



American Prosecutors
Research Institute

A REPORT OF THE
PROSECUTION
PERFORMANCE
MEASUREMENT
PROJECT

Ensuring Public Safety

How Do Prosecutors
Measure Up?

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American Prosecutors Research Institute**

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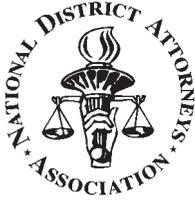
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March 2007

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INTRODUCTION

Other than being re-elected to office, prosecutors have no formal mechanism for determining how the public views their performance. Although some prosecutors may argue that being re-elected is measure enough, many others would counter that an ongoing understanding of how the public views the performance of the prosecutor's office performance improves the ability of the prosecutor overall to ensure that "justice is done in a fair, effective, and efficient manner."

(Dillingham, Nugent, & Whitcomb, 2004, p. 5)

This publication is one in a series from the Prosecution Performance Measurement Project. Other publications in the series include:

- *Prosecution in the 21st Century: Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures*
- *Do Lower Conviction Rates Mean Prosecutors' Offices are Performing Poorly?*
- *Performance Measures for Prosecutors: Findings from the Application of Performance Measures in Two Prosecutors' Offices*

To access these publications, please visit NDAA's Office of Research and Evaluation Web page at: http://www.ndaa-apri.org/research/research_home.html.

Clearly, a system of performance measurement will provide the most robust understanding of prosecutorial effectiveness, examining all aspects of the prosecutor's office and the role of the prosecutor. Under such a system, one of the goals of the prosecutor will necessarily be to ensure safer communities, because if prosecutors had no effect on community safety, we could disband the criminal justice system, and stop punishing offenders, with no negative effects on society (James Q. Wilson, as quoted in DiIulio, Jr., 1992, p. 3). Thus, measures related to public safety are critical in assessing performance.

Typically, public safety measures focus on crime reduction, by examining changes in crime rates. However, prosecutors alone do not impact crime rates and so in and of themselves, crime rates are not the best single

measures of prosecutorial effectiveness. Rather, measurements of community perceptions of crime and the prosecutor's role in reducing crime, taken into consideration with crime rates, should be viewed as important tools in determining how well the prosecutor and his/her office is serving justice.

As part of a project funded by the National Institute of Justice, the American Prosecutors Research Institute's Office of Research and Evaluation (APRI is the research and development division of the National District Attorneys Association) implemented and tested a performance measurement framework in two prosecutors' offices. The purpose of the project was to identify which performance measures provided the most meaningful understanding of prosecutorial performance. (See Nugent-Borakove, Budzilowicz, & Rainville, 2007 for the full study findings.)

One set of measures, related to ensuring safer communities, was tested using a public safety survey to measure community members' opinions about crime, safety, and the performance of the prosecutor's office. This monograph discusses the public safety survey, what prosecutors should be asking the public, the manner in which prosecutors can receive objective feedback from their constituents, and how to use the information to determine how well the office is meeting its goal of ensuring public safety.

THE PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEY

Measuring people's attitudes about public safety is a challenging task. How people define safety and the various factors that people believe influence crime and safety are important to understand and capture, but if this information is not captured in a way that is uniform and systematic, it will be useless for understanding prosecutor performance.

Through its work on performance measurement, APRI developed and tested a public safety survey that prosecutors can use to assess how the public feels about public safety. The survey is designed to capture the public's attitudes on four general topics:

1. Perceived level of safety: how safe people feel and how different neighborhood conditions influence their feelings about safety.
2. Perceived changes in level of crime: citizens' perceptions about whether crime has increased or decreased, number of people that they know who have been victims of crimes, and whether or not the respondent has been a crime victim.
3. Fear of crime and victimization: extent to which people are fearful of becoming a crime victim.
4. Perception of the response to crime by the prosecutor's office: importance of the prosecutor's office in responding to crime, how familiar the public is with the prosecutor's office, how competent the public feels the prosecutor's office is, and amount/type of contact with the prosecutor's office (e.g., as a defendant, victim, witness, juror, etc.).

In total, there are 43 questions on the public safety survey, covering each of the four topics above and basic demographic information about the respondent such as zip code, race, age, and gender. A full copy of the survey is included in the appendix.

The survey is designed to be administered to a broad cross-section of the population in a jurisdiction so that it yields unbiased results. There are several methods that can be used to administer the survey, which have varying levels of response rates. The two most common methods and the most likely to yield the responses from a variety of individuals are:

- Via telephone using a method called random digit dialing which is conducted in both the daytime and evening hours (the method used for the APRI study) and
- Via mail using a self-addressed stamped envelope to encourage the likelihood of receiving a completed survey.

