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# **2008 Annual Report On Interoperability**

**Submitted by**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION  
ADVISORY BOARD**

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## **Criminal Justice Information Advisory Board 2008 Annual Report on Interoperability**

### **Background**

The Criminal Justice Information Advisory Board (CJIAB) was created by statute in 1976. The Board'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 Board includes members from the legislative branch, county and municipal government, and the public.

As a statutory entity, the CJIAB has the responsibility for criminal justice integration and interoperability. It works to establish policies, relationships and infrastructure to enable sharing of local justice information across the entire justice system. The Board 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.

Under Maryland law, the Board has the additional responsibility for submitting an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly that describes the compatibility and interoperability of communication and information management systems maintained by the State's judiciary, public safety and criminal justice entities.<sup>1</sup>

### **The Current State of Interoperability in Maryland**

Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) 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. These initiatives support and carry out the Governor's Security Integration approach for Maryland, which incorporates law enforcement information needs with those of homeland security requirements.

The sections that follow describe the public safety impact and significant accomplishments of three components of ID Maryland: the Network Livescan (NLS) project, the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System (MAFIS) Replacement program, and the new National Criminal Information Center (NCIC) program.

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<sup>1</sup> *Maryland Code, Criminal Procedure article, §§ 10-207(a)*. This Annual Report on Interoperability is submitted to the Governor and to the General Assembly pursuant to statutory reporting requirements codified in Criminal Procedure article § 10-210(6) and State Government article, §2-1246, respectively.

## ID Maryland - Network Livescan (NLS)

The Network Livescan (NLS) project consists of three subprojects: Hazmat CDL, Criminal Rollout, and Electronic Applicant. The Hazmat CDL project aids in performing the required background checks on applicants for commercial driver's licenses to transport hazardous materials. Criminal Rollout places electronic fingerprinting machines in criminal justice facilities to assist in rapid identification and comparison to national criminal databases during intake processing. Electronic Applicant allows the state to electronically process the applicant fingerprints for various licensures and compare them to electronic criminal databases. The common thread of these projects is the NLS equipment, which provides the ability to collect and transmit electronic fingerprint images from remote locations to the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System (MAFIS) at the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). NLS supports the goal of helping to keep Maryland communities safe by providing for rapid identification of offenders and non-offender subjects and achieve the objective of the CJIS Central Repository to have records that demonstrate a 90% rate of accuracy, timeliness and completeness in annual audits.

The Public Safety Impact and significant accomplishment of the NLS Projects:

- a. *Hazmat CDL*  
Implements the federal requirements established under the USA PATRIOT Act to perform background investigations for applicants of new or renewal commercial driver's licenses. Improves safety of Maryland roadways and promotes public confidence in security of transportation of hazardous materials. This portion of the project was completed in December 2005. Since that time the Department has maintained the operation of the 5 Hazmat Sites.
- b. *Criminal Rollout*  
Places electronic equipment in criminal justice facilities to allow law enforcement to make rapid criminal identifications from national databases.  
Enables 20-minute response time for processing of fingerprints resulting in rapid positive identification of criminal suspects.
  - Currently 78 Livescans are used for criminal electronic processing of fingerprints.
  - 15 Livescans have been installed for processing fingerprints at DPP sites, providing a better mechanism for closing the identification gaps.
  - Livescan implementation at the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) sites is progressing towards a goal to install a total of 27 NLS machines, with a minimal of one in each jurisdiction, and

additional machines in high volume locations. This goal is dependent on funding availability.

c. *Electronic Applicant*

Enables electronic processing of fingerprints for applicants of various licenses such as childcare.

Expedites timeframe for processing distinct images of non-criminal applicants' fingerprints from 6-8 weeks to 2-3 workdays if images are captured by Livescan technology.

