

State of Connecticut



CJIS Roadmap

Criminal Justice Information System

2020 Vol. 9 No. 1

CT Information Sharing System: at the Center of Information

It's long been said that we live in the information age. Now, the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) is making more information available to the Connecticut criminal justice community than was ever possible before.

CJIS completed the deployment of code allowing for connection of the remaining information source systems into the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS). Also, MultiVue capabilities are now online and Judicial disposition messaging will soon be enabled.

Because of this, CISS has realized one aspect of what the project always intended. Authorized users only need to go to one place to access criminal and non-criminal information from six state agencies and law enforcement entities throughout Connecticut. Also, those law enforcement agencies capable of sending arrest information through CISS can now receive messages from the Judicial Branch about the status of a case as it moves through the process.

CISS MultiVue index pages show all individuals, locations, events, and property associated with a particular search on a single screen. This creates the "one-stop-shop" for information searches.



Image #1: Visualization of information available on a laptop.

Another benefit of searching for information through CISS is that all data is validated and continually being updated. Users can retrieve or receive information in near real time ensuring that they are making decisions based on the best information available.

Because information from 14 source systems will be coming into a central repository, non-criminal justice agencies have expressed interest in accessing CISS. Legislation also has been approved that specifically requires entities to use CISS information to analyze data.

In 2017, the legislature passed a law requiring the Connecticut Sentencing Commission to examine the potential disparities in pretrial sentencing outcome related to race, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic status of defendants. A preliminary report was due this month.

During the 2019 legislative session, a law was passed that requires that the Sentencing Commission have access to CISS for its reports.

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CJIS Governing Board

Revolutionary Technology Linking
Connecticut's Criminal Justice &
Law Enforcement Community
January 2020 Vol. 9 No. 1

www.ct.gov/cjis



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Comments, corrections, and inquiries
about CJIS Roadmap and CISS should be
directed to:

CJIS.HelpDesk@ct.gov

for documentation by the CJIS Help Desk
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~ Meetings ~

CJIS Quarterly Governing Board Meeting

April 23, 2020

at 1:30 pm

Division of Criminal Justice

300 Corporate Pace

Rocky Hill, CT 06067

*For More information about CISS and CJIS
publications, got to www.ct.gov/cjis*

CJIS to Play Role in New Use Of Force Reporting

Among the many pieces of legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2019, was Public Act 19-90, An Act Concerning The Use Of Force And Pursuits By Police And Increasing Police Accountability And Transparency. The legislation is part of trend in Connecticut, and nationwide, to collect more data about the criminal justice system and those who come into contact with it.

Starting February 1, 2020, the law requires police departments to submit use of force reports to the Office of Police and Management (OPM) each calendar year. OPM will analyze the data and create reports based on that information. Those reports will be made available to the public.

This new project is similar to the state's racial profiling prohibition project maintained by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU). Use of force reporting will contain the race and sex of the individuals, the type and number of times force was used, and if the individual sustained injuries as a result of the use of force.

Like the racial profiling project, CCSU Policy and Research Specialist Ken Barone will head the data collection project. The data will be compiled and analyzed by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy at CCSU.

Because the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) created the data collection process for the racial profiling project, Barone again sought CJIS expertise for the new project.

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CT Information Sharing System: at the Center of Information

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A final report is due January 1, 2021 and CJIS personnel are working with the Commission to connect it to CISS.

Also in 2019, a law was passed to increase transparency in the Connecticut criminal justice system. Particularly, the law seeks to analyze prosecution and parole outcomes and any potential discrepancies that may be a result of race, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic status of defendants.

In order to collect and analyze the case-level data of defendants, the law requires the state's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to get information from CISS. By July 1, 2020, OPM must compile a report on the data and submit it to the state's Criminal Justice Commission and post it to a public website.

By January 1, 2021, the Board of Pardons and Paroles must report to OPM and post on its website the outcomes of preliminary and final parole revocation hearings, the number of individuals remanded to the Department of Corrections, and the demographics of those who went through the parole system.

A law also was passed to track police use of force incidents. An article about that matter can be found further in this newsletter.