Each of these methods will require physical and financial resources. If staff is not available to administer and analyze the survey, the prosecutor's office may decide to work with an outside contractor. Both offices that participated in the APRI study were provided a stipend, which they used to hire a local company specializing in surveys. The cost for the contractor was \$7,500 for each administration of the survey. Other resources that can help with the administration of the survey include universities, which can often provide graduate students free-of-charge or at minimal cost, or national organizations such as APRI.

Analysis of the public safety survey yields a tremendous volume of information. For almost all of the questions, community members have several choices about how they want to respond (e.g., strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree). Simply tabulating how many people picked each response choice produces line after line of results, which can be quite problematic for two reasons.

First, calculating percentages of different responses for all 43 questions and then trying to come to some consensus about the public's perception of public safety would be mind-numbing at best and almost incomprehensible. Second, there is potentially conflicting information that makes interpreting the responses to all 43 questions almost impossible. Using the information in Exhibit 1, the responses show that more than half of the community feels very safe but, 41 percent are nonetheless fearful of becoming a victim of violent crime. What does this mean? Is this office performing well or not

when it comes to public safety? The answer depends on which item you look at, leaving room for misinterpretation. Thus, straightforward tabulations of responses to each of the questions on the survey will not produce information that is easy to understand and useful in determining how well the prosecutor's office is addressing public safety.

Exhibit 1
Sample Report of Survey Results

Survey Item	Responses		
How safe are you from crime in your neighborhood at night?	25% said "not safe or "not very safe"	51% said "very safe" or "a little safe"	24% were unsure
How fearful are you of becoming a victim of violent crime?	41% said "fearful" or "very fearful"	42% said "not fearful"	17% were unsure
How has the level of crime changed in the city/county in the past 12 months?	84% said it "increased some" or "increased a lot"	5% said "decreased somewhat" or "decreased a lot"	11% were unsure

A simpler method of analysis and interpretation is needed. As such, APRI created a public safety index from the survey questions.

THE PUBLIC SAFETY INDEX

For performance measures related to public safety to have value and utility, the measures must be meaningful and relevant, sensible, precise, and easy to understand (Nugent & Budzilowicz, 2007). Rather than giving 43 different percentages as to how the public perceives crime and their safety levels, wouldn't it be easier to report that on a scale of 1 to 10, the public's perception about crime is X? The public safety index is designed to produce exactly that kind of information.

APRI grouped several questions from the public safety survey into three broad categories:¹

Perceived level of safety

- How safe are you from crime in your neighborhood at night?
- Level of agreement with the statement: Poor street/house lighting in the community makes me feel unsafe.
- Level of agreement with the statement: Rundown/neglected buildings in the community make me feel unsafe.
- Level of agreement with the statement: Prostitution/solicitation in the community makes me feel unsafe.

Fear of crime

- How fearful are you of becoming a victim of a violent crime?
- How fearful are you of someone breaking into your home?
- How fearful are you of having your automobile stolen?
- Over the last 12 months, has your fear of crime increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

¹ The questions used to create the index were selected based on prior analysis. The specific questions shown were those found to be the most statistically related for the categories shown (i.e., these questions were the most inter-related).

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Perceived changes in crime rates

- How has the level of crime changed in your neighborhood in the past 12 months?
- How has the level of crime changed in the city/county in the past 12 months?
- How many people do you know that have been the victim of a violent crime in the past 12 months?
- How many people do you know that have been the victim of a property crime in the past 12 months?

A numeric value from 0 to 10 was assigned to each possible response for each of the questions, with 0 representing the most negative opinion and 10 representing the most positive opinion. For example, using the questions related to perceived level of safety, a person who felt “very *unsafe*” at night would be assigned a value of 0, whereas a person who felt “very *safe*” would be assigned a value of 10. The scores for all the questions within each category can then be averaged to create a single index rating.

Exhibit 2 shows illustrative index values for each of the three public safety measurements from one of the study sites. The first column shows the “baseline” index value, which comes from the first administration of the public safety survey, and represents the initial starting point for performance measurement. The follow-up index value is calculated from responses to the second administration of the survey and is used to make comparisons to the baseline index value.

