

## **Procedures IJ followed to obtain equitable sharing figures and determine adoptions and joint investigations, using the Department of Justice's CATS database**

### **Creating the data file:**

In CATS, the DAG71\_T table is the population of all equitable sharing requests. However, other tables have information to determine the number of seizures and the value of proceeds. The Institute for Justice merged the ASSET\_T table with the DAG71\_T table (using the ASSET\_ID variable) and then merged the resulting spreadsheet with the NCIC\_CD\_L table (using the OAG\_NCIC\_CD variable).

### **Data cleaning:**

DAG71\_T includes sharing between the Department of Justice, the Treasury Department, and foreign countries. To keep only equitable sharing activity with state and local agencies, IJ removed observations that were not state or local agencies or task forces using NCIC\_AGCY\_TYP and NCIC\_GRP\_ID (from the NCIC\_CD\_L table). To keep only state and local agencies and task forces in the population, IJ removed all observations that had a value for NCIC\_GRP\_ID and all observations that were keyed as “federal” or “other” by the NCIC\_AGCY\_TYP variable (“F” = federal; “O” = other). This results in the data file available for download [here](#).

### **Equitable sharing seizures:**

In order to calculate the total number of seizures that occurred in each state by year, IJ summed seizures (ASSET\_ID) by the year seized (SZ\_DT from the ASSET\_T table) and state seized (SZ\_ST from the ASSET\_T table). This was further disaggregated into adoptions and joint investigations using SHR\_TYP (from the DAG71\_T table; “A” = adoption; “J” = joint investigation). The totals for federal equitable sharing seizures were also calculated which are the sum of the state totals and also include U.S. territories.

### **Equitable sharing proceeds:**

In order to calculate the total proceeds paid to state and local agencies in each state by year, IJ summed SHR\_EXEC\_AMT (found in DAG71\_T) by the year the equitable sharing took place (SHR\_EXEC\_DT from the DAG\_71 table) and the state of the agency that received the proceeds.

To determine an agency's state IJ used the first two letters of the agency's NCIC code (OAG\_NCIC\_CD from the DAG71\_T table). We did this because seizures can be made by agencies in multiple states. For example, in the case of Charles Clarke, whose story is featured at the beginning of the second edition of *Policing for Profit*, both Kentucky and Ohio agencies

requested proceeds from the seizure. If we used the SZ\_ST variable, all of those proceeds would have counted toward Kentucky rather than being split with Ohio. Note that Nebraska's NCIC codes can start with either "NE" or "NB."

Equitable sharing proceeds were further disaggregated into adoptions and joint investigations using SHR\_TYP (from the DAG71\_T table; "A" = adoption; "J" = joint investigation). The totals for federal equitable sharing payments were also calculated; these are the sum of state totals and also include U.S. territories.