

State of Connecticut



CJIS Roadmap

Criminal Justice Information System

September 2019 Vol. 8 - No. 5

Governing Board Co-Chair Central at Bill Signing Event

State's Attorney Sees New Law as Step Toward Transparency



CJIS Co-Chair Marc Pelka (at podium) speaks during the bill signing ceremony for Public Act 19-59, An Act Increasing Fairness and Transparency in the Criminal Justice System.

On August 7, 2019, Governor Ned Lamont signed into law Public Act 19-59, *An Act Increasing Fairness and Transparency in the Criminal Justice System* (PA 19-59). The first-of-its-kind law in the nation is a centerpiece of the Governor's efforts to reform Connecticut's Criminal Justice System.

Office of Police and Management Under Secretary Marc Pelka served as master of ceremony at the Middlesex Community College event. In his role as Under Secretary for Criminal Justice Policy and Planning and as Co-Chair of the Criminal Justice Information System Governing Board, Pelka was instrumental in working with stakeholders to develop the legislation and lobby for its passage. He worked in cooperation with colleagues throughout the criminal justice system, including law enforcement and prosecutors, as well as victims advocates from the Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence and justice-impacted persons from the American Civil Liberties Smart Justice Campaign.

The new law requires the collection, analysis, and reporting of data about the criminal justice process, particularly in the area of prosecution. This includes charges, diversionary programs, bail requests, plea deals, contacts with victims, sentencing recommendations, and demographic.

Additionally, the Chief Public Defender is required to establish a pilot program to provide legal representation services to individuals at parole violation hearings. This ensures that indigent parolees have help navigating the violation hearing

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CJIS Governing Board

Revolutionary Technology Linking
Connecticut's Criminal Justice &
Law Enforcement Community
September 2019 Vol. 8 No. 5
www.ct.gov/cjis

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Humayun Beg, *Executive Director*
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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
Sarah Kaufman, *Technical Writer*

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~ Meetings ~

CJIS Quarterly Governing Board Meeting

October 24, 2019 at 1:30 pm
Office of the Chief State's Attorney
Division of Criminal Justice
300 Corporate Place in Rocky Hill

*For more information on CJIS and CJIS
publications, go to www.ct.gov/cjis*

Governing Board Co-Chair Central at Bill Signing Event

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process. Also, the Board of Pardons and Paroles is required to report data about parole revocation hearings.

“Communities around our state and around our country are increasingly looking for data to understand the decision-making and outcomes of the criminal justice system,” Co-Chair Pelka said. “By signing this bill today – surrounded by prosecutors, victim advocates, criminal justice reform advocates, and others – Governor Lamont is making Connecticut a national leader in requiring the routine collection, analysis, and reporting of prosecutorial decision-making data.”

While data about arrests, crime, and corrections are readily available in most cases, Co-Chair Pelka said that is not the case for

prosecutor data. The addition and analysis of this data will provide a more complete picture of the criminal justice process. This can be used to make better policy decisions that can improve the criminal justice system, make communities safer, and make better use of taxpayer dollars.

Chief State’s Attorney Kevin Kane was involved in the development of the new law and advocated for its passage during the legislative session. During the signing ceremony, he reflected on the role the Division of Criminal Justice and the Chief State’s Attorneys play in Connecticut.

“We are the attorneys for the public and the public is our client,” Kane said.

When justice reform advocates approached the State’s Attorney’s Office about the need for more transparency, Kane said he thought prosecutors’ actions were transparent because they conducted their business in open court.

“When I was a prosecutor here (Middletown) in (19)72, the Middletown Press would come out at the end of the day and every case we had was listed in the paper. The sentences, the nolles, the reasons for the nolles sometimes and the public had that . . .,” Kane said, noting that the public could read about everything that prosecutors are doing.

However, he said that as the legislature took the positive step of adopting diversionary programs, things got more complicated. People could no longer see and understand decisions being made and how prosecutors made those decisions.



State's Attorney Kevin Kane (on left) looks on as Governor Ned Lamont (seated) signs into law Public Act 19-59, An Act Increasing Fairness and Transparency in the Criminal Justice System.

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Governing Board Co-Chair Central at Bill Signing Event

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Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane Shake's Governor Ned Lamont's hand following the governor's signing into law PA 19-59, An Act Increasing Fairness and Transparency in the Criminal Justice System.

