

## **For Immediate Release**

### **WV Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) Wins Phillip Hoke Award for Excellence in Analysis**

The WV SAC won the Phillip Hoke National Publication Award for Excellence in the Statistical/Management Report category for "Establishing the 'Statistical Accuracy' of Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) in West Virginia." The award was presented by the Justice Research and Statistics Association in October 2006 at the annual Bureau of Justice Statistics/Justice Research and Statistics Association conference. The WV SAC serves as a unit in the WV Division of Criminal Justice Services. Dr. Stephen M. Haas is director of the WV SAC.

The Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) is a national nonprofit association of analysts, researchers, and practitioners throughout the justice system dedicated to providing accurate and timely information in support of sound policy development. Created in 1974 by the Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs), the state agencies responsible for collecting, analyzing, and disseminating justice data, JRSA works closely with the Bureau of Justice Statistics and other federal agencies to promote the effective use of criminal and juvenile justice information. Directors of the state SACs are the voting members of the association.

The Phillip Hoke Award recognizes outstanding publications by state Statistical Analysis Centers. JRSA presents the Award annually to SACs that have demonstrated excellence in translating statistics and research into publications that inform policy. The Hoke Award was established in 1986. The following year it was named in memory of Phillip Hoke, who became the first Louisiana SAC director in 1972. He was also one of the founders of JRSA (then called the Criminal Justice Statistics Association), and served as vice president and president of the Association. Phillip Hoke brought technological expertise to the SAC. He merged operations with analysis, and set an example for his colleagues to live up to in his concern for developing useful and high-quality reports.

The SAC publication contest is competitive, with each report being rated by three judges. The Hoke Award is presented in two categories: Research/Policy Analysis and Statistical/Management. Within each category, awards are given for small SACs (those with fewer than five full-time professional staff), and for large SACs. This report and other WV SAC publications can be viewed online at <http://www.wvdcjs.com/statsanalysis/publications.html>.