programs that the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) funds regarding these topics and how funding is available to assist state and local agencies in these areas. Attendees will also be educated on the purpose and use of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).

This presentation will impact the forensic science community, particularly the jurisprudence section, by spreading information about the programs supported by the National Institute of Justice regarding solving cold cases and identifying the missing.

Since 2005, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has initiated programs dedicated to assisting state and local law enforcement agencies and crime laboratories solve cold cases and identify the missing and unidentified. This presentation will discuss NIJ's Solving Cold Cases with DNA and Using DNA to Identify the Missing programs, their goals, and show success stories associated with them. In 2007 NIJ made public the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs). The presentation will also discuss the two databases incorporated into this system, how they can be used, and success stories associated with the use of NamUs.

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