

Bruce Smith, Sr. (1892-1955)

by Pamela Tontodonato, PhD, Kent State University, Chair, ACJS Bruce Smith Sr. Award Sub-Committee 2009-2010, February 2010

Bruce Smith, Sr. was born in New York and graduated from Columbia University with a law degree and a master's in Political Science in 1916. He is well-known for his expertise in policing and was instrumental in establishing the Uniform Crime Reports (1930). Smith's career as a researcher and police consultant spanned decades, and he published extensively on various aspects of policing and crime. He was the Director for the Institute of Public Administration (previously the New York Bureau of Municipal Research). Smith also served on numerous commissions on the administration of justice and conducted a major policing survey of about 50 U.S. cities including New Orleans and Baltimore and several foreign countries.

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences sponsors the Bruce Smith Sr. Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to criminal justice as an academic or professional endeavor. This award is given to one who has demonstrated leadership in the administration of criminal justice as an academic and/or professional discipline in a manner which reflects the highest standards of integrity and performance. The award recognizes a person who has been actively involved in criminal justice research or other endeavor which has made substantial contributions to the emerging body of knowledge in criminal justice.

References and Further Reading

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