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CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION ADVISORY
BOARD

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2020
ANNUAL REPORT ON INTEROPERABILITY

Submitted by:

THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION
ADVISORY BOARD

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Executive Summary

The Maryland Criminal Justice Information Advisory Board (CJIAB) submits its *Annual Report on Criminal Justice Interoperability* pursuant to Criminal Procedure Article §10-210(6) and State Government Article, §2-1246, *Annotated Code of Maryland* respectively. This report describes the public safety impact and significant interoperability accomplishments of the Maryland Departments of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Motor Vehicle Administration and the Judiciary for the calendar year of 2020. The projects demonstrate either technological enhancements or data sharing efforts as they relate to criminal justice interoperability between State agencies and across state lines.

Criminal Justice Information System interoperability initiatives have improved public safety in Maryland by bringing together dissimilar information systems, data, and processes. This increase in coordination and communication has resulted in more effective and efficient identification, management and tracking of criminal justice information.

The CJIAB will continue to take a leadership role to support solutions that effectively highlight projects that demonstrate either technological enhancements or data sharing efforts as they relate to criminal justice interoperability between State agencies and across state lines.

Background

The Criminal Justice Information Advisory Board (CJIAB) was created by statute in 1976. The CJIAB's primary duty is to advise the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services and the Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals on the development, operation, and maintenance of the State's criminal justice information systems.

The CJIAB includes representatives from a broad section of the criminal justice community including public safety, the courts, law enforcement, and homeland security. The CJIAB also includes members from the county and municipal governments, and the public.

As a statutory entity, the CJIAB has the responsibility for criminal justice integration and interoperability. The Board works to establish policies, relationships and infrastructure to enable sharing of local criminal justice information across the entire criminal justice system. The CJIAB also provides advice concerning standards, procedures, and protocols that ensure the compatibility and interoperability of communications and information management systems maintained by the judiciary and public safety entities in the State.

The sections that follow describe the public safety impact and significant interoperability accomplishments of the Departments of Public Safety and Correctional Services, State Police, Judiciary and Motor Vehicle Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES (DPSCS)

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

Arrest Disposition Reporting (ADR) Mainframe Replacement

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services plans to replace its Arrest Disposition Reporting system with a state of the art relational database and web interface. The ADR Mainframe System provides Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) services to authorized criminal justice agencies throughout the State of Maryland. ADR is the designated electronic repository for CHRI for the State.

"Arrest data from law enforcement agencies (in the form of fingerprint cards) and electronic data transfers from Arrest Booking System (ABS) or Network Live Scan (NLS) devices are added to the arrest database by Customer Information Control Center (CICS) online transactions. This collection of data is needed to perform the primary functions of ADR so as to provide CHRI to criminal justice agencies and some authorized non-criminal justice agencies. This service is provided to users in real-time through the online transactions. This is a planned 5-year project. Phase I of this project is to collect and write requirements and business documentation in order to proceed to the next phases."[1]

The Significant Accomplishments and Public Safety Impact of the ADR Replacement Project:

- The Ident/Index and Arrest Disposition Reporting Mainframe Systems replacement project will enhance the ability to capture, connect, and make available full criminal cycles that are needed within the 48 hour window of a Brady Handgun Violence Prevention purchase guidelines.

- This project is slated to be completed by the Spring of 2023.

JUDICIARY

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

Video Remote Hearings

In consideration of health concerns and limitations placed on in-person hearings, the Judiciary enhanced its video conferencing capabilities to support remote electronic participation in judicial proceedings for members of the Judiciary and its justice partners.

Maryland Judiciary Case Search and Justice Related Web Interface Applications

The Maryland Judiciary Case Search website provides public Internet access to information from case records maintained by the Maryland Judiciary. Users can search for appellate and trial court cases and view party and event information about those cases. Case Search currently averages 1.5/2 million hits per day.

The Significant Accomplishments and Public Safety Impact of Case Search and Web Portal Applications:

- The Judiciary added appellate case records from the Court of Appeals and Court of Special Appeals to the Case Search system.

- State's Attorneys' offices and other justice partners continue to use a Court Record web retrieval service for District and Circuit Court Criminal and District Court Traffic cases for MDEC counties.

- The Active Warrant web service retrieval application continues to provide law enforcement with information on active warrants from the Judiciary. Warrant data is provided on a statewide, jurisdictional, or serving agency basis.

- Text messaging service for hearing notifications. From December 2018, the start of the pilot, through October 15, 2020, there were 63,679 registrations and 228,645 hearing notifications sent as text messages. These hearing notifications include initial hearing notifications, seven-day reminders and one-day reminders. An expansion of scope is under discussion.

