

Nevada Administrative
Office of the Courts

**2011 PROTECTION ORDER STUDY
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY**

JANUARY 11, 2012

Project Objectives

The project focused on all types of protection orders (POs) issued within Nevada. It assessed the current PO environment and identified recommendations that can improve overall processes and systems, including National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) eligibility determinations.

- Survey a subset of Nevada courts, law enforcement agencies, and advocates to assess business practices and technical capabilities.
- Evaluated the current state of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Protection Order System (POS) capabilities.
- Identify underlying reasons for incomplete and/or unavailable NICS records where courts are the originator of the information.
- Provided business and systems recommendations to improve processes, practices, and systems from a tactical and strategic perspective.

Project Resources

- Awarded National Instant Background check System (NICS) Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP) grant
- MTG Management Consultants
- AOC IT & Grant Manager
- AOC and DPS staff

Data Gathering and Assessment

- Interviewed 31 Nevada organizations.
- Interviewed two other states regarding their PO processes and systems (Connecticut and Florida).
- Developed a report with 54 findings.

Key Findings

- Non-DV applications receive minimal assistance in determining type of order.
- Reduced ability to serve and enforce orders due to ambiguity and/or impractical wording.
- Untimely processing minimizes ability to enforce.
- Non-DV POs provide limited protection for the protected party.
- Lack of service resulting in lack of protection of non-DV orders.
- Unfair violation penalties between types of POs.
- Nevada POs are not entered into NCIC therefore:
 - Unknown or unenforceable outside the State of Nevada
 - Unable to search by protected party to confirm

“A Glitch in the System”

Current Nevada Environment

Conceptual View
Handout 1

Other State Interviews

- ⦿ Florida
 - Handout 2

- ⦿ Connecticut
 - Handout 3

Influencing Factors and Constraints

- A successful approach and plan of action will require close cooperation, coordination, and agreement between the judicial branch and the DPS.
- Critical drivers in the process of improving the PO system are timeliness of overall process and victim/officer safety.
- Making significant changes to the current DPS POS is impractical. The current DPS POS is scheduled to be replaced.
- Successful strategies to improve PO processes and systems will require the leadership and engagement of a number of justice stakeholders and a multiagency governance entity to engender support and participation in making PO-related improvements.
- Staffing and workload impact could be significant if technology-related investments are not made.
- Implementations of the strategic recommendations for new/replacement systems and processes must consider DPS NCJIS, FBI NCIC, and AOC security requirements.

Key Recommendations Summary

- Establish a multi-agency governance structure to implement recommendations
- AOC should provide a central POS for Nevada courts that includes all types of POs and electronically sends this information to DPS
- The DPS POS should include all types of POs and provide service notification information to AOC POS
- AOC and DPS should work cooperatively to provide electronic hit confirmations and validations
- Establish a consistent PO packet that includes a standardized law enforcement information sheet and passport cover sheet.
- Approach legislature to create stronger penalties for DV PO violations to align with other types of POs
- Improve assistance to citizens for non-DV related PO applications

Recommended Environment

Conceptual View of Future Nevada
Environment
Handout 4

Next Steps

- Presentations to justice community
- Establish governance to determine strategic alignment with justice partners