- Maryland overall applicant response time has dramatically declined from an average of 15.7 days reported for JAN-AUG 06 to an average of 10 days reported in JAN-AUG 07, to an average of 5.8 days reported in JAN-AUG 08.
- FBI Overall Response Time has significantly decreased from an average of 64 days reported in January 2006 to an average of 3 days reported in August 2007. This has remained consistent with and average of 3 days in 2008.
- CJIS storefront and Central Hiring started using new applicant software and process in June 2006.
- 5 Private Providers were approved to serve as front door electronic collections of applicant submissions. This allows the data to be collected and sent to the repository in an electronic data package resulting in increased customer satisfaction and response time.
- Operation of 5 Hazmat sites have been expanded to also offer electronic applicant collections in an effort to offer more state wide customer access.
- The next vision is to target a cut off date to eliminate paper submissions for applicant business.
- On average, 3 Livescans per month are installed for applicant processing.
- Maryland State Police Licensing Division is submitting electronically for background checks for licensing requests.
- Baltimore County Board of Education, Carroll County and Charles County Board of Education, and Queen Anne's County Board of Education are submitting electronically for applicant background processing.

- The Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and the Police and Correctional Training Commissions are submitting applicant requests electronically.

### **ID Maryland – MAFIS Replacement**

The MAFIS provides automated fingerprint identification for criminal processing. The identification system can be also used in the process of performing civil background checks. The system is utilized by local agencies for the purpose of criminal investigation. The MAFIS Replacement Program has upgraded all components of an antiquated system that has reached its capacity limits for reliable service and is not compatible with new advances in fingerprint technology.

The Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of the MAFIS Replacement Program:

Enables searching of records against MAFIS and the electronic submission of records to FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Integration System (IAFIS) to receive responses from the FBI within 2 hours for criminal queries and 24 hours for applicant queries.

Facilitates the ability to positively identify a criminal suspect while still in custody.

Improves accuracy and reliability of results with data consistency via one-time entry.

Moves Maryland toward achieving a 100% rate of transmitting electronic criminal and applicant fingerprints to IAFIS. A new Transaction Controller was jointly developed by DPSCS and the MAFIS Vendor to provide the State with more timeliness and flexibility as legislation changes.

- The new MAFIS was implemented in October, 2008.
- Approximately 6.6 million fingerprint cards were converted to electronic images for identification matching.
- A total of 233,000 latent fingerprints were converted from the previous MAFIS vendor format to the current MAFIS vendor database. This has provided the opportunity of matching images in some of the State's cold cases.
- Previous identified Palm Print cards from the MSP Crime Lab were converted to electronic format. This enabled creating a database of 266,000 electronic palm images that can be used by local sites for criminal investigation.

- A new Digital Photo Manager is being configured for use by the Correctional Facilities, Booking Sites, and Parole and Probation Sites.
- Conversion of photos from legacy systems is underway to provide a central repository of photos.
- MAFIS FastID will be implemented in early 2009. This will permit local law enforcement agencies to use wireless devices to provide a quick preliminary identification process that determines if further investigation is needed.

### **ID Maryland – National Crime Information Center (NCIC)**

This program will give law enforcement personnel access to online databases that will assist them in their duties, including the FBI's NCIC database, Maryland's Hot Files, the MVA database, and the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications Service (NLETS). This project will achieve the federally established goal of rolling out the NCIC system to all statewide law enforcement agencies. The NCIC system investment supports the entire core/priority mission functions performed by the Maryland State Police and other law enforcement agencies.

#### Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of the NCIC:

Implements a web-based system that provides police officers in the field throughout the state with access to the FBI's NCIC, a computerized database of criminal justice information available nationwide, 24/7/365.

Allows Maryland law enforcement personnel to access Maryland's Hot Files, the MVA database, the NLETS, the Convicted Sex Offender, Convicted Person on Supervised Release, and SENTRY (an index of persons incarcerated in federal prisons) on their mobile data terminals. Gives law enforcement the ability to transmit and view images which include mug shots, fingerprints, signatures, and identifying photographs to confirm a subject's identity and enables the capability of attaching photos to missing person and stolen property files.

- Agencies in nine Counties have been successfully upgraded to METERS (Maryland Electronic Telecommunications Enforcement Resource System) which upgrades their systems to allow all of the accesses and abilities outlined above. The nine counties include: Dorchester, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Kent, Talbot, Worcester, Wicomico, Caroline, and Cecil.
- Testing of the new Remote Mobile Data Terminal System (RMDTS) continues with Salisbury Police Department, CapWIN

and Charles County Sheriff's Office. MVA Photos have been successfully transmitted to the MDTs. Statewide release of this interface is anticipated shortly.

