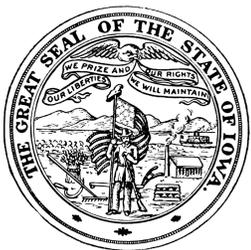


Working Together to Achieve Interoperability

Customer Case Study



The State of Iowa Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Initiative

The CJIS initiative began in 2001, with the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. It created a CJIS Board including the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court, the Director of the Department of Administrative Services or his or her designee, and the State Court Administrator. The duties of the Board are to review recommendations submitted by the Advisory Committee and set policy for the State relating to all aspects of an integrated criminal justice information system, including design, development, funding, implementation, and operation. The Advisory Committee is the active working group overseeing the CJIS initiative in Iowa.

"We work closely with our clients to capture as much of the business process, intelligence, and function – performed by people in the paper world – into the service layer so that rich insight and experience is automated. Many system integrators and vendors advertise that a large percentage of the integration work is data mapping, but we've found that to be a significant oversimplification of this work."

Dave Usery, President and CEO

Partnership Background

2002 URL began working with the State of Iowa, conducting an exchange analysis of the adult criminal justice and juvenile systems.

2005 URL leads a team to develop the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) strategic plan for the State of Iowa, including an analysis of the current environment, recommendations for future environment, business process re-engineering and governance support, implementation planning, and cost estimates. URL also acted as project manager to state and local stakeholders in order to establish information exchanges, management protocols, project consensus, and sound planning efforts for information sharing between the Judicial Branch and law enforcement systems.

2007 URL becomes the State of Iowa's chosen system integrator to implement and deploy the statewide CJIS initiative. This included the development of Information Exchange Packet Document (IEPDs) and Transaction Processing Analysis for nine priority information exchanges, including protective order, warrant, arrest report, citation, among others.

2008 In February, CJIS goes live. URL successfully implements a full-scale, end-to-end solution that encompasses 24 information exchanges and transmits over 600,000 messages on a yearly basis. URL continues to act as project manager, systems integrator, and technical advisor to the State of Iowa and oversee the ongoing implementation of priority information exchanges and development requirements and IEPDs for other priority information exchanges.

2010 With a federal grant, URL and the State of Iowa began planning and implementation efforts for a statewide adoption of the National Data Exchange (N-DEx) – a program that helps law enforcement agencies "connect the dots" with information about people, places, and property from agencies all across the country that may not initially seem related. Leveraging the existing CJIS architecture, URL and the State of Iowa will work closely with local police agencies and the Records Management System (RMS) vendor community to integrate N-DEx, including the Traffic and Criminal System (TraCS) for incident reporting and the prosecutor's Case Management Systems (CMS).

End-to-End SOA Solution

GRA-Based URL's end-to-end service-oriented architecture (SOA) approach to justice information sharing environments includes the blending of jurisdiction-wide, business processes with firm standards, as manifested in the Global Reference Architecture (GRA). This proven-approach ensures information moves – real-time – across multiple agencies to automate the criminal justice process. The State of Iowa's CJIS project included the following:

Statewide Strategic Planning and Governance: The CJIS initiative incorporated business processes and multiple exchanges from 11 State Agencies and Judicial Branch, 99 County Attorneys and Sheriffs, and more than 200 Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies.

Standards-Based Architecture: Implementation method included a pure application of SOA based on GRA, Web services, and eXtensible markup language (XML) standards, including National Information Exchange Model (NIEM).

Cross-Agency Automation: From law enforcement incident all the way through disposition and post disposition, the entire criminal justice enterprise participated an automated, horizontal flow of information and real-time exchanges, with no batches, file transfer protocol (FTP), or extracting, transferring, and loading (ETL).

Workflow-Driven Processes: Information moves seamlessly throughout the criminal justice process; for example, a user has the ability to input information once into a system that will promote workflow efficiencies in various business processes.

Event-Triggered Integration: Information exchange automates upon the occurrence of a specific, pre-defined event that touches a sending agency's system of record and integrates into the receiving agency's systems and business processes.

Loosely Coupled Environment: The integration layer sits above all legacy systems and provides maximum flexibility so when upgrades and changes need to be made to an agency's internal system, it won't disrupt or break the integration process.

Results: Incorporated business processes and multiple exchanges from 11 State Agencies and Judicial Branch, 99 County Attorneys and Sheriffs, and more than 200 Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies; encompasses 24 information exchanges and transmits over 600,000 messages annually.