Non-traditional law enforcement agencies also are looking for access to CISS. These agencies



Image #2: Visualization of analytics.

have small law enforcement units within their departments that could benefit from CISS search. These include:

- Department of Social Services Child Support Services
- Department of Motor Vehicles/State Marshals
- Department of Consumer Protection Drug Control Division

As more information comes into CISS and more agencies become aware of its capabilities and benefits, more requests for access will follow. Because this truly is the information age. The more information you have, the better the decisions that can be made and CISS is at the center of it all.

CJIS to Play Role in New Use Of Force Reporting

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Currently, Barone's group collects information from police departments about Taser usage. However, he said Connecticut normally does not have more than 500 of those incidents a year. Taser usage is also a precise action.

While all police departments in Connecticut are required to have officers report use of force incidents, Barone said an exact definition for what constitutes force doesn't exist. Some police departments err on the side of caution and include placing someone in handcuffs to be a use of force. Others require more physical interaction.

The new law refers to use of force that potentially could result in serious physical injury. Barone has advised police departments to err on the side of caution regarding which reports to send.



Image #2: Demonstration of an individual disarming an armed person

While fully implementing an electronic submission and database system will take time, Barone said some existing elements will make the process easier.

The Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council created an approved use of force reporting form that most law enforcement agencies in the state use. Additionally, record management service (RMS) vendor NexGen Public Safety Solutions maintains an electronic copy of the forms for the law enforcement agencies that use its services. NexGen is the vendor for a majority of state police departments, including the State Police.

Some changes to the form will need to be made, Barone said, as the law specifically seeks to capture data on the use of choke holds. A more generalized restraint term is used on the form that could include other types of holds.

Also, the form does not have a place for the name of the police department or specifically identify the officer using force. All officers involved in or witnessing a use of force must file a report on the incident.

Barone said that because every police department created a unique identifier for each of its officers for the racial profiling project, it could conceivably use those same identifiers for use of force. Only the police departments know the names of each officer's identifier.

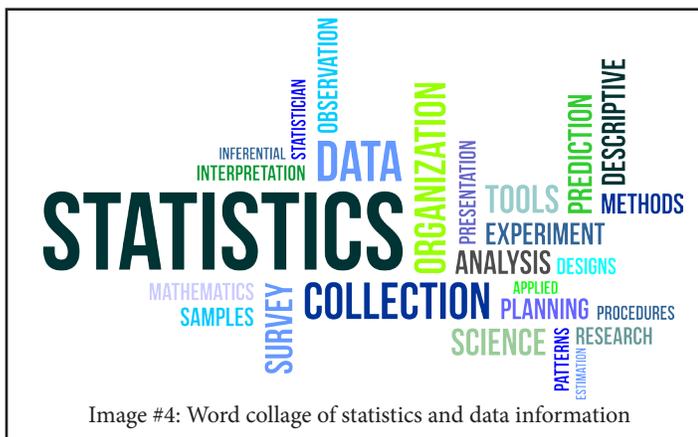


Image #4: Word collage of statistics and data information

CJIS Project Manager Sean Bucher said he believes the data collection project can be completed in three phases.

In the first phase, CCSU will be given access to a portal where it can enter information from the use of force forms. This will be done manually by student assistants.

In the second phase, Bucher said he hopes to have the electronic use of force form being implemented by POST to automatically submit data to the CCSU database. This will eliminate the need to have students manually enter the information. Additionally, this will allow officers to electronically fill out the form as part of an arrest case and have it sent through CISS to the CCSU database.

Barone said he doesn't know how many use of force reports CCSU can expect to receive since such incidents don't always result in arrests. Additionally, crime statistics in the state continue on a downward trend.

Police Departments are to start sending their use of force reports from all of 2019 by February 1, 2020. They are to continue sending the reports on a regular basis going forward.

After information is received and analyzed, Barone and CCSU will prepare annual reports on the use of force for the legislature and public. The information is expected to guide future public policy decision-making.

Record Management System Update

At one time during the development of the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) Project, more than a dozen record management system (RMS) vendors were doing business with police departments throughout the state. Currently, four main vendors represent more than 90% of Connecticut’s law enforcement entities. They are:

- NexGen Public Safety Solutions
- Accucom Consulting Inc.
- CT: Chief (Telepartner International)
- Central Square Technologies

Some law enforcement entities use their own in-house RMS solutions or smaller companies unknown to the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). Two other RMS vendors, Pamet Systems, Inc. and Computer Info Systems, are used only by one police department each.

