25.12 Research Supported by the Department of Justice (DOJ)

To ensure that human subjects are adequately protected from unreasonable risks and properly informed of the potential harms and benefits from their participation in research, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and recipients of its funds are required to comply with 28 CFR Part 46 (Protection of Human Subjects) or the “Common Rule.”

Additionally, all projects funded under NIJ are required to submit a NIJ Privacy Certificate. Submission of a Privacy Certificate as part of an IRB application is required regardless of whether the project involves the collection of identifiable data. In cases where no personally identifiable information will be collected, the Privacy Certificate should contain a statement to this effect and a brief project description. The Privacy Certificate assures that the applicant understands his responsibilities to protect the confidentiality of research and statistical information and has developed specific procedures to ensure that this information is only used or revealed in accordance with the requirements of 42 USC §3789g and 28 CFR Part 22. The Privacy Certificate is signed by the Principal Investigator(s), submitted with the IRB application, and is then signed by the IO upon successful completion of the IRB processes. The principal investigator is responsible for submitting the completed Privacy Certificate to NIJ. Privacy Certificate instructions and guidelines can be found at the NIJ website.

It is the responsibility of the principal investigator to ensure compliance with any additional NIJ requirements for human subject protection. It also is the responsibility of the IRB to ensure that additional requirements for human subject protection have been met prior to IRB approval of the research project.