



## Afghanistan Justice Sector Support Program Update November 2007

*U.S. DOS/INL's JSSP program seeks to increase the capacity of the Afghan Government and Afghan legal practitioners to deliver fair and transparent criminal justice and rule of law services to the people of Afghanistan. To that end, JSSP advisors work with the Attorney General's Office and the Ministry of Justice on a wide range of initiatives. In addition, JSSP conducts police/prosecutor training in four provinces and works to promote Afghans' access to justice services by implementing provincial justice conferences, training and mentoring of defense lawyers, and working on a range of other projects.*

### ***JSSP strengthens justice reform in Ghazni***



**Governor Faizulah Faizan welcomed participants to the Ghazni Provincial Justice Conference. The conference brought together national, provincial, and district-level Afghan leaders with international donors to identify strategies to strengthen the justice sector in Ghazni.**

On Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, JSSP, with support from U.S. military officials, organized the Ghazni Provincial Justice Conference. Kabul-based Afghan justice leaders facilitated discussions among five working groups on police, prosecution, the courts, the Ministry of Justice, and corrections. Each group discussed the challenges they face in the administration of justice and the provision of public safety, identified potential solutions and developed a list of action-items and goals. National and Provincial leaders each pledged closer cooperation and together with JSSP pledged to continue working to address the issues identified at the conference to strengthen Ghazni's justice sector.

### ***JSSP concludes AGO Anti-Corruption Training***

In November, JSSP completed its first formal anti-corruption training program for the new prosecutors of the Attorney General's Office.

The training—which emphasized case building strategies and techniques and included specific instruction in corruption investigative methods—will serve as a base for future anti-corruption instruction both in Kabul and the provinces.

### ***Regional JSSP Completes 5-week training course for Year 2 students***

JSSP's regional teams recently completed the first Year 2 5-week training course for police and prosecutors. The 5-week training course included instruction on criminal investigative techniques including witness and suspect interviewing, report writing, introduction to physical evidence and case management among other topics. Regional JSSP teams in Balkh, Herat and Nangarhar are currently finalizing plans for the next phase of the program while the recently established Kunduz team prepares to launch its first 5-week training course.



**Year-2 students gather evidence at the scene of a simulated assault. Police Officer Rahim Shah (center) gathers evidence while Military Prosecutor Fazul Rahman (left) and Balkh Prosecutor Ruhullah Rafat observe and record the evidence collection process.**