Welcome to the CJIS-CT Roadmap

June 2023 Vol. 2 No. 2

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CJIS-CT Governing Board Members

Office of Policy and Management
Marc Pelka, Undersecretary of Criminal Justice Policy and Planning; Co-Chair, (Designee)

Office of the Chief Court Administrator
Judge Patrick L. Carroll, III, Chief Court Administrator, Co-Chair, Member
Judge Elizabeth Bozzuto, Deputy Chief Court Administrator; (Designee)

Department of Administrative Services / Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology
Mark Raymond, Chief Information Officer; (Designee)

Board of Pardons and Paroles
Jennifer Zaccagnini, Chairperson; Member
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Office of the Chief State's Attorney
Patrick J. Griffin , Esq., Chief State's Attorney; Member
John J. Russotto., Esq., Assistant Chief State's Attorney (Designee)

Connecticut Police Chiefs Association
Chief Neil Dryfe, President; Member
Chief Donald Melanson, Director; (Designee)

Department of Correction
Angel Quiros, Interim Commissioner; Member
Sharonda Carlos, Deputy Commissioner; (Designee)

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
James Rovella, Commissioner; Member

Department of Motor Vehicles
Tony Guerrera, Commissioner; Member
Christopher Smith, Division Chief; (Designee)
Deb Notarino, Division Manager; (Designee)

Division of Public Defender Services
TaShun Bowden-Lewis Esq., Chief Public Defender; Member
John Day, Esq., Deputy Chief Public Defender; (Designee)

Office of Victim Advocate
Natasha Pierre, Esq.,Victim Advocate; Member
Hakima Bey-Coon, Esq., Staff Attorney; (Designee)

Chairpersons and Ranking Members of the Joint Standing Committee of the General Assembly on Judiciary

CJIS Committee Chairs
Gary A. Winfield, Senator, Co-Chair, Member
Steven J. Stafstrom, Representative, Co-Chair, Member
John A. Kissel, Senator, Co-Chair, Member
Craig Fishbein, Representative, Ranking Member

CJIS Senior Management
James McGennis, Executive Director
Mark Tezaris, CJIS -CT Program Manager

Upcoming Dates
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2023 Monthly Meeting Schedule
Governance Committee

Next Meeting Date:
Friday, July 14, 2023
10AM to 11AM

Click here for May's meeting details. June's meeting minutes will be available after approval during the July Governance Committee meeting.

2023 Quarterly Meeting Schedule
Governing Board Meeting

Next Meeting Date:
Thursday, July 27, 2023
1:30PM to 3:00PM

Click here for last quarter's meeting details.

A Word from the Executive Director

Greetings to all for this quarter's newsletter,

As we embark on this latest edition, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the past 10 months of my journey with CJIS-CT. Looking back, I am genuinely impressed by the remarkable efforts our team has dedicated to serving the criminal justice community in Connecticut and, consequently, the constituents of our state.

In collaboration with our partner agencies, we successfully implemented cannabis erasures for certain low-level offenses in January. Building on this accomplishment, we are now forging ahead with the roll-out of the CISS Workflow, while also making significant strides in coordinating and developing components of the clean slate erasures system, per legislation. Once again, we are collaborating with multiple agencies to bring these solutions to fruition. I take great pride in acknowledging the tremendous work our team has accomplished thus far.

Moreover, we are actively exploring new projects as directed by our stakeholders. One such undertaking is a forthcoming study on the storage of digital evidence from body-worn cameras and dashboard cameras, and whether a centralized solution for storage would be advantageous. We will also evaluate how CISS could facilitate the sharing of this type of data, akin to the CISS Use Case that have proven highly beneficial to our valued customers.

Additionally, I'd like to report that we are making substantial progress with legislation that will support the further integration of RMS systems with CISS throughout the state. Last month we had the honor of presenting at the Capitol Region CPCA monthly meeting for the first time in several years. It was an exceptional experience to be present with our valued customers who directly benefit from the systems we create and maintain.

Looking ahead, I remain optimistic about the future and eagerly anticipate the realization of more new initiatives as we enter the second half of the year. The prospects before us are undoubtedly bright, and I am excited to witness the continued growth and success of the various projects and systems in support of the State.

Warm regards,

James McGennis

Please find below our scorecard to share with you, from our April Governing Board meeting.