"We're the lawyers who represent the public. The public should know what we are doing," Kane said. "We make decisions. The decisions we make, we make on behalf of the public - trying to bring about what we believe to be justice in each and every case."

Kane said one of the problems prosecutors face is that everything is on paper. Prosecutors must wait to receive paper copies of arrest reports that are hand delivered to their offices by police officers. This situation sometimes leaves prosecutors with little time to decide whether to charge an individual with a crime and what bond to recommend.

With Governor Lamont's push for e-government and the signing of PA 19-59, Kane said he sees the support for the completion of the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) and for the electronic case management system for the Division of Criminal Justice. In

addition to the ability to collect and analyze data, he said he believes the electronic dissemination of information through CISS will give prosecutors more time to review cases before making decisions.

"It's all coming together now. Thanks!" he said.

Kane said the work now is determining what data needs to be collected to make meaningful reports and analysis.

That work began immediately after the bill signing with a meeting between prosecutors, Office of Policy and Management (OPM) staff, CJIS staff, and representatives of the Urban Institute. That meeting and additional meetings at CJIS offices have begun the process of identifying what information is collected in CISS, what information is needed to meet the law's reporting and analysis requirements, and how to go about collecting information that is not reported at this time. CISS will be the source of data and reports for OPM and the Criminal Justice Commission.

The first report on prosecutorial data is due on July 1, 2020.

Farewell to Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane

The October 24 meeting of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Governing Board will be the board's last meeting of 2019. It will also be the last meeting for Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane.

The CJIS Governing Board will bid a bittersweet farewell to Kane, who is retiring after 47 years as a prosecutor in Connecticut and 13 years as Chief State's Attorney. Kane is the longest serving chief prosecutor since the position was created in 1973.

As happy as everyone is for Kane, we are sorry to see him go. He is credited with bringing stability to a position directing prosecutors and

inspectors who work at all levels of the Division of Criminal Justice. Kane retires in November.

"I have worked side by side with Kevin Kane for some 13 years on a wide range of committees, commissions, task forces and governing boards and I have enjoyed every minute of it," Chief Court Administrator

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State's Attorney Kevin Kane

CJIS Bids Farewell to Chief State's Attorney Kane

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Blind Justice

Judge Patrick L. Carroll said. "His 47 years as a prosecutor were marked by his honesty, his humility and his unimpeachable integrity. He has been an exemplary Chief State's Attorney who was as respected by the prosecutors who worked with him as he was by

the defense attorneys who were his adversaries. His sensitivity to and concern for the victims of crime had no equal. The people of the state of Connecticut were very lucky to have had Kevin Kane in their employ for so many years. I will miss him terribly.

Kane's retirement is well earned.

"Heck, I'm 76-years old," Kane told the Hartford Courant. "It's about time. I've enjoyed being a prosecutor and I've enjoyed being a lawyer. It's been rewarding. It's been humbling. It's been a great experience. It's been an honor to serve the public. I've met tremendous people, including victims of crime who have shown incredible strength."

While Kane's career has included a number of high-profile cases that ran the gamut from convicting mobsters and crooked politicians, to facing down killers, including notorious serial killer Michael Ross, he also built extraordinary support from the judiciary, the defense bar, law enforcement, and his own employees at the Division of Criminal Justice. During his tenure, Kane navigated the division through deep budget cuts and has managed to maintain a sense of collegiality among the abrasive egos of the regional state's attorneys.

Kane also earned the respect of defense lawyers.

Top Rated Connecticut Defense Attorney Hubert J. Santos told the Hartford Courant that Kane has

been cautious about how he exercised the power of his position.

"He's not the kind of prosecutor who is going to roll over someone just to get a statistic. He is one of the top prosecutors of his generation," Santos said.

State Appellate Court Judge Thomas Bishop, who faced off against Kane as a defense lawyer earlier in the pair's careers, also praised Kane.

"He has integrity, commitment to the law and a sense of fairness and all that got translated into leadership when he became chief state's attorney," Bishop said.

This support from all areas of the criminal justice system may be due, in part, to Kane's ideals about the role prosecutors should play in the system.

"We are the attorneys for the public and the public is our client," Kane said during the recent ceremony to sign into law PA 19-59, An Act Increasing Fairness and Transparency in the Criminal Justice System. "The decisions we make, we make on behalf of the public – trying to bring about what we believe to be justice in each and every case."

