Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS)
CISS Implementation *News*

Project Status	**GREEN**

What's Inside ...

CISS – What's in it for YOU?

- The right data.
- In the right format.
- At the right time.
- Supporting critical business processes.
- Improving public service.
- Improving public safety.

CISS Success Stories

There are many phrases that might apply to the initiative and energy required by the Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) Implementation Project. It is complex. CISS has many moving parts, both technical and political. And although there is an end in sight, implementation will be a daunting task.

The progress to date is in no small part due to the persistence and dedication of representatives of the CJIS agencies – clearly a success story.

Given the complexity of CISS, it is important to continue to work through some mundane tasks with the outcome in mind. Although CISS is in some ways unique, other states and units of government have achieved the process improvements and public safety improvements that are important to Connecticut.

The technology is there. The desire is there. The intelligence and desire of CJIS agency staff is there. The pieces are in place. What remains is to put them together.

CISS Value Proposition – Why Is CISS Important?

Many states, including Connecticut, are facing difficult economic conditions. Some ask how the state can afford the CISS project in times like these. Not only will CISS need a large capital investment, but the project will also require significant staff time commitments from CJIS agencies.

The answer to the question is that we cannot afford **not** to build CISS. Public Act 08-01 requires it. And the purpose behind 08-01 is to improve public safety by addressing critical gaps in the justice information system. From a public policy perspective, the most important thing government can do is to keep citizens safe.

The CISS value proposition is presented in the Legislative Executive Summary Report, published in March of this year. The report outlines both the tangible and intangible benefits of CISS. The tangible benefits include:

- Reduced data entry.
- Reduced data entry errors.
- Reduced processing time.
- Reduced material costs for manually exchanging documents.
- Reduced transportation costs for manually exchanging documents.
- Reduced time spent manually seeking information.

These process improvements are extremely important, particularly during difficult budget situations. Process improvements will lead to better customer satisfaction, with an overall reduction in system costs. In a cost analysis conducted earlier this year, it was determined that CISS has a break-even period of less than 3 years and a return on investment (ROI) of 185 percent. A large portion of the ROI represents effort savings in the agencies.

The effort savings, in addition to the public safety improvements are key reasons CISS needs to move forward despite the budget situation.

While these types of process improvements are important, much of the CISS initiative is focused on public safety, as reflected in the intangible benefits described in the report. They are:

- Improved public and officer safety based on more accurate and complete information.
- Ability to measure societal outcomes, assess reentry program performance, analyze trends, etc.
- Better management and policy decisions based on improved information.
- More informed justice decisions based on accurate, complete, and timely information.
- Improved notification services for key events.
- Improved collaboration and cooperation between agencies.
- Reduction in process delays.
- Increased capacity of the justice and public safety system to handle incidents and cases.
- Enhanced ability to solve crimes.
- Improved public confidence.

With the potential cost savings **and** public safety improvements, CISS is supported by the value proposition.

Decisions, Decisions!

The entire CJIS Blueprint Project and CISS initiative have been full of decisions made by the CJIS Governing Board, the SDM Project Steering Committee (PSC), DOIT, and

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many other stakeholders. Each individual decision is important to the eventual outcome of the project. The decisions required are sometimes incremental, each building on the other. It is important for stakeholders to stay informed and up to date with the latest developments. To assist you in keeping up with the project, all deliverables and status reports continue to be posted to the project's Microsoft SharePoint site at https://ctcjis.securespsites.com/default.aspx. If you need access please contact Ms. Tracy Brown (tracy.brown@ct.gov).

Developing Information Exchanges Continues

The importance of selecting the right information exchanges for the solution provider to develop is evidenced by the effort that has gone into that process. The information exchanges developed during the early stages of the CJIS Blueprint Project have

Presently, a small working group has been formed to define processes related the information exchanges

undergone numerous instances of review and prioritization.

The efforts are intended to make sure the right exchanges are developed first – those that are most important to the goals of the CISS project.

Presently, a small working group is reviewing new information exchange process diagrams. Once that group has reached consensus on which information exchanges are to be developed, the recommended approach will be presented to the PSC and eventually to members of the CJIS Governing Board for their approval. Once approved, they will be included in the RFP.

SDM Moves Forward

The CISS SDM PSC met on June 25 to provide a decision on CISS gating from the business issues phase to business requirements phase. The PSC had the option of making a Go, No-go, or Redirect decision to the executive sponsor.

The steering committee's feedback was that the CISS staffing plan needs to be approved by the CJIS Governing Board before the project can proceed.

During the meeting the PSC voted to Redirect. The steering committee's feedback was that the CISS staffing plan needs to be approved by the CJIS Governing Board before the project can proceed. Specifically, the major concern was that the Business Manager role is currently filled by a non-state employee.

In addition, the steering committee wants to ensure that agencies can support CISS activities from both a business and technical staffing perspective. The Redirect decision also highlighted this risk.

To address the risks and issue raised, staffing information will be compiled along with updated SDM material and presented to the governing board at its July 29 meeting. After the board action, follow-on activities can begin.

The next step in the SDM process is to move to the business requirements phase.

Next Steps

The completion and release of the CISS RFP are the next steps of the CISS Implementation Project.

A second PSC is scheduled for August 10, after the Governing Board meeting, to relook at the gating decision.

Project Statuses

The CJIS Blueprint Project is nearing completion. The CISS Implementation Project status is green.