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October 6, 2022

Dr. Alex Piquero
 Director
 Bureau of Justice Statistics
 810 7th Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20531

Dear Dr. Piquero,

On behalf of the organizations we lead, the [Population Association of America \(PAA\)](#) and [Association of Population Centers \(APC\)](#), we want to congratulate you on your recent appointment as the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS).

PAA and APC are two affiliated organizations representing over 3,000 behavioral and social scientists, including demographers, sociologists, economists, and epidemiologists, and over 40 federally funded population research centers nationwide. Population scientists study the individual, societal, and environmental consequences of population change. Their expertise covers a wide range of topics including mortality, morbidity, fertility, adolescent health, aging, population forecasting, immigration, and human-environmental interactions. Population scientists depend on indirect support from all of the federal statistical agencies, including BJS, to conduct their research and research training activities.

Our organizations were encouraged to learn that you have identified improving access to timely, accurate, and high-quality data as one of your top priorities. Further, we were pleased to hear that you prioritize engagement with outside experts and the data user community. To that end, we look forward to facilitating opportunities for BJS data users within our organizations to interact with you and your colleagues. Please do not hesitate to contact us if the PAA and APC and our extensive network of population scientists, both nationally and internationally, can ever be of assistance to you and the agency.

Once again, congratulations on your new position. We are looking forward to working with you and being of assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sonalde Desai
 President
 Population Association of America

Dr. Sara R. Curran
 President
 Association of Population Centers