



May 2009

*Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)
Newsletter 09-2*

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SECTION 1—MESSAGE TO PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

1.1 Advance Viewing of the *Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, January–December, 2008*

On Monday, June 1, 2009, the national UCR Program will publish the *Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, January–December, 2008*, on the FBI's Web site. Local law enforcement agencies will have advance access to the information via a beta site. Please note that the Web site, username, and password are case-sensitive.

Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, January–December, 2008

Advance viewing date: Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Web site: www.fbi.gov/ucr/08prelim/

Username: UCRcontr

Password: 08FullYr#

Public release date: Monday, June 1, 2009

Agencies are reminded that these data are embargoed until the public release date. Until then, they are for internal use only.

1.2 Updated Frequently Asked Questions on the Web

The UCR Program has updated its Frequently Asked Questions for both the Summary Reporting System and the NIBRS. The Frequently Asked Questions are accessible on the FBI's Web site at www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm.

Agencies with questions should contact the Multimedia Productions Group at (304) 625-4995.

1.3 Electronic Availability of the *UCR Newsletter*

The current *UCR Newsletter*, as well as previous editions, is also available via the Law Enforcement Online (LEO) Intranet at https://www/leo.gov/http://leowcs.leopriv.gov/lesig/cjis/programs/crime_statistics/newsletters/newsletters.htm. Users with questions concerning access to the LEO should contact the LEO Program Office at (304) 625-5555 or Mrs. Stacey C. Davis of the Advisory Groups Management Unit at (304) 625-2618.

SECTION 2–CLARIFICATION TO POLICY AND PROCEDURES

2.1 Submission of Additional Bias Motivations

Direct contributors are reminded that the bias motivations collected by the Hate Crime Statistics Program have been mandated by Congress; incidents with any other bias motivation should not be reported in UCR hate crime submissions. Unless the bias for a hate crime falls into one of the UCR Program’s bias categories, an agency should report zero hate crime data. Regardless of the method that the agency uses to send data to the UCR Program (i.e., electronically or in hard copy), if the bias for a hate crime does not meet the UCR Program guidelines, the agency should report zero hate crime data. These additional bias motivations not collected by the FBI may include anti-age, anti-gender, anti-homeless, etc.

Zero hate crime data can be reported as 88 = None (no bias) if agencies submit data to the national UCR Program via the NIBRS. Agencies that submit data to the national UCR Program using the *Quarterly Hate Crime Report* form should check the appropriate box on the form.

2.2 Hate Crime Statistics Program Requests Quarterly Data Submissions

Each agency should submit its hate crime data to the national program either at the end of each month (as with NIBRS submissions) or at the end of each calendar quarter.

The *Quarterly Hate Crime Report* form directs agencies to submit their reports “quarterly, by the 15th day after the close of the quarter. . . .” When agencies submit hate crime on a monthly or quarterly basis, it allows sufficient time to verify hate crime data with state UCR Program managers and perform the necessary data quality checks.

2.3 Justifiable Homicide Edit Added in the NIBRS

In the UCR Program, justifiable homicide is not considered a crime; therefore, it cannot be classified as a hate crime. In addition, as stated on page 76 of Volume 4: *Error Message Manual* (December 1999), “When a Justifiable Homicide is reported, no other offense may be reported in the Group ‘A’ Incident Report. Other offenses would be submitted on another Group ‘A’ Incident Report.”

Effective immediately, an edit will be placed in the NIBRS so that incoming offenses classified with both an offense code 09C, Justifiable Homicide, and a bias motivation code with anything other than 88 = None (no bias) or blank will generate Offense Segment Warning 240, “WARNING–JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE MUST BE CODED AS NON-BIAS MOTIVATED.”

Effective January 1, 2010, the Offense Segment Warning 240 will be replaced with Offense Segment Error 270, “JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE MUST BE CODED AS NON-BIAS MOTIVATED,” and incidents submitted with a justifiable homicide offense coded as bias-motivated will be rejected as a fatal error.

Agencies with questions should contact Ms. Mary P. Reese of the FBI’s Crime Statistics Management Unit at (304) 625-3528.