- Plans for the next stage of METERS rollout is planned for Central Maryland Agencies beginning January 2009.
- Testing for the Domestic Violence Central Repository METERS Interface (DVCR) has begun.
- Execution of a Technical Memorandum of Understanding (TMOU) regarding establishing a disaster recovery site has begun between the State of Maryland and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Justice Information Services Division.
- Addition of an Interpol Database Check in the METERS application.

### **DNA Collections at Charging**

This program will provide a means during the booking process that will communicate when a DNA sample is required for an offender. Through the data captured during the fingerprint process, the MAFIS Transaction Controller will determine if a DNA sample is required. The fingerprint identification will enable a determination if the offender's sample is on file. This program will provide for improved communications among law enforcement, booking agencies, local labs, prosecutors, and public defenders.

The benefits of this program to the State are:

- Earlier identification of possible links between criminal incident and perpetrators.
- Save investigation, prosecution, and incarceration resources.
- Solve and prevent crimes.
- Exonerate wrongly accused.
- In 2009, The DNA Collection process will be expanded to include DPP intake site.

## **Maryland State Police Electronic Traffic Information Exchange (E-TIX)**

E-TIX is a program that was developed by the Maryland State Police. The success of E-TIX is the result of the cooperation between the MSP and numerous partners such as the District Court, State Highway Administration, Motor Vehicle Administration and dozens of law enforcement agencies. E-TIX allows law enforcement officers to issue traffic citations and warnings (enforcement documents) electronically. When a car is stopped, the officer can scan the bar code on the driver's license and vehicle registration to populate the enforcement documents. That information is automatically checked against the E-TIX database of prior traffic stops and it is sent to CapWIN where it is checked via MILES / NCIC. The documents are then printed on a thermal printer that is installed in the patrol vehicle. Due to legislative changes that were developed in conjunction with the District Court, the violator is no longer required to sign a traffic citation. In addition, all legally-mandated traffic stop data and officer performance data is automatically collected. This system reduces the average time it takes to issue a traffic citation from over 8 minutes to less than 3 minutes, significantly improving officer safety.

### **Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of E-TIX:**

- E-TIX is one of only two electronic citations systems that have been certified by the District Court. Certification was granted in March 2008.
- The MSP has worked to secure 29 partner law enforcement agencies, all of which use E-TIX. These agencies range in size from the Maryland Transportation Authority Police, the Charles County Sheriff's Office and the Howard County Police Department (each with hundreds of officers) to Trappe Police Department (with one officer). We expect the number of partner agencies to grow in 2009.
- Since October 2008, two members of the MSP Office of Technology Management have conducted over 50 training sessions at sites across the State for troopers as well as officers in the partner agencies. Upon completion of the training in December 2008, over 1,200 troopers, officers and deputies will have been trained.
- In only two months, (between October and November, 2008) over 25,000 vehicles have been stopped using the system.

### **CrimeReports.com**

CrimeReports.com facilitates the aggregation of crime information from a multitude of various CAD and RMS systems across the State of Maryland and delivers all of that data



through an easy-to-use map interface and automated, location-based alerts in near-real-time. The state also gains the ability to see municipal, regional and state crime patterns in the aggregate in near real time.

In May, 2008, The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention awarded the Maryland Department of State Police a Crime Mapping Grant to provide funding reimbursement to law enforcement agencies to cover participation in CrimeReports.com.

#### Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of CrimeReports.com:

- Publicly accessible crime mapping that can be used by law enforcement, particularly agencies without CompStat capabilities, and by the general public.
- Supports the management and accountability process (CompStat) with data provided in near real or real time.
- Agencies are able to not only view maps of their local crime; they are able to view crime occurring in neighboring jurisdictions.
- Provides the capability to see crime regionally, by reviewing maps of DC and MD borders.
- In addition to sharing this crime information with the public, law enforcement agencies in the State of Maryland are able to gain additional perspective and a high level view of the crime occurrences in neighboring jurisdictions that has previously been unattainable due to technical issues.
- Local law enforcement agencies are able to present information on mapping, in particular the use of crimereports.com in their jurisdiction, during local community meetings in order to raise awareness of the service and to express to locals how important crime mapping/analysis is in combating and preventing crime.
- To date, approximately 50 agencies in the State of Maryland have signed on and begun sharing their crime data through CrimeReports.com. These agencies cover a service population of over 4 million citizens. Efforts to engage the remaining law enforcement agencies in the state are continuing. Since May, 2008, over 80,218 site visits via 368 cities have accessed the CrimeReports.com web site.

