## Chapter 1: Ensuring Community Safety and Criminal Investigations

#### Section 1: Criminal Trends and Measures

### 1. Confirmed and Cleared Criminal Cases

In 2010, there were 1,585,856 confirmed criminal cases. This is down 117,188 (6.9%) from the previous year, but is still high compared to the levels of the mid-1960s to mid- 1970s of around 1,200,000 offenses per year.

The number of confirmed criminal cases surged from 1996, with a striking increase in street robberies and purse snatching, breaking and entering, burglary and other cases of larceny. To combat this, police began implementing integrated street crime and home invasion deterrent measures from January 2003.





#### 2. Measures Against Individual Crimes

## 1) Investment Fraud (Asset Formation Crime)

Of cleared investment fraud cases (asset formation crimes) in 2010, the majority

were for either soliciting contributions under the guise of investments in foreign and domestic businesses or offenses involving financial instruments.

Classification Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cases Cleared	17	12	22	29	31
Arrested Persons	73	86	117	125	110

## 2) Specified Commercial Transactions Offenses

In terms of cleared cases for specified commercial transactions in 2010, particular items that stand out targeted the elderly with overpriced inspections for home remodeling and cases in which salesmen enter the customer's home for extended periods and force them to purchase overpriced bedding or other items.

Classification	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cases Cleared	138	112	142	152	193
Arrested Persons	385	299	279	371	430

**Column:** Arrangements with relevant ministries for providing information to financial institutions in order to freeze accounts used for criminal activity

The damage from malicious scams targeting the elderly and illegal loans which take advantage of the impoverished is never-ending. Public fear of such crimes has yet to be dispelled.

such, in June 2010 the Japanese As government worked together to implement an initiative focused on preventing the spread of damage and supporting recovery from such crimes. A working team established to protect against consumer and lifestyle crimes arranged for information on the account and unauthorized usages in cases of accounts expected of use in criminal activities to be provided to financial institutions.

## Section 2: Developing Infrastructure for Criminal Arrests and Deterrence

#### 1. Enhancing Investigation Capability

Investigations need to further emphasize objective evidence obtained through investigative techniques without overly relying on interrogations. Fundamental studies and research are underway on issues in investigative techniques and interrogation, including the Study Group for Enhancing Investigative Techniques and Interrogation, hosted by the Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission Chairman.

In addition, in order to appropriately address the rapid increase seen in dead bodies and promote proper autopsies, the autopsy system is being enhanced by increasing the number of coroners. There was also a discussion on the system that Japan needs for investigating causes of death in the Study Group on a System for Investigating Cause of Death to Help Prevent Overlooking Criminal Deaths. The final report for this study was compiled and published in April 2011.

**Column:** Interim report for the Study Group for Enhancing Investigative Techniques and Interrogation

In April 2011, the Study Group for Enhancing Investigative Techniques and Interrogation sorted through the roughly one year of discussion since its establishment to clarify its subsequent agenda. These findings were compiled into a midterm report, which revealed several things. First, countries with more transparent interrogation procedures use a number of investigative methods not present in Japan, while interrogations play a more significant role in clarifying the truth of cases in Japan than in other countries. Second, other countries have more confirmed crimes and make more arrests per capita than Japan, and report higher acquittal rates.

While taking this interim report into account, the group continues its study of the function of interrogation within the overall investigative structure, developing more sophisticated and transparent interrogation methods, and enhancing investigative methods other than interrogation.

### 2. Utilizing Scientific Techniques

To strengthen its investigative capacity, police utilize DNA profiling, automated fingerprint and palm print identification systems and other scientific techniques in investigations.

## 3. Thoroughness of Fair, Careful Investigations and Response to Reform of the Judicial System

To make all its investigations appropriate and promote fair investigations without excessively depending on confessions, the police are committed to having senior investigators conduct appropriate to investigations. Police are also working to further promote optimization of interrogation. To accomplish this, police establish are working to proper investigative policies so that investigators completely understand the case at hand, promoting systematic investigations applicable to the nature of the case, and consistently providing needed instruction and guidance for interrogation methods based on qualities of the suspect and evidence materials. Police are also implementing various initiatives, including training for staff at all levels and supervision for suspect interrogations. At the same time, interrogations are being videotaped and recorded on a trial basis to adequately address judicial reforms.

