



## Message from the Director

We need more transparency and accountability in law enforcement. We also need better, more informed conversations about crime and policing in this country. To get there, we are improving the way this nation collects, analyzes, and uses crime statistics and data about law enforcement's use of force. Information that is accurate, reliable, complete, and timely will help all of us learn where we have problems and how to get better. Key elements of this are our shift to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which will occur no later than 2021 (we hope sooner), and our first-ever use-of-force database. Those will give us a more complete, richer picture of crime in our communities, and a national and detailed picture of the ways we in law enforcement are using force. I'm grateful to the law enforcement agencies around the country who submitted NIBRS data this year. By providing this data, they are playing a crucial role in helping us to better understand what is happening in our nation. With indispensable support from our colleagues at the Bureau of Justice Statistics, all of us will be better able to talk in an informed way about things that matter tremendously.

Jim Comey, Director