

Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Program (PIECP) - Research to be conducted by The George Washington University, of Washington, DC

As part of its overall mission to manage and improve the Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Program (PIECP), the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the National Correctional Industries Association (NCIA) have asked George Washington University (GWU) to research the direct and indirect beneficiaries of inmate PIECP wages. The research will help to understand and better demonstrate the benefits of PIECP inmate employment. Results should be available in late 2003.

The University is selecting a few PIECP states and firms for the research effort. It will rely on records (not interviews), minimize the information requested, and meet stringent confidentiality requirements. Neither BJA nor NCIA will be told the names of participants. GWU will not release identifying information on inmates, firms, or states, or reveal the time period of the data.

If you are contacted, and you have comments or questions, please direct them to either Professor Anthony Yezer, Director of the GWU Center, at (202) 994-6755 or via email at yezer@gwu.edu or Thomas W. Petersik, Ph.D., co-principal investigator, at (703) 323-5272 or via email at tkpetersik@yahoo.com. Questions about confidentiality can also be directed to the GWU Assistant Vice President for Health Research, Compliance and Technology Transfer, at 202-994-2995.

To protect everyone, please ensure that every person assisting in the study is informed of the following steps:

- 1) Do not contact BJA or NCIA about your state's role in this research;
- 2) Don't ask and don't tell anyone, ever, whether or not your state is participating; and
- 3) Do not discuss the inmates or firms by name, or the data time period, to anyone not working on the research, including within your department.

Should you be asked to participate, your assistance in this effort would be appreciated by GWU, BJA and NCIA.