#### 4. Incident Responsiveness

With indiscriminate killings and other police events in recent years occurring in wider variety and increased speed, the initial response of police becomes increasingly difficult. To keep initial responses in line with the demands of the times, the NPA formulated its Guidelines for Strengthening Initial Police Response as a basic plan to comprehensively strengthen initial police response in December 2008. Prefectural police have received these guidelines and are working to implement them, with a focus on improving communication command and case response capacities.

### Section 3: Measures to Maintain Public Safety

- 1. Safety Measures to Protect Women and Children
- (1) Measures to Protect Children from Crime

In addition to its conventional work in

case clearance and crime prevention, police are aggressively implementing preemptive measures to prevent children from being victimized and allowing them to safely get to and from school. First, they have increased patrols stationed in school zones during hours children commute to and from school. Police headquarters nationwide have also established Juvenile and Women Aegis Team (JWAT) exclusively working to take measures including identifying persons showing signs of possible sexual abuse such as accosting and stalking, and clearing such cases and providing guidance, warnings, and other actions.

# (2) Measures Addressing Stalking and Spousal Violence

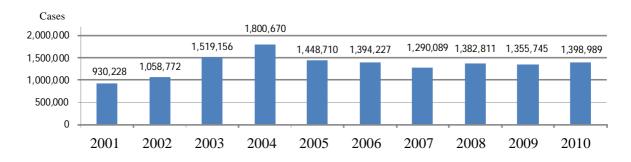
Based on the Anti-Stalking Act and in line with victims' wishes, the police are working to prevent the expansion of damage from stalking through administrative measures such as issuing warnings, restrain orders, and providing support. In addition, police are aggressively applying anti-stalking regulations and other laws and ordinances to arrest stalkers.

For cases of spousal violence, police will open investigations based on the victims' wishes or other circumstances. Police are also taking measures to warn perpetrators in cases where it is found hard to establish a case to pursue criminal charges.

## 2. Improving and Strengthening Police Safety Consultations

The police have established a system to facilitate response to those looking for consultation. The MPD and prefectural police headquarters have established general police consultation offices, and local police stations have established safety consultation windows. Also, former police officers and others with a wealth of experience have been

posted as part-time police safety counselors along with police personnel.



Cases handled with consultation

## 3. Public-Private Crime Deterrence Measures

With confirmed criminal cases remaining at high levels and conditions severe, true security improvements are only halfway done. Further, the social norms and strong bonds that have supported public safety in Japan have been diluted over time, and there are concerns that security will deteriorate again if nothing is done. Therefore, the police are promoting creation of a crime-resistant society. In this society, the police drive various community entities in different areas of the community in order to provide people with information in timely fashion to

help prevent crime and establish a stratified crime prevention network to enable faster acceptance of reports when incidents do occur.

## Section 4: Preventing Juvenile Delinquency and Promoting Sound Upbringing

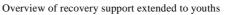
#### 1. Overview of Juvenile Delinquency

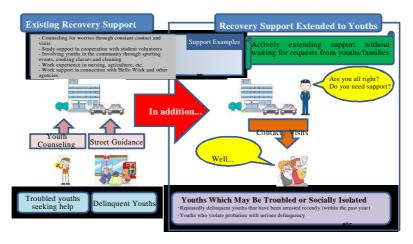
The number of juvenile cases cleared in 2010 declined for the seventh consecutive year. However, juvenile crime rates continue to be high with 5.1 times more arrests per 1,000 persons in the same age demographic than for adults. The percentage of repeat offenders among juveniles arrested for criminal offenses is on the rise and reached 31.5% in 2010.



Juvenile Arrests and Per Capita Figures (1949-2010)

#### Comprehensive Measures for Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency





The police have established juvenile support centers in all prefectural police and provide juvenile counseling, street guidance, public education and other general anti-delinquency measures run by juvenile guidance officials. In the interest improving youth morals of and strengthening social ties, police have worked to build a society without juvenile extending delinquents by recovery support services to youths and fostering a social trend of watching over youth from 2010.

Police are also working to collaborate

with schools and other agencies and organizations by forming youth support teams, building a school-police communication system, and dispatching school supporters. Police also promote activities for sound development of youth with cooperation of juvenile guidance officials, university students and other juvenile police volunteers.

Additionally, police are committed to rigorous, accurate investigations and surveys into juvenile cases based on the individual youth and the nature of their juvenile proceedings.