

ASC Board Conference Call Meeting
January 7, 2009

Participating - Bob Agnew, Jo Ann Belknap, Todd Clear, Bonnie Fisher, Karen Heimer, Wayne Osgood, Alex Piquero, Rick Rosenfeld, Cassia Spohn, Pat VanVoorhis, David Weisburd, Chris Eskridge (recorder)

1. The new Raben Group contract regarding the DOJ reorganization lobbying effort was discussed. A motion to accept the contract was made by Chris Eskridge and seconded by Cassia Spohn. The Board expressed a concern that the costs were excessive and it was unclear what new services would be provided. The Raben Group will be asked to clarify what new services would be provided and to review costs. Todd will contact a number of other entities that might be interested in joining in this effort (ie., ACJS, ASA, ADPCCJ, John Jay, etc.). Washington, D.C. based ASC members will also be contacted to see if they might be interested in participating in some of these efforts. The motion was withdrawn, pending further discussion with the Raben Group and the other entities, per above.
2. Todd will prepare a letter for the signatures of Al Blumstein and James Q. Wilson, addressed to the new Attorney General, advocating the establishment of an Office of Justice Research and Statistics. The ASC Board is asked to identify co-signers for this letter.
3. The idea of the Board officially nominating and/or supporting individual appointments to positions within DOJ was discussed. It was concluded that the Board should not do this. There was some discussion of how ASC might influence the establishment of minimum qualifications for major DOJ appointments. Todd will explore this matter further.