Exhibit 2 **Public Safety Index Ratings**

Index Measure	Baseline Index Value	Follow-up Index Value
Perceived level of safety	7.97	7.96
Perceived fear of crime	3.58	3.74
Perceived changes in crime rate	5.48	5.55

Using an index value for each of the three measures ensures that the information is easy to understand. Conflicting information is eliminated because the index value is an average, which takes into account all attitudes, both positive and negative.

So, what do the numbers in Exhibit 2 really mean for a prosecutor trying to report how his/her office is performing with regard to ensuring public safety? In interpreting the index, it is important to keep in mind that the values range on a scale from 0 to 10, with 10 being the most positive attitude. For example, using perceived level of safety, a value of 0 would mean that perceived safety was very low—people do not feel safe at all—and a value of 10 would mean that people feel quite safe. Thus, in this particular jurisdiction, shown in Exhibit 2, people feel relatively safe. More importantly, their attitudes about safety remained relatively stable between the first, or baseline, administration of the survey and the follow-up administration.

Exhibit 2 also shows that despite the high ratings for level of safety, the index ratings for fear of crime are low, indicating that people are fairly fearful of crime. Based on the index ratings for perceived changes in crime rates, people generally feel that crime has neither increased nor decreased.

Quite naturally, in looking at the illustrative ratings, the question becomes “If people feel relatively safe, why are they fearful of crime, particularly if they believe that crime rates haven’t really changed?” As most experienced prosecutors would readily acknowledge, there are a number of factors both within and outside the influence of the prosecutor’s office that can have an impact on public opinion such as:

- Outcome of a high profile case
- Local and national media coverage of crime
- Frequency and nature of contact (e.g., as defendant, victim, witness, juror, etc.) with the criminal justice system
- Satisfaction with the criminal justice system
- Familiarity with the prosecutor’s office and satisfaction with the prosecutor’s office

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The public safety survey contains a number of questions that can be used to supplement the index, explaining, in part, some of the different factors that might have an effect on public attitudes.

INTERPRETING THE PUBLIC SAFETY INDEX

Part of the skepticism surrounding performance measures, particularly those related to public safety, is that are many factors, as noted above, that can influence whether or not prosecutors are meeting their goals. Thus, it is important to take these factors into consideration when interpreting performance measures and in particular the public safety index ratings.

Of the various factors that can influence public attitudes about crime and safety, there are two addressed in the public safety survey: familiarity/impressions of the prosecutor's office and primary source of news information. Four questions dealing with the prosecutor's office yield the most information about how the public perceives the prosecutor's office:

- Overall, how aware are you of the work of the prosecutor's office in your community?
- Is the prosecutor's office important for public safety/reduction in crime?
- How would you best describe the handling of cases by the prosecutor's office?
- The prosecutor's office does a good job of addressing neighborhood problems (respondents rate their level of agreement with the statement).

Using the same process described above, an index of prosecutor's office performance was created based on these questions. Responses were scored from 0 to 10, with 0 reflecting a negative opinion of the prosecutor's office and 10 reflecting a positive opinion. Illustrative ratings from one of the study sites are shown in Exhibit 3 below, and indicate that the public perceives the prosecutor's office to be performing fairly well (a rating of 5 would indicate ambivalence toward the office's performance).

Exhibit 3
Prosecutor Office Performance Index Ratings

Index Measure	Baseline Index Value	Follow-up Index Value
Familiarity with and impressions of the prosecutor’s office performance	6.68	6.74

This finding, in and of itself, would seem to indicate that people’s perceptions of the prosecutor’s office may not affect their opinions about crime and safety. However, comparing the prosecutor performance index ratings with the three different public safety ratings do indicate a relationship. As public attitude about fear of crime increased (e.g., people reported higher levels of fear), public attitude about the prosecutor’s office performance decreased, which suggests that those people who are most fearful of crime have the least confidence in the prosecutor’s office. The same holds true for changes in crime rate—people who believed crime rates had increased felt less favorably about the prosecutor’s office than those people who believed crime rates had either stayed the same or decreased.

Actual crime rates may also affect attitudes about public safety, as might the media’s portrayal of the amount of crime in a jurisdiction. As shown in Exhibit 4, using the information from one of the study sites and looking only at one form of violent crime—robberies—it is clear that there is a disconnect between actual crime and people’s perception of it.

Exhibit 4
Number of Reported Robberies and Perceived Fear of Crime

	Baseline Measure	Follow-up Measure
Number of reported robberies per 1,000 people	435	419
Perceived change in crime rate	5.48	5.55

Although the differences are slight in this illustration, there is a pattern. Fewer robberies were reported at the time of the follow-up survey than the baseline survey, yet people believed that crime had increased more at the time of the follow-up than at the baseline. This, obviously, can be a source of real frustration for prosecutors, whose successes in affecting crime rates may not translate into positive changes in performance measures.

