

Working Together to Build a Stronger Community

Baptism by fire is the way Andres Ayala, Jr. describes his first two months on the job as Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). A major water main break flooded the Wethersfield DMV's electric room, wiping out the building's electrical system. Ayala gave full credit to his team of experts at the DMV for getting the power restored with the help of four generators and with only one day's interruption of service.



Even though his first two months as commissioner were a harrowing experience, the cup is always half full in Ayala's eyes. It is this positive outlook on life and a strong determination to help his community that drives this lifelong Connecticut native. Andres Ayala, Jr. was born and raised in Bridgeport, CT. After earning an Associate's Degree in Paralegal Studies, Ayala attended Sacred Heart University. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and went on to earn a Master's degree in Education. After teaching

for twenty one years as a social studies teacher and working in adult education, Ayala made the switch to the political arena.

Growing up, Ayala was instilled with the practice of giving back to the community and helping others in need. Ayala's family was always involved in local politics, so the transition was an easy one. Ayala began his political career serving on several committees in the Bridgeport City Council. He rose through the ranks to become the first Latino president of the Bridgeport City Council. While serving on the Council, Ayala supported the development of Steelpointe Harbor, a 2.8 million square-foot mixed-use, urban-oriented waterfront complex in Fairfield County. Located on prime real estate, plans include new retail and restaurant establishments, 2200 units of housing, and a hotel and conference center.

Ayala went on to serve three terms for the Connecticut House of Representatives for the 128th district from 2006 to 2012, where he held the position of Vice Chair of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. It was while serving in the House that he realized the impact of

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Farewell and Best Wishes

Sean Thakkar, the Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Governing Board, announced his resignation from CJIS, effective March 26, 2015. Sean has been an integral part of CJIS and the CISS project for the past seven years and has seen it evolve and change through each phase of its development.



Rejoining his family in California, Sean has accepted a new position as the CIO for San Mateo County. We would like to wish Sean the best of success in his new endeavors.

The CJIS Governing Board is currently soliciting candidates to fill the Executive Director position. Mark Raymond has agreed to oversee the CJIS function and CISS project until a new Executive Director is chosen. ❖

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state government on decisions made at the local level. Representing the community and being a voice for others is especially important to Ayala. He understands the benefit of working together for a common goal and the benefits of bringing people together to share best practices. In the end, it creates a better opportunity to get a better end product.

After serving three terms at the Connecticut House of Representatives, Ayala won a seat in the state Senate representing most of the city of Bridgeport and a small section of Stratford. As a senator, he was able to bring in millions of dollars of development to Bridgeport that supported school construction and rehabilitation, local non-profit organizations, and veterans' programs, including Homes for the Brave.

"I like working with different groups of people. It forces you to think about your position, and to look at things differently."

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

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Comments, corrections, and inquiries
about this newsletter should be directed to:
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CISS Project Management Updates

Gearing Up for Search and Workflow Releases

Efforts continued in March with final preparations for Release 1 and Release 2. The CJIS Project Management team and Xerox completed the requirements and design for Release 1 - Paperless Re-Arrest Warrant Network (PRAWN) and Offender Based Information System (OBIS). CJIS and Xerox also finalized the requirements for Release 2 - Uniform Arrest Report (UAR) and Misdemeanor Summons Arrest Notices, and began the Design phase.

The Xerox and CJIS teams will confirm the technical documentation and functioning of PRAWN and OBIS replicas for Release 1 in preparation for the Design phase.

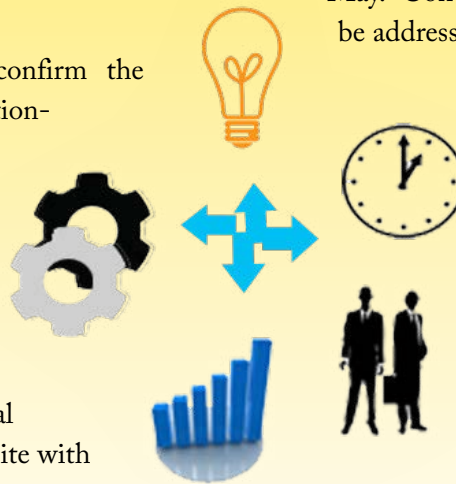
Working with Judicial, the CJIS Technical team began work on federal authentication. This provides a single sign on so that Judicial users can access the CJIS SharePoint site with their credentials.