- Middleware servers were upgraded to support Judiciary services and applications used internally and externally.

Future enhancements to the Maryland Judiciary Case Search and Web Interface Applications:

- The Court Record web service will be expanded to include civil cases in addition to criminal and traffic cases. Expansion of data sharing with the Maryland Department of Health and Department of Human Services is being discussed, as is data sharing with the Office of the Public Defender.

- A new service-based architecture is in design that will allow the secure integration of the MDEC Case Management System with justice partners. The architecture will enable partners to make on demand queries of core events that occur in MDEC; and, will enable the Judiciary to notify partners directly when agency subscribed events are triggered. In near real time, events will be replicated from MDEC and stored in a data repository, or Event Data Store (EDS). A representational state transfer (REST) service API is provided to access the data with customizable queries.

The Maryland Electronic Court System (MDEC)

The goal of this project is to replace the disparate legacy case management systems with an integrated statewide case management system. MDEC is a paper-on-demand system with an e-filing component. Significant business process redesign has been completed because of the transition to electronic records. The MDEC system will serve all courts and facilitate more efficient operations and more timely data exchange with justice partners. Twenty-one counties have been fully implemented. Montgomery County is the next jurisdiction planned to go live on the system, with Prince George's County and Baltimore City following to complete the statewide implementation.

The Significant Accomplishments and Public Safety Impact of MDEC:

Implementation of MDEC has resulted in improved access to selected data for the public and law enforcement agencies, as well as improved interoperability for the transfer of data. The technical architecture for the integrated environment has been established and all legacy and MDEC related data is being replicated. This major accomplishment is the foundation upon which the Judiciary's Case Search portal has delivered case data to law enforcement personnel. In addition, the Judiciary released an open model option for e-filing, providing an opportunity for e-filing service providers to interface with MDEC's e-filing service.

Future development of the Maryland Judiciary Case Management System will include:

- Continued design for data exchange with justice partners using REST protocols.

- Complete development with/through Tyler Technologies to allow for e-filing in juvenile matters and case initiation for criminal cases.

JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

Maryland Judiciary Case Search and Justice Related Web Interface Applications

The Judiciary and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) continue to work to improve the efficient exchange of statutorily required criminal justice data in order to improve upon criminal record accuracy, completeness, and timeliness.

Significant accomplishments / ongoing efforts:

- The Judiciary and DPSCS automated the process for reporting expungement data to the Expungement Unit of the Criminal Justice Information System (Central Repository), facilitating the population of the data fields in CJIS' new expungement system and thus alleviating the need for manual data entry. Implementing this process allows CJIS to more efficiently process court orders for expungement once the order and certificate of compliance are received from the courts.

- The reporting of criminal convictions to Public Safety was enhanced and now includes vacated dispositions and violations of probation for each charge in addition to case level reporting.

JUDICIARY AND MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

Maryland Judiciary Case Search and Justice Related Web Interface Applications

During 2019, the Judiciary and the Motor Vehicle Administration expanded their ongoing data exchange in order to improve upon data accuracy, completeness and timeliness.

- Redesigned the interface used to monitor traffic dispositions sent to the Department of Transportation, Motor Vehicle Administration. The enhancement provides additional navigation filters and reporting details for Judiciary and MVA personnel.

Future enhancements to the Maryland Judiciary Case Search and Web Interface Applications:

- A mechanized solution is underway to replace the manual reporting of juvenile delinquency cases from the courts to MVA.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE AND MARYLAND MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the Maryland Department of State Police (MSP) worked to implement the Extreme Risk Protective Order (red flag) entries into METERS and NCIC as soon as they are issued from the court.

The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) and the Maryland Department of State Police (MDSP) with Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to implement a new METERS Interface for vehicle information. The system went into Production July 6, 2020. This implementation was Part 1 to get MVA information off the mainframe and to use the Nlets schema which will standardize MVA responses across the United States. Part II will be implemented in December 2021.

2021 Goals

The CJIAB will continue to identify priorities and work to establish partnerships and resources that may be utilized as it moves toward its goals and objectives in 2020, which are highlighted below:

- Support the State's efforts in the expansion of the sharing of criminal justice information.

- Implementing the project to update and replace the Arrest Disposition Reporting Mainframe system as well as other outdated criminal history systems.

- Establishment of Maryland Electronic Court System (MDEC) throughout the State.

Conclusion

Building on the accomplishments of 2020, the Board will continue to focus on its legislatively mandated responsibilities, especially regarding the operation and maintenance of the Criminal Justice Information System to enhance interoperability and improve public safety in Maryland.