It’s also important to note that Central Square Technologies is the parent company for a number of smaller RMS companies including IMC, Inform, and SunGuard.

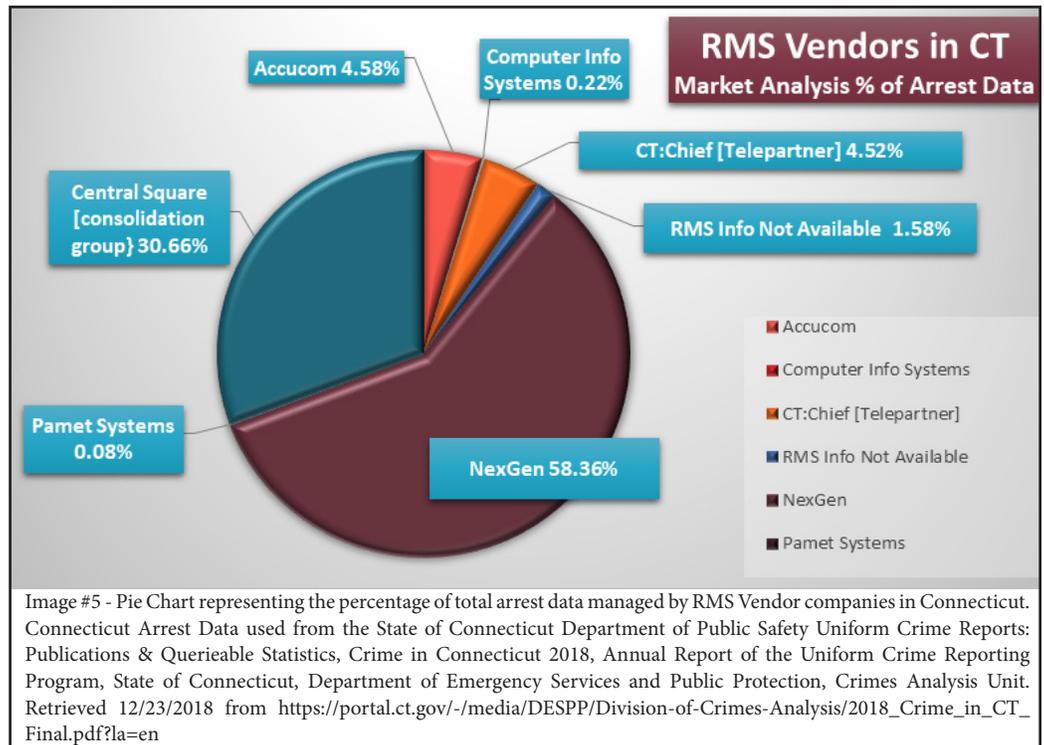
According to State Police statistics, RMS vendors were responsible for storing information about the 67,774 crimes committed throughout Connecticut during 2018. This is a significant decrease from the 71,883 crimes reported in 2017. However, it is in keeping with the trend over the past several years of a decrease in the number of crimes committed in the state.

Based strictly on the number of crimes reported in each RMS vendor’s police department districts, NexGen represents the largest segment of potential data. A little more than 58% of crimes were reported in communities where law enforcement use Nexgen for RMS.

Consolidated RMS vendor Central Square represents the second largest segment at 30.66% of reported crimes. A total of 20,777 crimes were reported in towns using IMC, Inform, or SunGuard.

Accucom and CT: Chief are nearly tied with less than 5% of reported crimes.

The significance of these statistics with regard to CISS is the amount of potential information each RMS vendor may contribute to CISS Search, as well as the amount of arrest paperwork each one will be able to transmit electronically to the Division of Criminal Justice and the Judicial Branch. Both require only a single manual entry of the information into the system, which improves overall data integrity.



In December, the final code was deployed to allow CISS access to all information source systems. Additionally, MultiVue index pages now present search results from all accessible systems on a single screen. Law enforcement connected to CISS and trained in CISS search have the benefit of using these tools.

In addition to training and adding more police departments to use CISS search, efforts are concentrated on connecting more police departments’ RMS systems to CISS for transmission of information. The two primary areas for this are:

- Connecting and training law enforcement to send the Level 1 early arrest information to CISS and receive Judicial Branch case updates.