This notion is one that is supported by researchers, who have found that even in times of significant decreases in crime, public concerns about crime and safety are not alleviated (Yanich, 2004). In fact, some contend that media portrayals of nearly every crime and the sensational nature of reporting have an impact on public attitudes about crime and safety (Surette, 2007).

The public safety survey included a question about the media that focused exclusively on the source of news information. Respondents were asked whether their primary source for news came from local television, national television, newspapers, radio, the Internet, or some other source. In general, in the study site used for this analysis, those who get news from local television scored higher on fear of crime and change in crime, meaning that where they get their news affects perceptions about crime and public safety.

Clearly there are a number of factors that can “explain” the public safety index findings. Some of these factors can be documented and accounted for—public opinion about the prosecutor’s office, actual crime rates, and where people get their news. Prosecutors have two options in interpreting the index ratings.

First, prosecutors can put the ratings into “context” by examining public perception of the office, comparing actual crime rates to perceived changes in crime rates, and exploring how the source of local news information may affect fear of crime and perceptions of public safety.

Second, prosecutors can choose to ignore these factors knowing that over time, with regular administration of the public safety survey and calculation of the index values, the effects of these various factors will be “normalized.” In other words, where people get their news information is unlikely

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to change and therefore it will have the same effect on perceptions of public safety every time the survey is administered. Whichever option a prosecutor chooses, the most important consideration is that this information provides an empirically-based, easy-to-understand measure of the public's attitude about public safety which can be used to assess how well the prosecutor's office is meeting its goal of ensuring public safety.

USING THE PUBLIC SAFETY INDEX TO DETERMINE HOW YOUR OFFICE MEASURES UP

The purpose of the public safety survey and the resultant public safety index is to provide prosecutors with a tool and a means for establishing and measuring performance related to the goal of ensuring public safety. Implementing a public safety index not only allows prosecutors to gauge how the public feels about crime but also creates a mechanism for prosecutors to plan strategically to address perceptions of public safety.

As noted earlier, the first time a public safety survey is administered, it provides a baseline for determining results—how well the office is performing. The baseline index rating should be viewed as the initial starting point for performance measurement, i.e., the point from which all change will be measured. Thus, using the initial baseline index rating, a prosecutor can determine how much or how little improvement the office has made with regard to ensuring public safety.

The baseline index ratings can also be used to establish annual performance measures for public safety. For example, if the baseline index rating for fear of crime is 3.58 (as shown in Exhibit 2), then the prosecutor's office may wish to target a 1 point increase in the rating over the coming year. Doing so has some distinct advantages and disadvantages.

First, determining how much of a change is desired allows prosecutors to make statements about performance without focusing on the rating itself. For example, the performance measure is stated as improving the public's fear of crime by 1 point (e.g., from 3.58 to 4.58), thereby working to reduce fear of crime. If the 1 point gain is achieved, the prosecutor is able to say that the office met its performance measure and the office is performing well even if the index value (in this example 4.58) is still relatively low. This can be very advantageous over time to show continual improvement and for demonstrating that performance is sustained.

Second, establishing an expected amount of change has its disadvantages. Failure to meet the goal, even by the smallest margin, leaves room for criticism of the office's performance. Thus, a half point gain, when a 1 point gain was targeted, is viewed as poor performance. On the other hand, if no expected change is articulated, a half-point gain can be viewed as satisfactory performance.

Regardless of how the index ratings are used as performance measures, it is important to keep in mind the reason for implementing a measurement system:

- Performance measures give prosecutors evidence to support and justify their funding requests.
- Performance measures provide ammunition to fend off vague and amorphous criticism.
- Performance measures can help with overall office management (Nugent & Budzilowicz, 2007).

As such, performance measures should be used as part of the office's strategic planning and in setting office and staff priorities. If the public safety index ratings are low in a jurisdiction, the prosecutor should consider what steps he/she could take with regard to crime prevention, case processing, community outreach, sanctioning, etc. to improve public safety and fear of crime.

The exact strategies that might be implemented to address public safety and fear of crime will depend largely on the available resources, the office workload, and unique crime problems in a jurisdiction. There is some evidence to suggest that greater visibility in the community (e.g., attending community meetings, providing updates on case outcomes, etc.) and working in partnership with community members to address public nuisance issues can help to reduce fear of crime and make people feel safer. Working with the media to showcase prosecution outcomes and prosecutorial response can help to offset the ever-present lead stories of the latest series of crimes in the jurisdiction and can help to improve the public's perceptions of the prosecutor's office. For example, in a jurisdiction besieged by burglaries, no plea policies can also help address public safety issues with "get tough" approaches for certain types of crimes.

