MARCH 07

## Ninth Crime Mapping Conference

**Call for Papers** 

**Developing Methods for Research and Practice** 

## Spatial Approaches to Understanding Crime & Demographics

The use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and spatial data analysis techniques have become prominent tools for analyzing criminal behavior and the impacts of the criminal justice system on society. Classical and spatial statistics have been merged to form more comprehensive approaches in understanding social problems from research and practical standpoints. These methods allow for the measurement of proximity effects on places by neighboring areas that lead to a multi-dimensional and less static understanding of factors that contribute to or repel crime across space.

The 9th Crime Mapping Research Conference will be about demonstrating the use and development of methodologies for practitioners and researchers. The MAPS Program is anticipating the selection of key accepted presentations for further development of an electronic monograph on *GIS*, *Spatial Data Analysis and the Study of Crime* in the following year. Its purpose will be to demonstrate the fusing of classical and spatial analysis techniques to enhance policy decisions. Methods should not be limited to the use of classical and spatial statistics but also demonstrate the unique capabilities that of GIS in preparing, categorizing and visualization of data for analysis.

The conference represents a range of issues from technical solutions to research methods to applied practices to policy decisions that impact society. These are not confined to just the social sciences, agencies or organizations that have the terms "crime" "criminal" or "justice" in them. The MAPS Program, therefore, hopes to expand the conference from its traditional audience and is encouraging papers to be submitted from disciplines and agencies that incorporate the spatial perspectives of, but not limited to inequality, residential stability, unemployment, access to resources, economic opportunities, housing availability, migration, segregation, and neighborhood effects as they relate to crime. The study of crime is an interdisciplinary event that takes into account many aspects of from the study of the aforementioned topics. Thus, it is important to see research and applications from these areas.

The Crime Mapping Research Conference is NOT about presenting just the mapping of where crime is. This conference IS about the study of society and its relationship with the elements that contribute to crime and the implementation of criminal justice on society.



NIJ

March 28-31, 2007 Pittsburgh Omni William Penn Hotel

For Call for Papers visit MAPS at: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/maps

## About NIJ

The National Institute of Justice is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice and a component of the Office of Justice Programs. NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to enhance the administration of justice and public safety.

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