THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR
Jim Jessen
On August 12, 2020, I issued my first CINA Director’s Note, saying “We have entered a new world of law enforcement and criminal investigations, and the COVID-19 pandemic has and will continue to impact the criminal justice system. Even as we navigate today’s challenges, we can look back at the lessons we can learn from the past and apply them today.”

The annual statistics report for the 12 months ending March 31st noted that crime trends were generally up in 2019, with a 9% increase in violent crime and a 7% increase in property crime. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted many areas, including crime trends and public safety. The pandemic has posed new challenges and highlighted the importance of adapting and being flexible in response to changing circumstances.

My two big takeaways from this last year are (1) the only constant in life is (unexpected) change, and (2) a good organization and team sees the opportunities in such a dynamic environment, thinks creatively, and pivots quickly, and not only survives but thrives.

The annual CINA update is an opportunity to review the activities of the past year, share upcoming events, and provide updates from the CINA and OUP teams. Join us for this annual event to learn more about the latest research and developments in the field of criminal investigations.

CINA Update
You’re invited to submit articles, photos, videos, and story ideas to include in upcoming newsletters. Submit your ideas on our website for more information.

CINA Open RFP 20-21
CINA is seeking white papers presenting research ideas intended to assess the impact of the pandemic on criminal networks and organized crime. This RFP is open to all researchers and organizations. Submit your proposal by the deadline of September 14, 2020.

The Evolution of Human Trafficking During the COVID-19 Pandemic | Council on Foreign Relations
Omar Camarillo, Cecilia Torres, and Nancy Hirst Endowed Chair at George Mason University Schar School of Policy and Government, Louise Shelley
Wednesday, September 16, 2020, 12:00pm-1:30pm
This event will discuss how data analytics, AI, and collaboration with law enforcement agencies led to the dismantling of a large international sex trafficking organization.

Payment Ecosystem Laundering and the Facilitation of Virtual Event/Transaction
Speakers
Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 12:00pm-1:30pm
This talk will highlight how criminal organizations circumvent the payments and banking ecosystem’s risk and compliance controls by setting up fake online businesses and laundering. The talk will also discuss how to identify and prevent these types of schemes.

Online Commercial Sex Ads
Speaker
Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 12:00pm-1:30pm
This event will explore the connections between Mexican drug cartels and U.S.-based gangs and how the public perceives these criminal organizations.

Meet the Eastern New Mexico University CINA Summer Research Team
Omar Camarillo
Cecilia Torres, Ph.D., a professor of criminal justice and sociology, conducted this research as part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Summer Research Team (SRT) Program for Minority and students.

The Evolution of Human Trafficking During the COVID-19 Pandemic
A Canadian family, searching for a lost puppy, found a victim of human trafficking.

CINA is an integral part of the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Center on Transnational Crime. CINA is a national resource for information and training on international crime prevention and counterterrorism.

Meet the team

Virtual Event/ Finding Trafficking Networks in Online Commercial Ads
Meeting: September 15, 2020, 12:00pm-1:00pm
This event will provide updates from the CINA and OUP teams, and a look at the emerging challenge landscape.

Beyond 9/11/ Homeland Security and Transnational Crime Virtual Panel Discussion
Meeting: September 15, 2020, 12:30pm-1:00pm
This panel will discuss the current state of homeland security and transnational crime, and the role of research and analysis in addressing these challenges.

Virtual Event/Transacolumns
You’re invited to submit articles, photos, videos, and story ideas to include in upcoming newsletters. Submit your ideas on our website for more information.

Stay Connected

CINA Update
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CINA Network News
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New Research

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New Research