Kane spoke at the ceremony as one of the proponents of the legislation that requires collection and publication of data on prosecutorial decisions about charges, diversionary programs, bail requests, plea



deals and sentencing recommendations. The law also requires the Division of Criminal Justice to transition from paper to digital case management and operations.

With the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) playing an important role in the legislation, Kane said he hopes the digital

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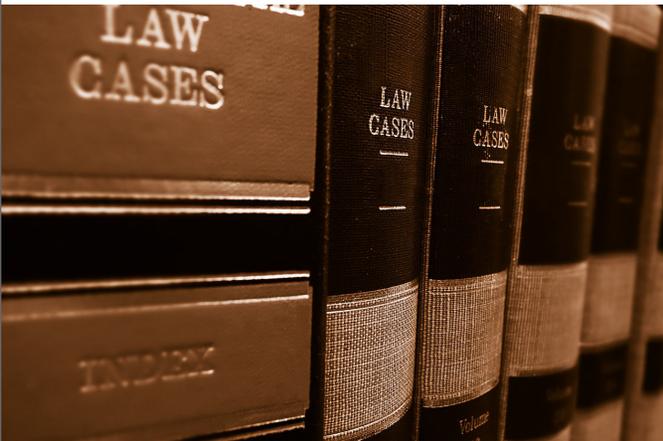
CJIS Bids Farewell to Chief State's Attorney Kane

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transmission of arrest information will give prosecutors more time to deliberate approaches to various cases. With the current paper system, prosecutors often receive an arrest file shortly before going into court.

Additionally, Kane said reports required by PA 19-59 that will be produced by CISS can be used to track trends and make policy decisions. This includes supporting programs and services that lead to reductions in crime.

Kane has been supportive of other progressive criminal justice trends, including the recording of police interviews and the installation of police cruiser cameras. PA 19-59 is meant to bring further transparency to the judicial process.



Case law books

His successor will be named by the Criminal Justice Commission, whose six members are chosen by the governor and are confirmed by the General Assembly. Two members must be judges. Supreme Court Justice Andrew McDonald is the current chair. Earlier, former Connecticut inmate Dwayne Betts became the first former convict appointed by a governor to the Commission.

In addition to replacing the state's chief prosecutor, the commission will be hiring 25 entry-level prosecutors and a state's attorney for Litchfield. The commission most recently met on September 4. A date for the next meeting has not been set.

CJIS to Deploy Releases 5 & 9, Search to Be Offline

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) has set a target date of October 1 to begin deployment of the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) search Releases 5 & 9. CISS search will be offline while the deployment takes place.

During this time, users can use alternate options to obtain information by searching individual source systems. These include:

- Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) - COLLECT
- Department of Correction – Offender Based Information System (OBIS)
- Judicial – Paperless Re-Arrest Warrant Network (PRAWN) Judicial – Criminal Motor Vehicle System (CRMVS)
- Judicial – Protective Order Registry (POR)



Depiction of the flow of information in and out of CISS

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CJIS Deploys Releases 5 & 9, Search to Be Offline

