



Proposal: Illinois Justice Network Portal

Summary

This proposal addresses the strategic issues that have been identified as being crucial to criminal justice information sharing and recommends the establishment of a justice portal to fulfill these requirements. It contains the IIJIS Technical Committee's recommendations concerning the development of an integrated justice information system for Illinois.

Background

Recognizing the need to share critical justice information in a more timely and efficient manner, the State of Illinois established the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS) Governing Board in 2001. This board, comprised of representatives from state, county, and municipal justice agencies, was charged with the responsibility of developing a plan for the sharing of justice information throughout the state. Their report, the *Illinois Integrated Justice Information System Strategic Plan* was completed in December 2002 and contained a section called "Scenario for Information Sharing in Illinois," which outlined a future state of integrated justice information sharing.

In order to implement the *Strategic Plan*, a new Implementation Board was convened in 2003. The Implementation Board established four committees and charged them with recommending specific initiatives designed to carrying out the integration of justice information systems as outlined in the strategic plan. This recommendation from the Implementation Board's Technical Committee followed.

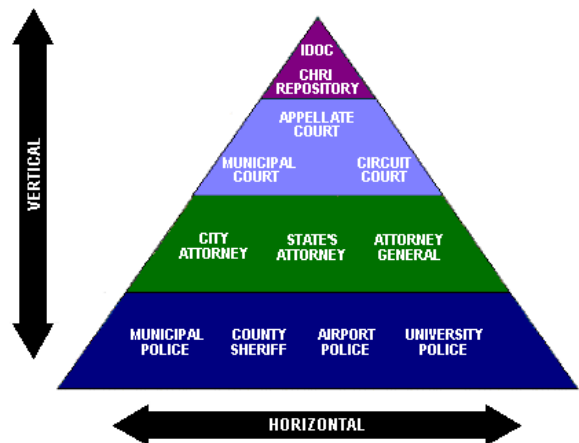
Illinois' integration needs

Generally stated, the *Strategic Plan* identifies two areas of need for integrated justice in Illinois, 1) improved access to and enhanced state-level systems, and 2) the development of county-level integrated justice systems. While both areas are necessary, the Technical Committee has initially focused on the first concentration: improved access to the information contained in state-level justice information systems and the improvement of those systems. With this focus on state-level systems in mind, the Technical Committee conducted research into the integration efforts of other jurisdictions in order to understand how they confronted similar needs.

Research into integrated justice models

The Technical Committee began its research into other jurisdiction's integration efforts by conceptualizing integration into two types, vertical and horizontal. Vertical integration is workflow oriented and is designed to facilitate the transfer of information as a subject is processed through the justice system. Horizontal integration involves data sharing between similar agencies.

The committee's research discovered that two principle architectures had been utilized throughout the nation to support these types of integration, 1) a central repository



system, and 2) a distributed system in which information was stored locally by each agency, but sharable throughout the justice system. While central repositories represented a potential solution for county-level integrated justice needs, the distributed systems presented a more pragmatic solution for Illinois' integration needs.

In a distributed model, each agency maintains its own computer information system, which is connected to a middleware server and data warehouse via wide-area-network connectivity. A middleware solution allows data from one computer system to be moved and adapted for use by another. Typically, a portal is developed through which authorized users can view data that the originating agency chose (whether by statute or agency specific policy) to publish to the data warehouse.

Upon further research, the Technical Committee found that most jurisdictions engaged in justice information sharing efforts, whether county-level or statewide, have facilitated the sharing of justice information through the use of portals. The committee's research revealed that distributed systems were in use in Washington DC and San Diego County and in a number of states including Colorado, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Nebraska, each using a slightly different architecture. Each of these system's characteristics were analyzed for their ability to meet Illinois' integration needs. A summary of their functionality follows:

Washington DC's Justice Information System



- Core arrest data transfer server
- Predefined queries
- Secured e-mail & notification services
- Juvenile justice data
- Department of motor vehicle data
- Mug shots
- Public access component

San Diego's Automated Regional Justice Information System



- Booking photos
- Notification services
- Police incident, arrest, citation, accident information
- Department of motor vehicle data
- Arrest warrants
- 911 computer aided dispatch data
- Public access component

Colorado's Integrated Criminal Justice Information System



- Criminal history records
- Warrant information
- Driver's license history
- Court records
- Restraining orders
- Public access component

Minnesota's CriMNet



- Minnesota court information
- Arrest booking information
- Statewide supervision data
- Minnesota repository of arrest photos
- Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) data
- Minnesota driver's license records

Pennsylvania's Justice Network

- Criminal history records
- Juvenile justice data
- Driver's license photos
- Inmate locations
- Pre defined queries
- Notification services



Nebraska's Criminal Justice Information System

- Criminal history records
- Local jail booking data
- Mug shots
- Probation information
- Orders of protection
- Sex offender registration information
- Driver's license & vehicle registration data



Illinois Justice Network

Portal technology allows agencies with different computer platforms and information needs to jointly develop an integrated system that benefits them all, without compromising any agency's security or data management requirements. It is envisioned that the Illinois Justice Network portal will provide a single point of contact for access to justice information from diverse applications throughout the state's justice enterprise. Not only will the portal be the one place to access the information already contained in large county-level data stores and statewide justice information systems, but it will allow users to access the information with a single query. As such, the portal will fulfill Illinois' first integration need: improved access to and enhanced justice information systems.