Project	Status	Mitigation	Comment
CISS Phase 2			
Workflow Deployment	🟡	Deploy model office with GA4	Developing GA4 plan and CSP rollout of workflow
Search (application, support, and training)	🟡	Data latency with WEAPONS, WANTED, and CCH feeds. CISS needs connection to partner agency data sources	'Train-the-Trainer' strategy to accelerate training, CISS Internet access including mobile devices.
RMS vendors – Integration Updates	🟢		Additional RMS Vendor needed to meet 90% arrest information through CISS.
Automated Erasures			
Cannabis Erasure	🔵		Went live Jan 1, 2023
Clean Slate	🟡	CJIS working with partner agencies on schedule improvement opportunities	Assessing impact from new legislation. CJIS requesting additional budget from OPM.
Other Projects			
Operations/Customer-Centric Initiatives	🟢		May meeting with Capital region CPCA to discuss CISS status

🔵 Complete

🟢 On Plan

🟡 Watch

🔴 Barriers

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Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) Overview

The Connecticut Information Sharing System (CISS) is a comprehensive, state-wide criminal justice information technology system that provides the ability to electronically share offender information within Connecticut's criminal justice community. This information includes data capture of offender violations, as well as the retrieval of judicial, criminal offender, and DMV information. Workflows are sequences of operations that automatically send specific information (for example, arrest details) directly to authorized users based on predefined business rules and security requirements. From the time an officer makes an arrest, a notice will go out to all of the individuals in the criminal justice systems that are authorized to receive this information. As new information from affected agencies is introduced into the system, authorized users can follow a case from beginning to end, from arrest, incarceration, and court appearances, to prisoner release.

5 REASONS TO USE
CISS SEARCH AND WORKFLOW

Central Hub for CJI.	Search Source Systems.	Automated Digital Workflow.	Saves Administrative Costs.	Improves Safety.
Dissemination of criminal justice information to authorized users in a uniform, electronic format.	Resource for authorized criminal justice personnel to search 14 criminal justice source systems through a single user portal.	Streamlines the arrest and misdemeanor summons process by reducing necessity to manually transport documents between Law Enforcement and Judicial Agencies.	High Level Automatic Workflows lowers administrative costs and increases system and workflow efficiencies.	Improves officer and public safety through improved accuracy, quick access, and completeness of criminal justice information.

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CJIS-CT Spotlight

CJIS-CT Welcomes New Governing Board Member Chief Neil Dryfe

January 5, 2023
(by Tamika Potts, CJIS-CT Technical Writer)

Chief Dryfe speaking at the CT Racial Profiling Prohibition Project (CTRP3) 10 Year Anniversary on September 15, 2022

Chief Neil Dryfe began his law enforcement career in 1990 as a patrol officer for the Hartford Police Department and was recently elected as the president of Connecticut Chief of Police Association (CPCA) in June 2022. When asked about the most challenging part of his position, Chief Dryfe stated, "The most challenging part of being president is being aware of the amount of organizations that are partnered with CPCA and maintaining those relationships."

Stakeholder partnerships are one of CJIS-CT's guiding principles. As an agency that provides a platform for sharing information and serves as a hub for criminal justice agencies, it is vital to maintain a strong stakeholder relationship. "CJIS is very important," says Chief Dryfe, "We [CPCA] understand the importance of the relationship with CJIS and information sharing; we tend to be behind the curve when using technology and technology is a part of every crime we investigate."

Through collaboration with CJIS-CT, Judicial and numerous Executive Branch agencies reached a significant milestone with the January 1st go-live of the Automated Cannabis Erasures for low-level cannabis convictions. Over 43,000 people have benefited from this process. In response to this milestone, Chief Dryfe noted an advantage of this new legislation, sharing that Automated Cannabis Erasure "takes the pressure off the police from making arrests for marijuana possession," adding, "and as legislature makes policy changes, we will continue to uphold the law."

A big welcome to Chief Neil Dryfe once again from CJIS-CT. CJIS-CT looks forward to supporting and collaborating with CPCA in the near future.

> *"We continue to work to do our very best to protect the privacy of the communities we serve and the relationship they have with law enforcement." Chief Neil Dryfe, CPCA*

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Bill Raised by CJIS-CT Concerning Third-Party Vendors and Contractors Signed into Law

Updated June 14, 2023
(by Tamika Potts, CJIS-CT Technical Writer)

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
March 22nd Public Hearing
CT N

Executive Director, James McGennis, right, providing testimony on S.B. 927 before the Judicial Committee.