Whatever policies and procedures that are implemented, they should be logically related to addressing public safety and fear of crime. By establishing such policies and practices designed to ensure public safety and reduce fear of crime, any documented change in public safety index ratings can be attributed, at least in part, to the actions of the office and help demonstrate how the office is doing with respect to its goal of ensuring public safety.

Finally, for many, the ideal situation is to be able to compare their public safety index ratings to a national set of ratings or a national standard. Never mind that no national numbers exist, the intent of performance measures and the public safety index ratings is not to be able to compare an office to a national standard but rather to allow each office to establish the norm (or standard) for their office based on their jurisdiction's own unique characteristics and circumstances. In doing so, it helps to reduce outside criticism that a prosecutor's office is not performing up to a certain standard which may or may not be reasonable given the unique nature of crime in a jurisdiction.

APPENDIX

Public Safety Survey

Respondent Telephone # _____ Date _____

Interviewer _____

Good evening, I'm _____ with _____.

We are conducting a brief public opinion survey about important issues of the day. This survey is confidential and we are not selling anything.

Are you at least 18 years old?

Yes.....1 Continue

No.....2 Terminate

In this survey we would like to ask your opinion about public safety in _____ (name of jurisdiction.)

First, I'd like to ask you about the seriousness of local crime.

(Please circle only **one** response per question.)

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being a lot of a decrease and 5 being a lot of an increase:

	<i>Decreased a lot</i>	<i>Decreased somewhat</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Increased somewhat</i>	<i>Increased a lot</i>
1) In your opinion, how has the level of crime changed in your <i>neighborhood</i> in the past 12 months?	1	2	3	4	5
2) In your opinion, how has the level of crime changed in the <i>city/county</i> in the past 12 months?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not fearful and 5 being very fearful:

	<i>Not fearful at all</i>	<i>Not very fearful</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Fearful</i>	<i>Very fearful</i>
3) How fearful are you of becoming a victim of violent crime (for example, murder, rape, assault, and robbery)?	1	2	3	4	5

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4) How fearful are you of someone *breaking into your home*? 1 2 3 4 5

5) How fearful are you of having your *automobile stolen*? 1 2 3 4 5

	<i>None</i>	<i>1-3</i>	<i>4-6</i>	<i>7-9</i>	<i>10 people or more</i>
6) How many people do you know that have been the victim of a violent crime (i.e. murder, rape, robbery, assault, carjacking) in the last 12 months?	—	—	—	—	—

7) How many people do you know that have been the victim of a property crime (i.e. burglary, theft, arson) in the last 12 months?	—	—	—	—	—
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Next, I'd like to ask you about your personal safety in your neighborhood.

*(Please circle only **one** response per question.)*

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not safe and 5 being very safe:

	<i>Not safe at all</i>	<i>Not very safe</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Safe</i>	<i>Very safe</i>
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8) How safe do you feel in your *community as a whole*? 1 2 3 4 5

9) How safe are you from crime in your neighborhood *at night*? 1 2 3 4 5

10) How safe are you from crime in your neighborhood during *the day*? 1 2 3 4 5

11) How safe do you feel from crime in your *home*? 1 2 3 4 5

12) Over the last 12 months, has your fear of crime increased, decreased, or stayed the same? *Increased* *Decreased* *Stayed the same*

APPENDIX

Please rate how strongly you agree or disagree with whether the following conditions affect your feeling of safety in the community. (*Please circle only one response per question.*)

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strong disagreement and 5 being strong agreement, how much do you agree that:

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Somewhat disagree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
13) Abandoned cars in the community make me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
14) Rundown/neglected buildings in the community make me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
15) Poor street/house lighting in the community makes me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
16) Vandalism or graffiti in the community makes me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
17) Transients/homeless sleeping on benches, streets in the community makes me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
18) People panhandling/begging in the community makes me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
19) Prostitution in the community makes me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
20) People drunk/drinking in public make me feel unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5

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The following questions are about the _____
Prosecutor's Office.

21) In the past 12 months, have Yes No *Don't know/
you been in contact with the Can't remember*
_____ Prosecutor's
Office for any reason?