### **Maryland Judiciary Case Search**

Provides public Internet access to information from case records maintained by the Maryland Judiciary. Allows users to search for Circuit and District Court cases and to see party and event information about those cases. This information includes defendant name, City and state, case number, date of birth, plaintiff name (civil cases only), trial date, charge, and case disposition.

Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of Case Search:

- Includes detailed case information for all Maryland District Court traffic, criminal, and civil cases and Maryland Circuit Court criminal and civil cases.
- A search on circuit court judgments and liens was added in December 2007. This search service displays indexed information such as defendant/plaintiff name, disposition of case, original date, status date, indexed date, etc. The user can also navigate to a selected judgment case history page.
- A new Internet portal page (<https://portal.mdcourts.gov>) was introduced in 2008 along with public access to Estate records and secure access to Domestic Violence Protective and Peace Orders. This search provides court and law enforcement personnel comprehensive search capabilities and access to these orders.
- Work has begun to provide secure access to warrants through this portal to replace the access currently provided through a mainframe interface.
- Case Search currently has over 12 million cases and averages 250,000 hits per day.

Future enhancements to the Maryland Judiciary Case Search will include:

- Providing access to warrant data in real-time through the mdcourts portal.

### **Maryland Judiciary Case Management System**

The goal of this project is to replace the disparate legacy case management systems with an integrated statewide Case Management System (CMS) that will serve all courts and facilitate efficiencies in operations and data exchange with criminal justice partners.

## Public Safety Impact and Significant Accomplishments of the CMS:

- The technical architecture for the integrated environment has been established and all legacy case related data is being replicated to an Oracle-based data warehouse environment on a real-time basis. These major accomplishments built the foundation upon which the Judiciary Case Search portal has delivered case data to law enforcement personnel.
- Work is currently underway to interface order data to the METERS systems at Public Safety at the time an order is granted to speed the delivery of this data to the hot files and NCIC.
- Analysis has begun to determine the feasibility of interfacing warrant data in a real-time mode through a METERS interface.

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

- Providing a real-time interface of warrant data to the Public Safety METERS system
- Providing data exchange with criminal justice partners using accepted GJXML / NIEMS standards.

## 2009 Goals

The goals listed build upon the progress made during 2008. Significant success has been achieved with the cooperation of the CJAB Boards members and state criminal justice agencies.

The Board and its working groups will continue to identify priorities and work to establish partnerships and resources that may be utilized as the Board moves toward its goals and objectives in 09, which are highlighted below:

- In partnership with State CIO and State Enterprise Architect support public safety integration of existing systems and development of distributed applications and public safety data standardization methods such as Global Justice XML (GJXML) and NIEMS - now required to be used in new information sharing projects that are funded through state and federal grants.
- Review and establish the need for and how the Board can act as an advisor to interoperability projects.
- Continue to support the ID Maryland advancement with the replacement of outdated Criminal History Data bases. This will

continue to ensure efficient criminal identification for all law enforcement in the state of Maryland. The CJIAB agrees that automated fingerprint identification systems are critical assets to the success of Maryland's public safety strategies.

- The Board will continue to support enhancement of interoperability with the FBI databases. For example, compliance with the new National Instant Check System (NICS) bill that encourages the states to share gun-purchasing disqualifiers to them so guns don't get sold to individual not deemed appropriate.
- The Board will continue to support new Brady Handgun requirements in an effort to feed the national SOR databases with Maryland state information.
- The Board will continue to support and assist with the installation of additional Livescan devices across the state toward achieving a 100% rate of transmitting electronic criminal and applicant fingerprints to IAFIS.
- The Records Improvement Master Plan will be reviewed and updated to insure the most accurate, complete and timely information to Maryland's Criminal Justice agencies.
- The CJIS state Repository plans to move in the direction of eliminating paper card submissions for applicant business in an effort to fully utilize livescan quality assurance technology and containment of increased customer delivery times.

### **Conclusion**

The CJIAB will continue to take a leadership role to support solutions that effectively leverage critical information across criminal justice agencies. Building on the accomplishments of 2008, the Board will continue to focus on its legislatively mandated responsibilities especially regarding the development, operation, and maintenance of the Criminal Justice Information System to enhance interoperability in Maryland.