

CONSOLIDATED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HARDWARE - CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING NETWORK

This memorandum provides information on the criminal justice information sharing (CJIS) security policy, the North Dakota CJIS portal, and CJIS systems in other states.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING SECURITY POLICY

The United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) publishes security policies related to CJIS systems. These security policies apply to any agency that has access to federal criminal justice information, including agencies that store the data and those that transmit the information. The most recent version was published in August 2013 and contains the following 12 major policy areas:

- Information exchange agreements;
- Security awareness training;
- Incident response;
- Auditing and accountability;
- Access control;
- Identification and authentication;
- Configuration management;
- Media protection;
- Physical protection;
- System and communications protection and information integrity;
- Formal audits; and
- Personnel security.

The CJIS security policy identifies the technical requirements as well as the procedures that are necessary to create a secure information technology network for hosting and sharing criminal justice information. Attached as an [appendix](#) is a diagram from the security policy showing an example of a CJIS system.

Prior versions of the security policy did not address the security requirements for CJIS systems hosted on cloud computing solutions. Cloud computing allows data to be stored and processed at remote locations and accessed by users through an Internet connection. The FBI issued a technical report in 2012 with recommendations for implementing CJIS systems using cloud computing solutions. The technical and procedural requirements for using cloud computing solutions that were identified in the report were incorporated into subsequent versions of the security policy including the version published in August 2013.

NORTH DAKOTA

The North Dakota CJIS portal is a secure web-based application that allows law enforcement and public safety officials to access criminal justice information. Users of the CJIS portal include the Attorney General's office, the Game and Fish Department, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, local law enforcement agencies, and state and local court systems. As of March 2014, there are approximately 2,300 users. Information available through the CJIS portal includes criminal history, parole and probation records, protection orders, offender registrations, concealed weapons records, boat licenses, driver's license records, and driver photographs.

The North Dakota CJIS portal is a collaborative effort among the Information Technology Department, the Attorney General's office, and State Radio. The Attorney General's office stores the criminal justice information. The Information Technology Department maintains the web-based application that allows users to search and share the information. State Radio is responsible for transmitting the information to local law enforcement agencies over the radio broadcast network.

OTHER STATES

In 2011 the Florida Legislature provided for the consolidation of state agencies' information technology hardware to a primary data center, including the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The Florida

Department of Law Enforcement manages the state's CJIS system. However, in 2012 the Florida Legislature provided an exemption for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and did not include the department in the consolidation because of concerns of compliance with the FBI's CJIS security policies.

The 2013 Nevada Legislature provided for the relocation and consolidation of the Department of Public Safety's information technology services and hardware to the Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services. The Nevada CJIS system has more than 17,000 users. The current environment for information technology in Nevada is largely decentralized, in which each agency is responsible for its own information technology hardware and services. As a result, the consolidation of the Department of Public Safety will be a pilot project for future consolidations and is anticipated to be fully implemented within a few years. The consolidation involves upgrading existing information technology hardware as well as transferring 48 information technology related positions from the Nevada Department of Public Safety to the Nevada Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services.

Some states, including the state of Michigan, have consolidated their CJIS systems within one state agency, but the systems are not hosted at the states' data centers. According to representatives of SEARCH Group, Inc., there are no known examples of CJIS systems that are hosted within a centralized information technology organization, except for the consolidation beginning in the state of Nevada. SEARCH Group, Inc., is a national nonprofit organization that collects information, analyzes best practices, and provides services related to CJIS systems.

ATTACH:1

Figure C-1-A Overview: Conceptual Connections Between Various Agencies

Overview: Conceptual Connections Between Various Agencies