The Technical Committee's work began with an enumeration of state-level systems containing information deemed necessary in the Scenario. These systems include the following:

- Illinois Attorney General's Automated Victim Notification (AVN) system
- Cook County Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system
- Criminal history repository (CHRI) maintained by the Illinois State Police (ISP)
- Law Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS) also maintained by ISP
- Illinois Sex Offender Registry maintained by ISP
- Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) offender management systems
- Administrative Office of Illinois Courts' Probation On-Line Automated Reporting Information System (POLARIS)
- Illinois Secretary of State data systems
- Cook County Circuit Court Clerk data systems
- Newly announced I-CLEARs

Furthermore, the Technical Committee found that Illinois operates two telecommunications networks, the CMS Frame Relay Network and the Illinois Century Network, and that both possess the capacity to transport justice information throughout the state. These findings indicate that a justice portal is an appropriate way to meet Illinois' integration needs and that much of the infrastructure for such a portal is already in place.

Users of the Illinois Justice Network portal are expected to include authorized justice decision makers such as law enforcement officers, prosecutors, the judiciary, corrections officers, as well as probation and parole officers. There should also be a fee-based, public access component to the portal. The information that any individual user can have access to will be determined based upon their role. For example, a sworn police officer will have greater access to the information contained in the portal's source systems than will a member of the public whose access would be limited to conviction information only.

Borrowing from jurisdictions that are already operating justice information portals, the Technical Committee recommended that the Illinois Justice Network portal be able to perform the following functions:

Criminal Justice Inquiry

The Criminal Justice Inquiry application is the most comprehensive search the Illinois Justice Network portal would offer that integrates justice data from multiple sources through the use of a single query. The searches that follow would most likely be sub-searches of the Criminal Justice Inquiry and used when only a specific piece of information is required.

This application will search all the participating agencies' data and compile a response based upon a matching data value, such as the state identification (SID) number. Publicly available Internet responses,

such as the FBI's most wanted list, etc., could be included at the user's request. As with all the portal inquiries, responses will only show the information a user is authorized to view based upon their role.

Inmate Locator

The Inmate Locator application would allow a justice worker to locate an inmate at an Illinois correctional facility by searching the Illinois Department of Corrections offender management system, Cook County Department of Corrections, and the Attorney General's Automated Victim Notification (AVN) system which contains county jail inmate information. Future expansion of the Inmate Locator application might include police lock-up information.

Mug Shot

The Mug Shot application would allow an authorized user to obtain a digital photo from any system that contains one, such as the Illinois State Police's and Chicago Police Department's criminal history repositories, which contain arrest booking photos, the Secretary of State's data systems which contain driver's license and state identification card photos, as well as the Illinois Department of Corrections inmate photos.

Secretary of State

The Secretary of State application would provide access to Driver's License and Vehicle Registration information.

Juvenile Inquiry

The Juvenile Inquiry application would allow authorized users to access the criminal history repository's juvenile arrest database in order to facilitate station adjustments in accordance with the Illinois Juvenile Court Act by tracking how many station adjustments the juvenile might have had.

SID/IR Look-Up

The SID/IR Look-Up application would allow a justice decision maker to obtain an offender's SID or IR number by entering other forms of identifying information. Future expansion of this function might expand the ability to obtain FBI, Social Security, or Driver's license numbers.

Master Name File

The Master Name File application would allow the user to obtain information based upon a name or Soundex inquiry. The information returned would include subject demographic information such as date of birth, address, eye color, etc., as well as SID, IR, FBI, and social security numbers.

Notification Service

The portal's Notification Service would allow a justice practitioner to subscribe to receive updates on a particular subject's records contained in the system. For example, a parole officer might want to subscribe to receive notification that his parolees were arrested.

Bulletin Board

The Bulletin Board would provide a place to post messages regarding the administration of the Illinois Justice Network portal.

Projected implementation of the portal

Upon the Implementation Board's approval of the proposed Illinois Justice Network, a tactical plan will be produced that will address all the issues necessary to successfully develop the portal and put it into operation. In order to develop this tactical plan, the developers of the portal will collaborate with the state and county-level agencies that administer the information systems that will be providing the data to the portal. This joint effort will be supplemented by the assistance of technology experts who will address

several technological matters involved with implementing the Illinois Justice Information Network. Those technological matters include, among other things, 1) assessing the technological capacity of the justice information systems to participate in the portal, 2) developing the portal through the utilization of the Justice XML data model, 3) linking records from disparate state and county level information stores, 4) addressing data quality concerns created by the linking of records, 5) establishing record update procedures, 6) leveraging existing telecommunication infrastructure, and 7) conducting prototyping and pilot testing of the portal.

The tactical plan will also address the research currently taking place in the IJIS Privacy Policy Subcommittee. That subcommittee's work will greatly assist in the development of role-based access to the information available through the Illinois Justice Network portal and ensure that access to the justice information conforms with current laws and regulations.

More detailed information concerning the proposed development of the tactical plan has been compiled by the Technical Committee and is available upon request or on the IJIS website at: <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/ijis/public/index.cfm?metasection=oversight>.

Conclusion

On January 16, 2004, the Technical Committee agreed that the utilization of portal technology was the best approach to integrating justice information systems in Illinois. They agreed that the technology currently exists to connect justice information from several different information stores and that several states and counties throughout the nation are successfully utilizing the technology. The Illinois Justice Network proposal combines the best characteristics of each of those previous efforts and will most efficiently meet Illinois' integration needs as outlined in the *Strategic Plan*.