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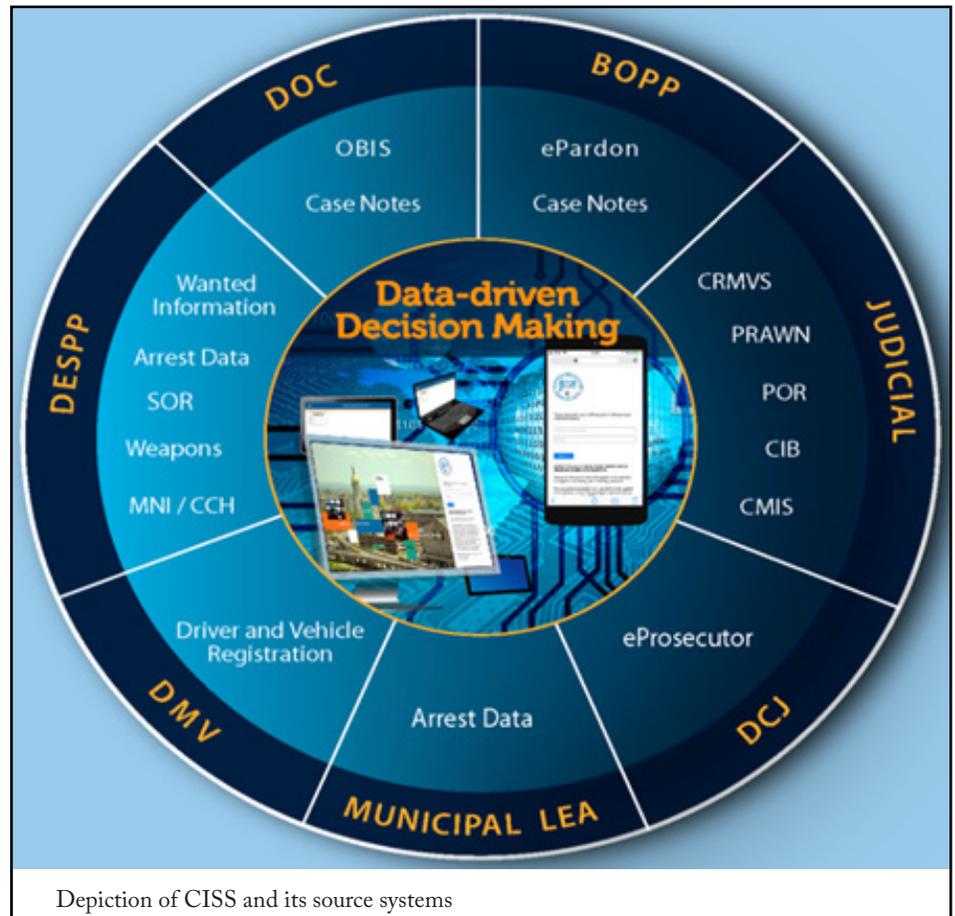
While CISS search functions are disabled during the deployment, Early Arrest Notifications can still be sent by police departments. At this time, 14 law enforcement agencies are able to transmit Early Arrest Reports to CISS. A total of 17,767 Early Arrest Notifications have been received by CISS since April of 2018. These are distributed to the Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Corrections, the Board of Pardons and Paroles, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the Court Services Support Division.

Once search Releases 5 & 9 deployment is completed, CISS search users will have access to new information systems. These include:

- DESPP WANTED File – contains all individuals in Connecticut wanted by law enforcement.
- Sex Offender Registry – all sex offenders registered in Connecticut.
- Judicial Court Support Services Case Management Information System – all basic probation client information.
- Department of Motor Vehicle Driver and Vehicle Information – information about all licensed drivers and registered motor vehicles in Connecticut.
- Law Enforcement Arrest Data and Paperwork – information published in CISS as part of the Uniform Arrest Report and Misdemeanor Summons workflows.

CISS will have the capability of receiving the Uniform Arrest Report following the deployment. However, the ability for police departments to transmit that information requires the departments' record management systems to create that capability. Currently, NexGen, and Accucom are coding for Level 2, which allows transmission of the uniform arrest report.

The deployment of Releases 5 & 9 also brings 19 reports. These range from pending charges by defendant and sentencing information, to sentencing modification, individuals on parole, and re-arrested parolees. Additionally, administrative reports about users and user search activity. A full list of reports will be made available after the release is completed.



New CJIS Online Learning Portal Unveiled

At the beginning of the month, the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) launched a new, online training website. The CJIS Online Learning Portal provides training for the Connecticut Information Sharing System.

CJIS Help Desk Manager Pasquale DeMichele said early feedback about the new site is positive.

“Enfield was doing training and the users said they loved it that it’s really easy to use,” DeMichele said.

In addition to the new aesthetic of the new portal, users will notice the platform is faster, has less interruptions, and is compatible with all browsers.

State of Connecticut
Criminal Justice Information System
ONLINE LEARNING PORTAL



CISS users who trained on the previous CISS training portal have had their username (email address) registered with the new site and information transferred. However, users must reset their password.

Once users click on “forgot password,” they will receive an email from CJIS_Training@ct.gov with a temporary password. Then, users can create their own password.

DeMichele said about 2,000 individuals are registered on the portal.

