Standards report: Global Justice XML Data Model

The time of attempting to force agencies within a county or throughout the State to use a single data processing application for all law enforcement agencies has passed. With the understanding that there will always be disparate law enforcement applications in existence, it is incumbent upon the technology leaders of the State to devise standards for exchanging data between these disparate systems.

Accurate and germane sharing of information across jurisdictions is a critical issue for justice and public safety. Although there has been significant progress in the field of information technology, the lack of *standards* for exchanging justice data has not only been a major obstacle to, but also the principal reason for, the high costs involved with justice information exchange. The development of the *Global Justice XML Data Model* (GJXDM) represents a significant achievement in the process of developing standards for sharing justice information.

However, the GJXDM is only to be used as the foundation for the exchange of information. The real value to using GJXDM is that it can be extended for a more practical use where it is needed. To that end, the IIJIS Technical Committee is not recommending that GJXDM be the standard for data exchange, but that the State of Illinois identifies the exchange documents to be shared by agencies. Once these exchange documents are identified and vetted, the IIJIS Technical Committee can then build the XML schemas for each of these exchange documents using the GJXDM as the foundation. These schemas would then be recommended to become the standard within the State of Illinois for each particular exchange document.