Questions & Answers

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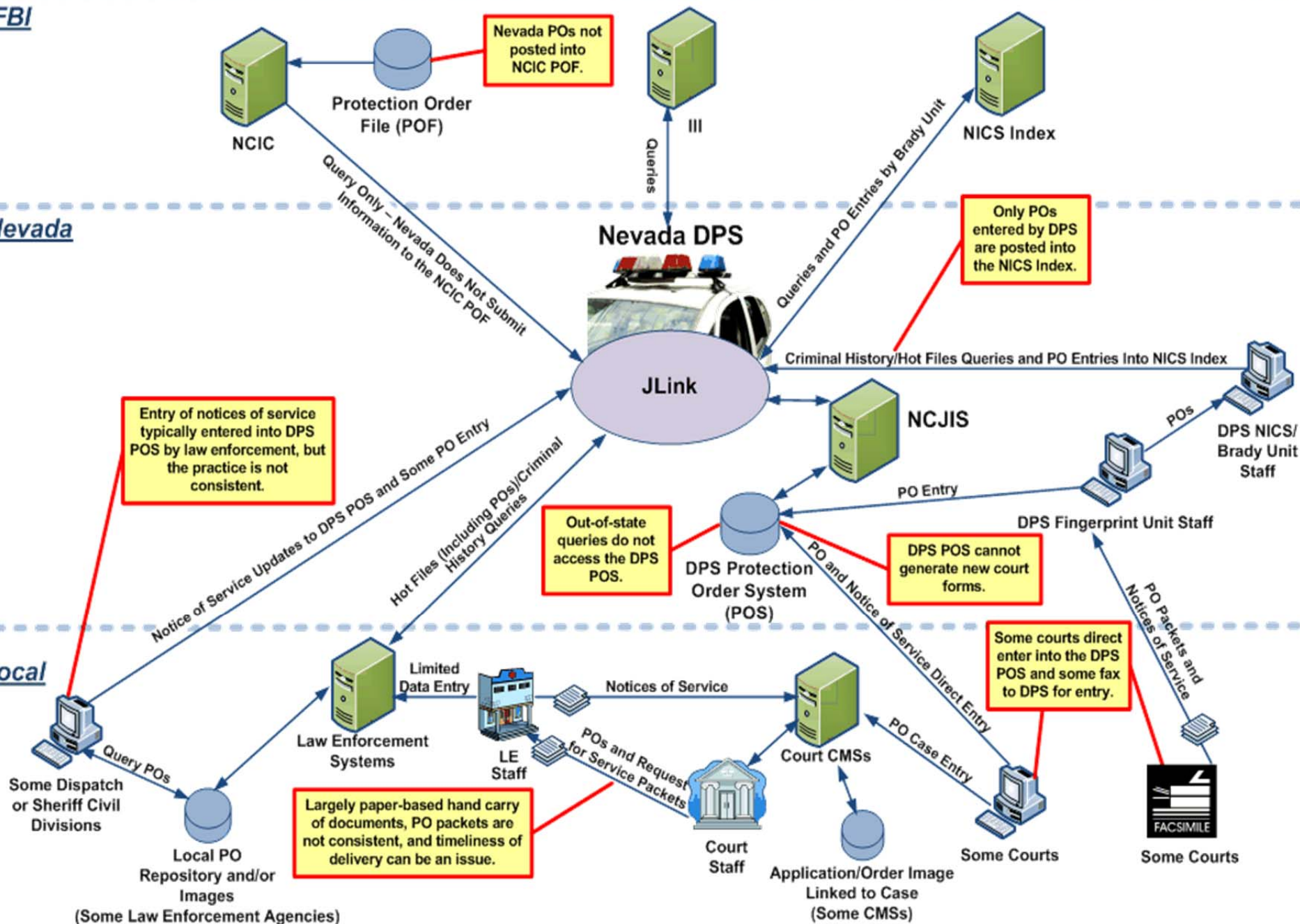
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Handout 1: Current Conceptual View

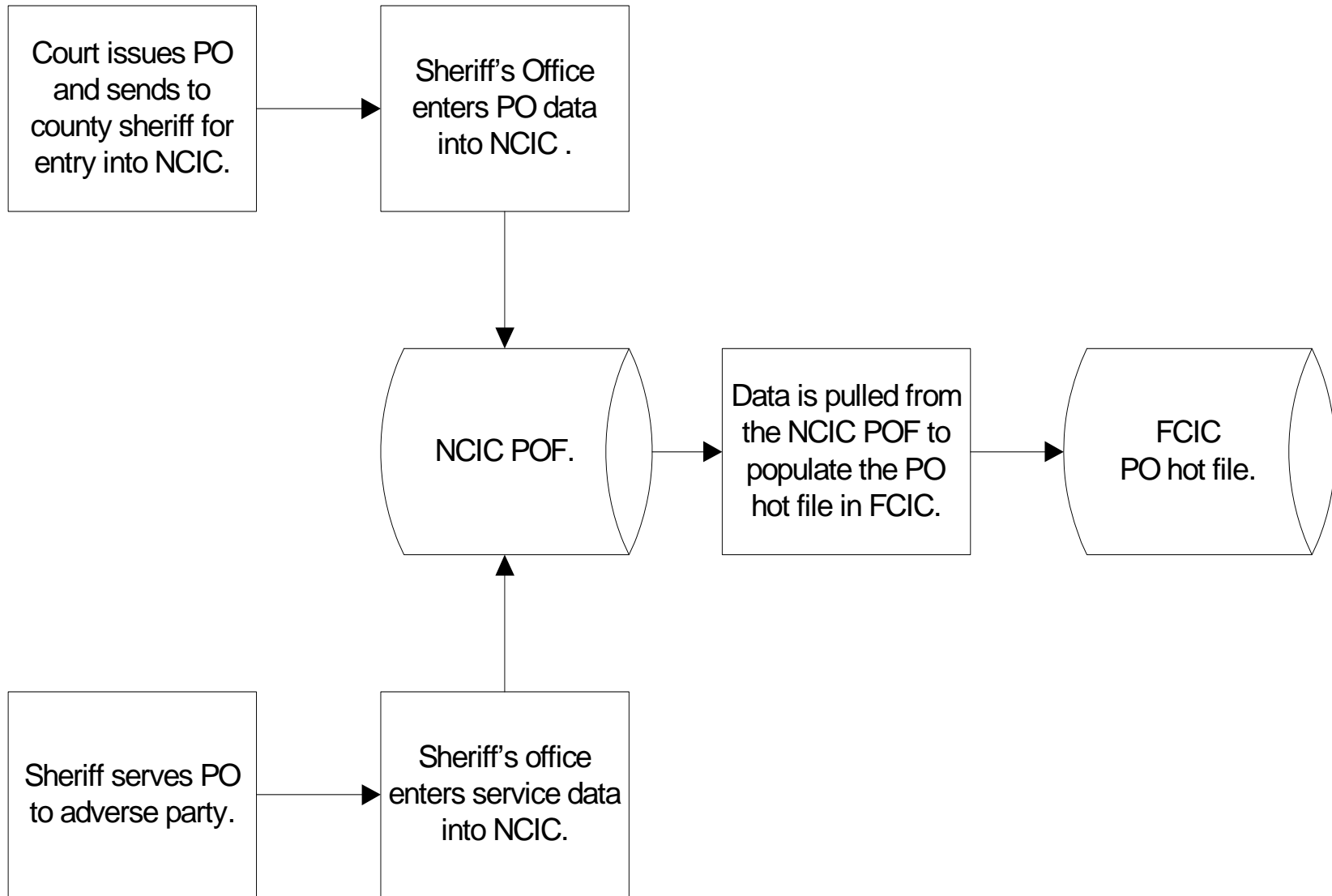
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Nevada