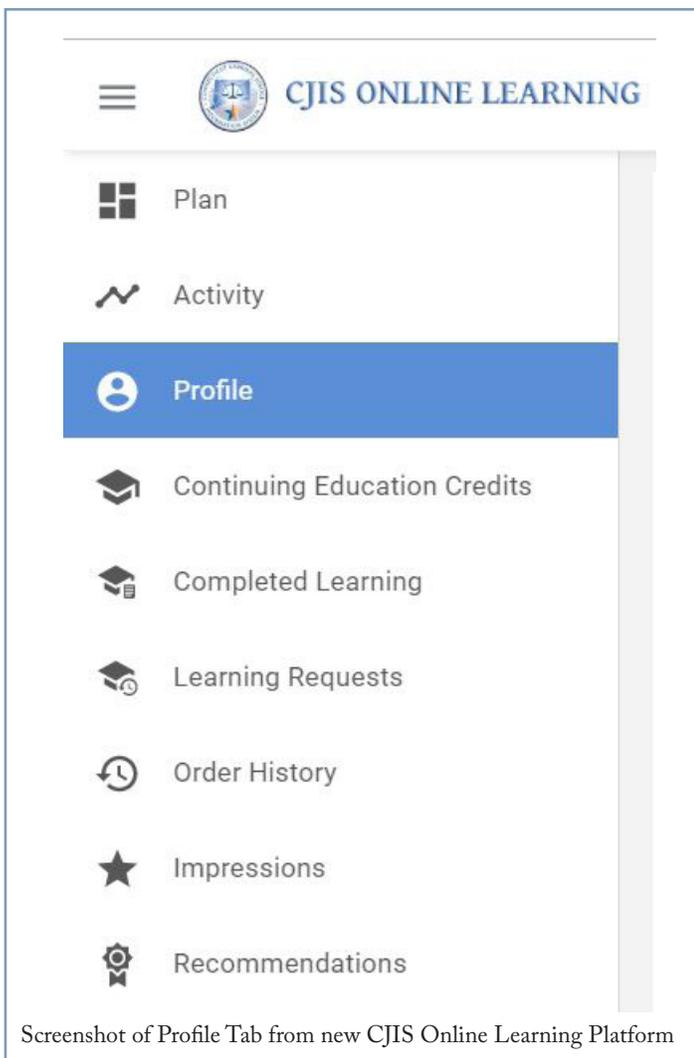
Once in the CJIS Online Learning Portal, users will have access to their individual profile, the course catalog, and transcripts. While tabs exist for frequently asked questions and resources, no information is available, yet. DeMichele expects that those will be filled as more users log into the portal and provide feedback.

Courses currently available include CISS User Search Training Certification, CISS Audit Log Search Training, and CISS System Administration Training. DeMichele said the CJIS Online Learning Portal is a robust platform that can easily be expanded to include additional training as needs are identified and courses are developed.

The new CJIS Online Learning Portal gives users the ability to track their course progress and see how they scored. It also tells users when their certification will expire (after two years) and begins sending certification renewal emails 60 days prior to expiration.

DeMichele said he is pleased with the new portal, but said the help desk isn’t resting on its laurels. Improvements and updates to the materials are continuous as the team receives feedback and learns more about users and their needs.

“We always want to be improving the user learning experience,” DeMichele said.



Screenshot of Profile Tab from new CJIS Online Learning Platform

Connecting to CISS Will Improve Safety, Solvability for Law Enforcement

The Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) search Releases 5 & 9 has a target deployment date of October 1. When fully deployed, CISS will give search users access to all 14 of the information source systems.

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) has heard from law enforcement that the inclusion of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) driver and vehicle registration information is of particular interest and value. With the addition of MultiVue, DMV information will enable searches to pull together all available information about anyone associated with a Connecticut licensed motor vehicle. It's believed that the addition of DMV data will increase officer safety and the ability to solve cases.

A total of 38 police departments are connected to CISS search and 36 have conducted at least one search. Despite the benefits of CISS search, police departments make up only a small percentage of the users that conducted more than 4,300 searches in August. The agencies conducting the largest number of searches are Department of Corrections (DOC) and DMV, each conducting more than 1,000 searches a month. CISS has become integral to their daily operations.

Another benefit of police departments connecting to CISS is the ability to transmit arrest information. At this time, 14 police departments are submitting early arrest notifications to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Department of Corrections (DOC), Board of



Image of police officer accessing information on a laptop computer.

Pardons and Paroles (BOPP), Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ), and Court Support Services Division (CSSD). More than 1,000 early arrest notifications are sent each month and a total of 17,767 have been sent since April of 2018.

Record management system vendors are in the early stages of programming software to enable the transmission of the full arrest report. Once fully operational, police departments will no longer have to print paper copies of the reports and hand deliver them to their associated superior courts and prosecutors' offices. This should allow officers to spend more time in their own communities.