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Record Management System Update

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RMS Vendor	# of Arrests*	% of Arrests
Accucom	3104	4.58%
Computer Info Systems	148	0.22%
CT:Chief [Telepartner]	3066	4.52%
RMS Info Not Available	1069	1.58%
NexGen	39556	58.36%
Pamet Systems	54	0.08%
Central Square [consolidation group]	20777	30.66%
Total # of Arrests*	67774	100.00%

*Connecticut Arrest Data used from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety Uniform Crime Reports: Publications & Queryable Statistics, *Crime in Connecticut 2018, Annual Report of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Crimes Analysis Unit*. Retrieved 12/23/2018 from https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DESPP/Division-of-Crimes-Analysis/2018_Crime_in_CT_Final.pdf?la=en

- Developing Level 2 so law enforcement can send the full arrest package and receive Judicial Branch case updates.

The following is the status of each RMS vendor's progress.

ACCUCOM

Accucom leads the pack with the most police departments sending Level 1 arrest information. Ten police departments throughout Connecticut are sending Early Arrest Notifications.

Accucom is in the early development stages of Level 2 programming. The company attended a kick-off meeting for its Level 2 program efforts at the end of June with plans to begin programming in October. Work is ongoing with testing scheduled to begin in April.

CENTRAL SQUARE

Currently, Central Square does not have police departments connected to send Level 1 arrest information to CISS. Because it is comprised of several individual companies. CJIS must enter into agreements with each company to program its RMS product to transmit information to CISS. CJIS recently finalized a contract with Central Square vendor IMC and will begin negotiating a contract with Central Square vendor Inform in the coming months.

NEXGEN

While NexGen law enforcement represent the largest percentage of reported crimes, four police departments are sending Level 1 arrest information to CISS. Two more police departments are expected to be approved for Level 1 transmission soon as part of the GA-9 rollout.

However, NexGen is the RMS vendor furthest along in its programming for Level 2 transmission and receipt of information. It successfully sent an arrest package in user acceptance testing and work that would allow the receipt of test messages was completed recently. An alternate production environment (psuedo-prod) is being set up at the Clinton Police Department that will enable complete end-to-end live testing for all connected agencies.

CT:CHIEF - TELEPARTNER

Over the course of the CISS development project, Telepartner has gone from representing several Connecticut law enforcement agencies to two during 2019. By the end of 2020, it will have one municipal client.

Telepartner has been sending Level 1 arrest information for some time. It is in the process of negotiating for development of Level 2 programming.

As CJIS continues the rollout of CISS to GA-9, it will work with RMS vendors on Level 2 development and testing. And once automated dispositions (case updates) from the Judicial Branch are enabled through CISS, 24 police departments will be able to connect for Level 1 transmissions immediately. The speed of adding Level I police departments is expected to increase following that.



Image #6: Image of a laptop computer accessing records.

JAG Router Configuration/Testing Underway

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) and the Department of Administrative Services/Bureau of Enterprise Systems Technology (DAS/BEST) will begin the configuration and distribution of new computer routers in the next couple of months. The routers will replace outdated equipment departments are currently using.

Routers for 93 law enforcement locations were purchased through a federal Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The JAG Program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, which supports states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding to support a range of criminal justice programs.

A small number of routers were configured by BEST and are being tested now. Once those routers complete testing, additional routers will be configured and tested. Priority for router distribution initially will be given to the police departments in the court geographic area 9 (GA-9), where the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) is being deployed. Those police departments are:

- Chester
- Clinton
- Cromwell
- Deep River
- Durham
- East Haddam
- East Hampton
- Essex
- Haddam
- Killingworth
- Middlefield
- Middletown
- Old Saybrook
- Portland
- Westbrook

In addition to providing more updated equipment, the new JAG routers will replace the existing dual router system now used by police departments connected to CISS. All police departments have a router that connects to the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing (COLLECT) System. Those connected to CISS have two routers; one connected to COLLECT and one to CISS.

However, in order to receive a router, police departments must have a technical person on hand when the router is being installed. Completing any work necessary to connect the police department to CISS during installation is required.

CJIS Law Enforcement Liaisons and other staff have been in contact with police departments about connecting to CISS and arranging for training for the system's search functions.

