

Department of Public Safety Records & Technology Division MTG Disposition Study and Bill Draft Request

NCJIS Advisory Committee Meeting
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Why are Criminal History Records Important?

- Foundation of the criminal justice community both state- and nationwide
- Used by law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, corrections, parole/probation, and social services agencies to protect the public
- Information must be:
 - Complete: includes all arrests, disposition and sentencing information
 - Timely: reported to the Repository as it occurs
 - Accurate: correct and reliable

Criminal History Records, continued

- Increasingly used by employers and licensing agencies to screen job applicants/volunteers and protect vulnerable populations
 - In Nevada some 62 occupational fields plus myriad local ordinances require a criminal history records check prior to employment/licensing
 - “Background check” misleading
 - Can provide a false sense of security

History of E-Dispos in Nevada

- AOC and Repository have been working since 2004 to automate the exchange of disposition information between Courts/Repository
 - Goal was more complete, timely & accurate criminal history records
- Piloted with two courts with minimal success
 - Carson City Municipal/Justice Court
 - Las Vegas Justice Court

E-dispo history, continued...

- Based on pilot results, joint decision made to take a step back
- AOC/Repository partnered on a federal grant to conduct a business analysis of the manual disposition reporting process in Nevada
- MTG Management Consultants selected in May 2011 to conduct the business analysis and recommend a path forward

MTG's Methodology

- Interviewed key staff at AOC, Repository, local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, and courts to learn how information is shared through the arrest and conviction cycle
- Local agencies interviewed:
 - Carson City
 - Clark County
 - Washoe County
 - Elko County
 - Churchill County

MTG's Principal Findings

- Nevada suffers from **incomplete, inaccurate,** and **untimely** criminal history record information
- **Lack of Governance** contributes to poor record quality
 - Format of reporting
 - Duplicate reporting/late reporting/no reporting
 - Confusion about *who* reports *what* and *when*
 - NRS 179A.075(3)

Other Findings

- Users perceive Repository information as incomplete
- Person information passed to downstream agencies before identity verified through fingerprints
- Vocabulary problems lead to poor matching rates
- High level of manual intervention required—
inefficient and duplicative
- Prosecutor involvement critical but largely missing
 - Charge-based versus Case-based
- No “accounting” to ensure movement of critical data between agencies

Lack of Governance: Some Recent Examples

- Nevada Offense Codes
- GangNet
- CAD/RMS
- Protection Orders



A Path Forward

- *Business As Usual* No Longer an Option
- MTG made recommendations for a new, integrated criminal justice system and a plan for implementation, but...
- **Takes Governance to Solve**

BDR Review

- Intent: to form a cohesive governance body to make policy and strategic decisions for the future of criminal justice information sharing in Nevada
- NCJIS Advisory poised to step into this role
 - Original intent in 2005
 - Committee composition would be different
- Section-by –Section review and discussion

Discussion and Action

- Will NCJIS Advisory endorse the concept?
- Future of NCJIS Advisory and Next Steps