The Project Management team reset the baseline for the SharePoint Project Tracking Tool for each agency. The CJIS Technical team launched the new SharePoint

sites that include the SharePoint Project Tracking Tool for Judicial and the Department of Corrections. This will enable each agency to track and adjust their resources for the CISS project and to view project documents, tasks and the project timeline.

Information Exchange Document Security Focus Group Sessions will begin in mid-April and will continue into May. Concerns about security in the CISS system will be addressed.

Meanwhile, the CJIS Technology team began work on the CISS Development Environment for Xerox. Efforts will continue in April with the addition of an enterprise service bus. An enterprise service bus (ESB) is a software architecture model used for designing and implementing communication between mutually interacting software applications in a service-oriented architecture (SOA). The CJIS Technical team will also be adding a master data management tool (MDM). A MDM tool removes duplicates, standardizes data (mass maintaining), and incorporates rules to eliminate incorrect data from entering the system in order to create an authoritative source of master data. ❖



RMS Network Update

Plans are underway to draft the first RMS vendor contract with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) for RMS Certification with CT:CHIEF RMS. CT:CHIEF RMS is a browser-based records management system that organizes, stores, and transmits secure law enforcement and public safety information. Once certified with CT:CHIEF RMS, a local law enforcement agency will automatically be in a position to obtain access to CISS.

Seventy-six police departments have purchased routers for

the CISS project. Of the seventy-six departments, fifty-five departments are connected to the state network with initial connectivity. CJIS and DAS/BEST are continuing to schedule router connections with the remaining police departments as part of Phase 2 operations.

As local police departments are connected, CJIS will update the interactive county and state maps and add them to agency SharePoint sites. ❖

OBTS Interruption of Service

There will be a temporary interruption of service of OBTS to facilitate the migration from the Oracle to the SQL database environment. The *tentative* time frame of the outage is from April 2, 2015 through April 9, 2015.

CJIS will be sending out an email to all known users just before the interruption and will also send notices once the migration is complete and OBTS is back in service.

Users can also find out the latest information concerning the interruption by going to the [CJIS Webpage](#). ❖

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Ayala is the first Latino to serve under Governor Malloy's administration. He brushes off the significance of this landmark, saying instead that when you support good policies, procedures and business practices, everyone benefits. His new job as Commissioner brings new opportunities to do something different and to make a difference for the people of the State of Connecticut. "I like working with different groups of people. There's so much value to it. It forces you to think about your position, and to look at things differently."

Ayala's past experience as a teacher has already proven invaluable as he settles into his new job as Commissioner of DMV. Planning, classroom management, and being a good listener are all skills that he is putting to use to better understand the needs of his department, make plans for the future, and get the most out of his staff and aid in his interaction with government officials. In the next few years, there will be big changes to the way things operate at DMV offices. The agency is currently in the process of modernizing computer systems that are more than thirty years old. This will ensure a more robust and efficient mode of operation that will benefit the citizens of Connecticut.

Ayala can see the benefits of CISS being a comprehensive, state-wide information technology system, and he fully



CJIS Academy

OBTS Classes

CJIS offers certification classes three times a year for the Offender Based Tracking System (OBTS). The classes will be conducted at 99 East River Drive, 7th floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. For more information and to sign up, visit the [CJIS Academy Webpage](#).

CJIS Support Group:
860-622-2000
CJIS Website: www.ct.gov/cjis

OBTS Certification Class Schedule

- Tuesday, June 16, 2015
- Thursday, October 15, 2015

~ Meetings ~

CJIS Governing Board Quarterly Meeting
 April 16, 2015 at 1:30 pm
 Office of the Chief State's Attorney
 300 Corporate Place in Rocky Hill

CISS Monthly Status Meeting
 April 22, 2015, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
 Criminal Justice Information System
 99 East River Drive, 7th floor, Room 707
 East Hartford

supports the CISS project. Having a fast, secure and efficient way of sharing information is imperative. "We have a responsibility to work with other agencies, with no duplication of services, in a way that makes sharing streamlined, safe and efficient."

Ayala is looking forward to working with the CJIS Governing Board on the CISS project. He believes that a system like CISS will benefit everyone in the State of Connecticut. ❖