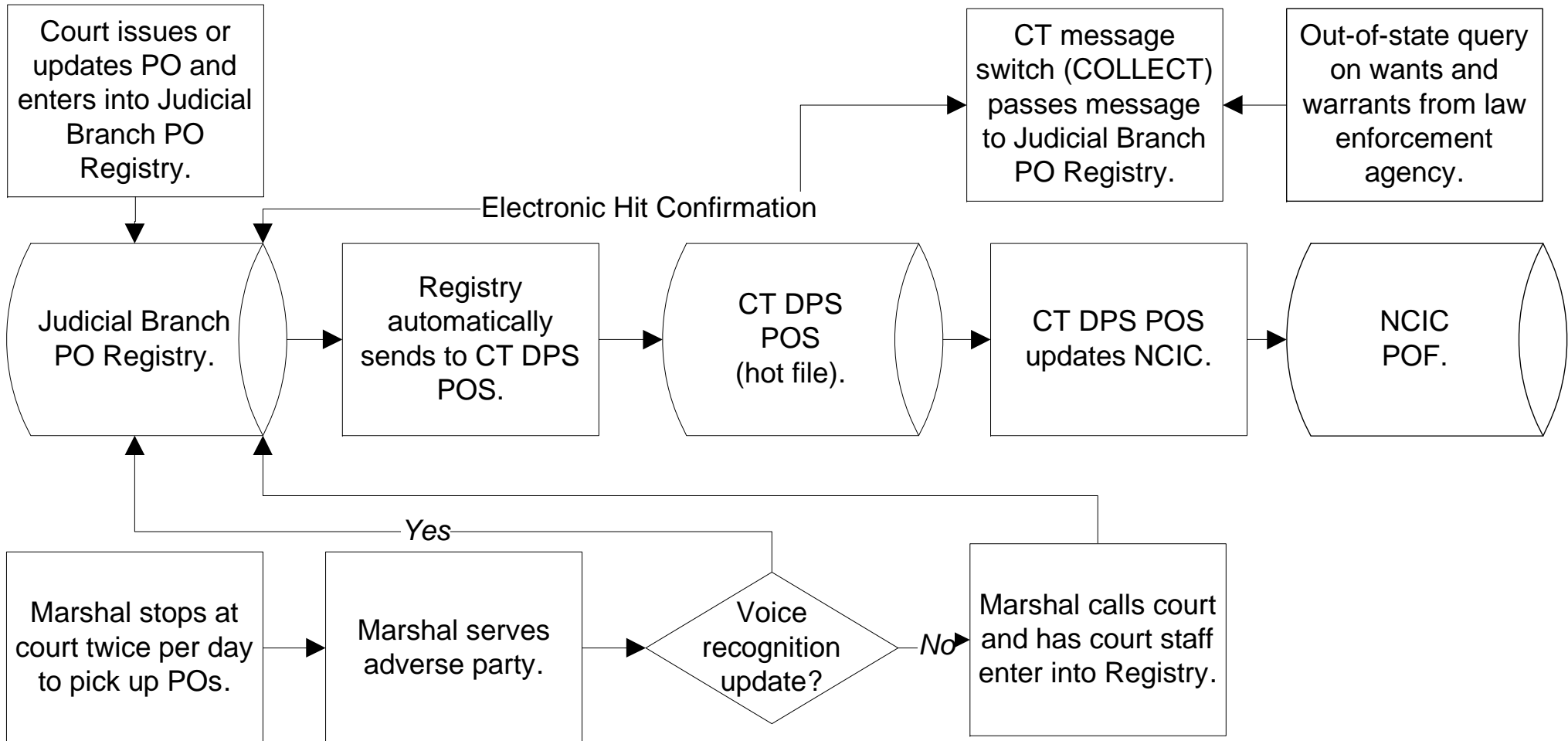
Local



Handout 2: Other State Interviews - Florida



Handout 3: Other State Interviews - Connecticut



Handout 4: Conceptual View of Future Nevada Environment