On March 22, 2023, the Legislative Office Building was bustling with life as many advocates, attestants, spectators, supporters, and the like, appeared before their respective committee to provide their testimonials in support of their proposed bill. Among those who came to provide their testimony, the CJIS-CT Executive Director, James McGennis, attended the Judicial Committee Public Hearing with Technical Writer/Communication Specialist, Tamika Potts, to give testimony on the raised S.B. 927 on behalf of the CJIS-CT Governing Board. The S.B. 927 was raised due to the incompatibility of police record management systems (RMS) with other departments in the state (in terms of connection to CISS) and would require vendors of criminal justice RMS to obtain approval from the CJIS-CT GB prior to connecting to CISS. Due to the incompatibilities, this has caused significant delays in CISS digital workflows and search implementation. As McGennis stated in the testimony, "Consistent RMS specifications is an urgent and critical need to support roll out of [CISS] technology in as cost-effective way as possible."

McGennis further addressed that the passing of S.B 927 would require vendors to connect to state systems ensuring that essential data is readily available, streamline processes and reduce redundancies, improve data security by establishing a standard set of security protocols and best practices, and that mandatory connection would promote greater transparency and accountability in government operations. Due to the many benefits S.B. 927 would provide, this bill was found favorable by the committee on March 27, 2023, and was approved. On Friday, June 12, 2023, the bill was passed and signed by Governor Lamont. The CJIS-CT Governing Board members thank Executive Director McGennis for his prompt proposaland follow-through on the Bill.

More information about S.B. 927 can be found on the CGA website.

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Partner
Agency
Updates

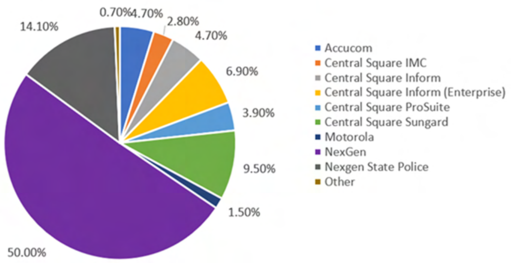
Connecticut State Police is Now Live With Early Arrest Notifications

The CJIS-CT Project Manager, Sean Bucher, has been working with the Connecticut State Police (CSP), who began participating in the EAN information exchange as of May 24, 2023. Several months of hard work, RMS integration, policy changes, and training have enabled the CSP to prepare the organization for this significant step. As of right now, the roadside paper-based summons will not be included in this early alert system; however, additional programming changes are underway with their RMS vendor to include all arrests as part of this electronic workflow system. As shown in the chart below, the State Police Arrest activity accounts for over 14% of the total volume in the State which currently totals over 7,600 arrest per month (statewide). This significant increase in data will significantly boost the value of this system. All law enforcement agencies are invited to participate in the EAN program.

The Early Arrest Notification (EAN) workflow is the initial entry point to the electronic criminal justice arrest workflow. This electronic information exchange includes a Uniform Arrest Report (UAR) and Misdemeanor Summons Complaint to be delivered to DCJ and the Court Clerks Office electronically. The EAN step permits law enforcement to use their local RMS to automatically distribute a notification that they have detained a person of interest during the booking process. As a result, other authorized Law Enforcement Agencies can be alerted in real-time that a person they are looking for is currently in custody. This allows the alerted LEO from the other LEA to call over to the agency with the detainee and make appropriate arrangements or gain access to the detainee as needed.

The CISS EAN also allows alert subscriptions for specific people or specific events (e.g., DUI). CISS will then notify the recipient via email and/or text message that one of the requested alerts has been triggered (by statute). This subscription service is offered through the CISS Message Viewer Portal (MVP). At this time MVP is only available to selected employees of five state agencies: Judicial (including Court Support Services, CSSD), Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Department of Criminal Justice (DCJ - Prosecutors), Department of Corrections (DOC) and Board of Pardons & Parole (BOPP). For example, Bail Commissioners will be able to know in near real-time about the arrests taking place in their area of coverage with enough information to make initial assessments and begin research.

Note: Municipal Police Departments and LEAs who are authorized can participate in Early Arrest Notifications from their RMS as both subscribers and notifiers The goal is to have all LEAs participate in this electronic data exchange by the end of the year (currently, about 22 PDs are participating).



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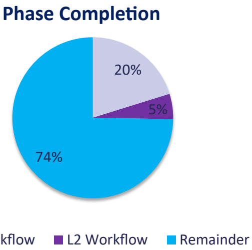
CISS Workflow Deployment Update

The CJIS-CT Project Manager, Chris Lovell, discussed the status of CISS Workflow Deployment at the Quarterly Governing Board Meeting on April 27, 2023, noting that GA9 deployment has been completed, with Old Saybrook Police Department (PD) scheduled for later this year. He also stated that Cromwell PD will soon go paperless like Clinton PD.