The fact that police departments are statutorily required to connect to CISS should not detract from its positive attributes. In addition to the ability to search multiple information systems from a single source and electronically transmit information to the court system, CISS connects law enforcement to a state statute service that is updated daily. This is particularly useful as new laws will take effect on October 1. A number of those new laws directly impact law enforcement

As CISS is deployed to the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) and Connecticut Judicial Branch in Middletown, connecting police departments to submit arrest information becomes increasingly important. To this end, efforts are being ramped up to connect law enforcement and users to CISS.

In addition to conducting CISS training sessions in Hartford and East Hartford each month, visits to

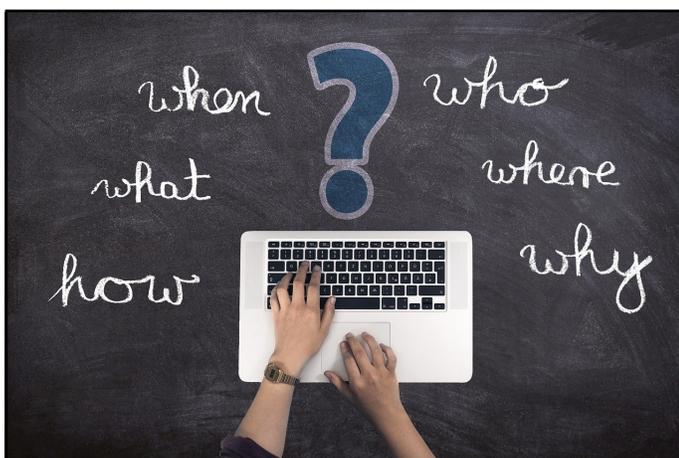


Image of using a laptop computer to ask the important questions.

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Connecting to CISS Will Improve Safety, Solvability for Law Enforcement

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individual police departments will be made by members of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Onboarding Team. Currently, more than 50 local police departments are engaged with CJIS in some capacity to connect to CISS.

To facilitate connecting to CISS and provide officers with the enhanced safety that come with improved search and workflow capabilities, CJIS is seeking to communicate with the police departments currently not in the involved in the project. We would like to begin scheduling demonstrations and training with:

- Ansonia
- Bethel
- Bloomfield
- Canton
- Cheshire
- Darien
- Derby
- Granby
- Greenwich
- Groton City
- Groton Long Point
- Groton Town
- Ledyard
- Meriden
- Milford
- Monroe
- Naugatuck
- New Canaan
- New London
- New Milford
- Newington
- North Branford
- Norwich
- Old Saybrook
- Plainfield
- Putnam
- Seymour
- Shelton
- Stamford
- Suffield
- Waterford
- Westport
- Wilton
- Winchester



Image of a fingerprint.

Police departments can begin the process to connect to CISS by contacting the CJIS Help Desk at (860) 622-2000 or by email at CJIS.Helpdesk@ct.gov

CISS Search Helps Law Enforcement Identify Thief

On June 12 of this year at about noon, a security camera recorded a theft in broad daylight in Guilford. The video showed a white male operating a black Ford F-150 pickup truck that left a local farm stand after the driver took several items.

A photo of the suspect and vehicle was posted on social media generating a number of tips.

The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Group heard about the incident and performed searches using the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) Search tool with CJIS access to Department of Motor Vehicle data that is being deployed to users. CISS with DMV interfaces can search databases using only basic information like make, model, color, and style of the truck. The CISS search narrowed the possible suspects to a few vehicles that matched the description. With this information, Guilford PD was able to positively identify the vehicle and operator.



Image of suspect and vehicle from farm stand theft.

An arrest warrant was obtained and the suspect was arrested. The matter was resolved when restitution was made to the farm.

Of CISS, Officer Mark O'Connor said, "The information you provided on the 2000 Ford F150 HD edition helped and it matched a tip received on the GPD Facebook site. The information helped me solve the case."

CJIS Training Academy

CISS Search User

2018-2019 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
10/9/2019	2rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Drive E. Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
10/16/2019	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005
11/13/2019	2rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Drive E. Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
11/20/2019	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005
12/11/2019	2rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	99 East River Drive E. Hartford, CT 06108	Conference Room #702
12/18/2019	3rd Wednesday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	55 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105	1st Floor Conference Room #1005

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](mailto:cjis.helpdesk@ct.gov).