*If answered Yes to Question #21, please ask Questions #21a through 24.
If answered No, skip to Question #25.*

21a) If yes, what part of the prosecuting attorney's office (fraud and economic crime, investigators, victim witness unit, etc.) did you have contact?

(Please circle only one response per question.)

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not at all helpful and 5 being extremely helpful:

	<i>Not at all helpful</i>	<i>Somewhat helpful</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Very helpful</i>	<i>Extremely helpful</i>
22) How would you best describe your contact with the Prosecutor's Office?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not at all favorable and 5 being extremely favorable:

	<i>Not at all favorable</i>	<i>Somewhat favorable</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Very favorable</i>	<i>Extremely favorable</i>
23) How favorable are your feelings towards the Prosecutor's Office?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not at all fair and 5 being extremely fair:

	<i>Not at all fair</i>	<i>Somewhat fair</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Very fair</i>	<i>Extremely fair</i>
24) How would you best describe how the Prosecutor's Office treats victims?	1	2	3	4	5

And now I'd like to ask you about interaction with and knowledge of the _____ Prosecutor's Office.

(Please circle only one response per question.)

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not at all aware and 5 being very aware:

	<i>Not aware at all</i>	<i>Slightly aware</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Aware</i>	<i>Very aware</i>
25) Overall, how aware are you of the Prosecutor's Office work in your community?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being no interaction and 5 being a lot of interaction:

	<i>None</i>	<i>Very little</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Some</i>	<i>A lot</i>
26) How much interaction have you had with the Prosecutor's Office in the last 12 months?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being totally unknowledgeable and 5 being very knowledgeable:

	<i>Totally un- knowledgeable</i>	<i>Slightly knowledgeable</i>	<i>Unsure</i>	<i>Knowledgeable</i>	<i>Very knowledgeable</i>
27) How knowledgeable are you of why some cases go to trial and others cases don't?	1	2	3	4	5
28) How knowledgeable are you of the legal reasons why the Prosecutor's Office does or does not file charges against an individual?	1	2	3	4	5
29) Have you ever served as a juror in the past 5 years?		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Unsure</i>	
30) Have you served as a juror in any court in _____ in the past five years? <i>(Name of jurisdiction)</i>		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Unsure</i>	

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*If answered Yes to Question #29 and/or 30, please ask Question #31.
If answered No, skip to Question #32.*

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being no increase and 5 being a substantial increase:

	<i>No increase at all</i>	<i>Slight increase</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Increased</i>	<i>Increased substantially</i>
31) Since you served as a juror, how would you rate your overall level of knowledge of the criminal justice system/prosecution process?	1	2	3	4	5

Finally, I'd like to ask your general opinion about the work of the _____ Prosecutor's Office
(Please circle only one response per question.)

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being unimportant and 5 being very important:

	<i>Not important at all</i>	<i>Slightly important</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Very important</i>
32) Is the Prosecutor's Office important for public safety/ reduction in crime?	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not at all competent and 5 being extremely competent:

	<i>Not at all competent</i>	<i>Somewhat competent</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Very competent</i>	<i>Extremely competent</i>
33) How would you best describe the handling of cases by the Prosecutor's Office?	1	2	3	4	5

APPENDIX

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being strong disagreement and 5 being strong agreement, how much do you agree that:

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Somewhat disagree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>
34) The Prosecutor's Office does a good job addressing neighborhood problems.	1	2	3	4	5
35) The Prosecutor's Office holds people accountable when they create problems (i.e., prostitution, panhandling, drinking, trespassing, etc.) in the neighborhood.	1	2	3	4	5
36) The Prosecutor's Office fosters community participation in the judicial process and gives citizens a vital role in the community.	1	2	3	4	5
37) The Prosecutor's Office addresses problems of unemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, etc.	1	2	3	4	5
38) The Prosecutor's Office swiftly administers justice for crimes such as prostitution, marijuana use, public intoxication, trespassing, etc.	1	2	3	4	5

A few final questions:

39. May I ask your age please? (*Write age in blank.*) ___

40. What is your race? 1 Black/African American 2 White
 3 Hispanic 4 Native American
 5 Asian 6 Other 7 Mixed

41. What zip code do you live in? (*Write zip code in blank*) _____

ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY

42. Overall, where would you say you get most of your news from: local television, national television, newspapers, radio, magazines, the Internet, or some other source? (Probe if necessary: If you had to choose one, which would it be?) *Write answer in blank.* _____

43. Interviewer: *Do not ask, please circle:* 1 Male 2 Female

This completes our interview. Thank you for your cooperation.

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