For information about connecting to CISS or to arrange training, contact CJIS at CJIShelpdesk@ct.gov or call (860) 622-2000.



Image #7: Picture of a computer router

Welcome Back to CISS: User Tips & Information

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) trained hundreds of law enforcement and criminal justice workers throughout the development of the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS).

Unfortunately, because the information systems that make up CISS were added in phases, early users did not get the full benefits of the system. In tracking usage and reaching out to some of those early trainees, CJIS employees learned they gave up on CISS. They felt the system did not live up to expectations.

They had a point.

During demonstration of CISS, CJIS representatives outlined a projection of what it *could* be. With a single point of access to 14 information systems, CISS had the potential to save time, money, and - in the best case scenario - lives.

When the first users were added, those capabilities did not exist - then.

The recent completion of code to provide access capabilities to all source systems means that CISS today is much closer to being the dynamic criminal justice tool CJIS predicted. The completion of MultiVue means search results for all systems appear on a single screen.

Soon, the completion of Level 2 transmission capabilities by record management systems means and end to driving paperwork to the courthouse.

CJIS is making an effort to reach out to those disillusioned early user dropouts. We hope to show them that CISS is more robust than before and can truly be a meaningful tool in their day-to-day operations. We hope to regularly provide user tips and information, as well as answer user questions and learn about ways we can improve the system.

Feel free to contact us at CJISHelpdesk@ct.gov or call (860) 622-2000.

Did You Know . . . ?

Dispatcher Warnings

The screenshot displays a search result for a person. On the left, a vertical blue banner reads "POWER OF CISS INDEXED RECORD". The main content area shows a person's profile with a red warning icon and a yellow alert box containing the following text: "POR: Protective or Restraining Order in effect; Standing Criminal Protective Order (CT01, OTHER); Corrections: Domestic Violence; Corrections: Active Supervision". Below the alert, there are sections for "Person Details", "Aliases", "Related Events", and "Related Locations". The "Person Details" section includes fields for Name, DOB, SSN, Driver Lic #, SPI #, and Alien #. The "Aliases" section includes Race, Sex, and Inmate #. The "Related Events" section includes Type, Association, Date, and Identifier. The "Related Locations" section includes Association and Location. A red circle highlights a specific location entry: "100 STATE ST, 06103, CT".

As shown above, the final version of MultiVue creates index pages that contain the search results from all information systems on a single screen. This indexed information is known as the Golden Record, which categorizes information under person, location, property, and event.

Access to the indexed information recently helped cold case detectives develop new leads.

In addition, the Golden Record may contain information alerts that direct users to important messages. These alerts can be created for each of the systems searched. They ensure vital information is immediately available when searchers need it.

For early CISS adopters who left before system development was complete, we encourage you to come back and see how much it has changed.

Now Available in CISS Search!

PRAWN, OBIS, POR, CRMVS, DMV, CIB, DOC, BOPP, MNI-CCH, Weapons, SOR, CMIS, RMS, as well as Persons, Locations, Events, & Property Index records!

CJIS Training Academy

CISS Search User

2020 Instructor Led Training Schedule



**Live Classroom Instructor Led CISS Search Training is for P.O.S.T. (Police Officer Standards & Training) Certification Credit Hours Only. Online Computer Based Training is available for all other CISS Search Users. More dates and locations for CISS Search Training to be announced.*

Check the CJIS Training Academy Page on the CJIS website for schedule updates:

<https://portal.ct.gov/CJIS/Content/CJIS-Training-Academy/Schedule>

Date	Rotation	Time	Address	Classroom
2/12/2020	2nd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Dr. East Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
2/19/2020	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005
3/11/2020	2nd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Dr. East Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
3/18/2020	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005
4/8/2020	2nd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Dr. East Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
4/15/2020	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005
5/13/2020	2nd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Dr. East Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
6/10/2020	2nd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Dr. East Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702

CISS SEARCH TRAINING OPTIONS

CJIS Academy offers monthly Instructor Led Training Classes, Computer-Based Training online and On-Site Training options for CISS Search User Certification. For more information contact the CJIS Help Desk!

EMAIL: cjis.helpdesk@ct.gov PHONE: (860) 622-2000

Live phone support* is currently available on weekdays, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

*For all non-urgent support issues, request assistance through the CJIS Help Desk [email](#).