



Police Psychological Services Section

International Association of Chiefs of Police

June 2002

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Michael G. Gelles, Psy.D.
Chief Psychologist
US Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Headquarters
716 Sicard Street SE, Suite 2000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20388-5380
Office: 202 433 9621
E-mail: mgelles@ncis.navy.mil
FAX: 202 433 9619

As we approach midyear between our annual conferences, I hope this newsletter finds everyone well, content, and of course busy. For many, 9/11/01 influenced our lives and our work in a manner that could never have been predicted or expected. Countering terrorism has become an augmented endeavor and a challenge for law enforcement that has forced the use of multidisciplinary resources. As a result, police psychology has proven to be a vital adjunct resource to the fight against terrorism. I am sure you will all agree that the increased national unity has led everyone to seek some way to contribute to the defense of our country and to national security. However, recognizing our role and what we can contribute without creating more chaos than already exists is also a challenge and a professional duty.

Police psychology plays important roles in countering terrorism. These roles include the application of behavioral techniques to assess and evaluate possible attack behavior, screening of applicants for the increased number of law enforcement positions, consultations with organizations concerning the appropriate development of information networks plus developing, augmenting, and implementing support services in the areas of counseling and trauma services.

I look forward to the opportunity for all of us to discuss the role of the police psychologist post 9/11, and to develop possible ideas and strategies that can be communicated to the chiefs of police regarding the role of police psychology in counter terrorism.

2001 Toronto

We not only had excellent membership attendance, but also engaged in thoughtful and productive discussions of difficult and sensitive issues. A prominent feature of the Psychological Services Section annual meeting is the variety of professional development presentations

offered to members of the section and open to general conference attendees. In Toronto the following presentations were offered: *Psychological Implications of Weapons of Mass Destruction on First Responders*; *Developing and Implementing Training Programs for Responding to the Mentally Ill*; *Current Studies in Critical Incident Debriefing*; *Law Enforcement Screening Standards and Training Survey*; *Ethical Dilemmas*; *Polygraphs, Voice Analysis and New Developments*; *Legal Update*; and *Peer Support Update*.

During the meeting, discussions were held concerning police suicide and the psychological perspective concerning racial profiling. The Section also developed an initial list of priorities for responding to terrorism. A committee was formed to formulate a proposal concerning membership, and requirements for attendance at the annual meeting. Potential training topics for next year's conference were discussed and included continuing discussions regarding networking and ethics. I want to personally thank and acknowledge Elizabeth White and Audrey Honig for the excellent program that they organized. I also want to acknowledge the membership for their endorsement of continuing to schedule ethics presentations on an annual basis. I found the discussion to be lively and helpful. This topic is critical for all of us in police psychology who will have to confront situations that are truly ethical dilemmas. This coming year we plan to collaborate more closely with the Legal Officers Section regarding legal and ethical dilemmas. If you have a scenario or a recent incident that you feel might be helpful for inclusion in the workshop, please notify Audrey Honig.

During the business session, a number of items were discussed. We continue to have a significant number of applications for membership. While I don't believe we broke any records this year our membership continues to grow.

This past year, Dr. Richard Miller, chairman of the Physicians Section, approached me regarding a shared seminar during the upcoming conference. We discussed the potential for a shared workshop between the two sections and agreed on one related to fitness for duty. I look forward to developing closer ties with other sections that share our interests. We have developed a relationship with the Legal Section. If you are familiar with, or have a relationship with, members in other sections whom you feel share our interests, please let Kim know so that we might build a more multidisciplinary

component to our meeting in the form of a workshop or seminar.

Board Officers for 2000



Michael Gelles, Psy.D. – Chair

Telephone: (202) 433-9621
E-mail: Mgelles@NCIS.navy.mil

Andrew Ryan, Ph.D. – Vice Chair

Telephone: (803) 751-5867
E-mail: AHRyan@msn.com

John Nicoletti, Ph.D. – Membership Chair

Telephone: (303) 989-1617
E-mail: Jpsych46@aol.com

Audrey Honig, Ph.D. – Education Chair

Telephone: (213) 226-4397
E-mail: alhonig@lasd.org

Kim J. Kohlhepp – IACP Liaison

Telephone: (800) 843-4227 (ext. 237)
E-mail: kohlheppk@theiacp.org

Welcome New Members

Nichole Alford
Mark Altomari
Amy Cades
Adriana Celser
Neil Hibler
David Hoath
John Lehman
William McIntyre
Kris Mohandie
Bruce Nystrom
Kendall Price
Mark Tabackman
Chris Wemple
Robert Wolford



E-Mail List

The IACP Psychological Services Section e-mail list is an automated e-mail service intended to facilitate the exchange of information among members of the section. Any message sent to the central e-mail address is distributed to all members of the list. Once you have joined you can post to the list, and you will receive a copy of all messages posted by other members. The service can be used for inquires, requests for assistance, news, announcements, and other section-related information. Membership in the e-mail list is open to all members of the IACP Psychological Services Section.

The list service has proven to be a very useful way to exchange information and obtain assistance. I hope that everyone will continue to exchange ideas and share new and breaking information. This way, we can keep up to date on occurrences around the country that may later have an impact in our local agencies.

To subscribe to the list, send a message to:

listcaster@iacplist.org

with the following text in the body of the message:

subscribe psych

You may be asked to confirm your subscription by return e-mail.

After you have subscribed, you will be able to post messages to all members of the list by sending e-mail to

psych@iacplist.org

E-mail sent to psych@iacplist.org will be distributed to all members on the list.