Lovell also noted a risk with the smaller police departments, like East Hampton PD and Portland PD, not having a large IT department, which leads to outsourcing of IT work causing an increase in connectivity delays.

Lovell highlighted a major success in CISS training with Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (CSSD), sharing a total of 150 individuals that completed CISS training and use of Early Arrest Notifications. Efforts continue with the next Geographical Area GA4 9Waterbury) for next up in CISS Workflow deployment of the full arrest package functionality with CISS transmission.

CISS Workflow Phase Completion Status



L1 refers to Early Arrest Notifications
L2 refers to the Arrest Package

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CISS Search Connectivity & Training

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

CISS Search Training and Certification Free of Charge

Access to CISS and CISS Training is free of charge to all local and state criminal justice agencies.

CJIS-CT offers three types of CISS training courses:

- **CISS User Search Training**
- **CISS Audit Log Search Training**
- **CISS System Administration Training**

For CISS training inquiries, please contact CJIS-CT's training Project Manager Sazara Johnson; Sazara.Johnson@ct.gov

Additional information on how to register for training can also be found on our website.

2023 is the Service Excellence Initiative Season for CISS Search Onboarding!

Overview

To improve service and communication between CJIS-CT and its customers, CJIS-CT assigned Project Manager Sazara Johnson to focus on the efforts of training and router connectivity to CISS Search. Based upon the customer focus of Information Technology Service Management, Johnson developed the Customer Service Excellence Initiative in 2021. The goal is to complete CISS Search training and router connectivity, while seeing to it that no agency feels left behind.

This initiative includes:

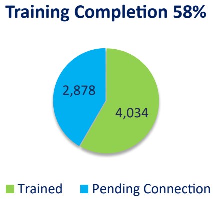
- Conducting internal CJIS-CT audits of previously onboarded agencies to determine how we can service them best.
- Conducting internal CJIS-CT audits of previously onboarded agencies and future onboarded agencies to assist them with the State's CJIS-CT compliance requirements.
- Previously onboaded agencies to check the health of the router connectivity to CISS Search.
- Training more staff (new or current non-CISS certified) that an agency desires to certify.

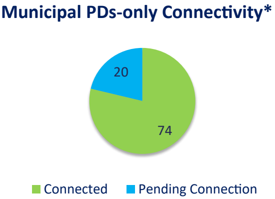
Recent Success

We are excited to partner with Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch. Since December 2022, over 300 CSSD staff have successfully trained and certified in the CISS Search application.

CSSD will use CISS to peruse case information coming into court for arraignments and access required associated documentation. They will do so via our CJIS-CT Message Viewer Portal (MVP). This portal allows authorized users to see cases submitted electronically from police departments.

More News: CJIS-CT is excited to share the updated CISS Search training and router connectivity results from January-March 2023 quarter. The charts below show the most recent status from the April 2023 Governing Board Meeting.


Training Completion 58%


Municipal PDs-only Connectivity*

* In the past, 74 municipal PDs were connected, however, in May two PDs showed implications of a possible disconnection. As of June, one PD has been audited and verified as connected and another PD has received new connectivity to CISS Search.

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Clean Slate Initiative

The Clean Slate Project is chartered with delivering an electronic erasure method scaled to meet Connecticut Clean Slate law and policy. Initially, hundreds of thousands of criminal history records must be processed to determine which records are eligible for erasure based on criteria specified in the law. Clean Slate development and integration requires multiple agencies and stakeholder collaboration to ensure consistent and compatible solutions are applied to systems. The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), CJIS-CT, Department of Corrections (DOC), and the Judicial Branch - Superior Court Operations (SCO) and Court Support Services Division (CSSD)- are collaborating agencies to manage and deliver on the new legislation and determine offender eligibility.

Rapport and expertise gained through recent CISS development and deployment of CT criminal justice workflow systems provide a point of leverage in building the new Clean Slate Automated Erasure system. The CJIS-CT/CISS system, in conjunction with Judicial Branch systems, provide prerequisite data to DESPP to ensure that individual docket sentences are discharged, and to provide statute-level eligibility based on criteria specified in the law. DESPP, DOC, The Judicial Branch (SCO and CSSD), and CJIS-CT interact via electronic messaging and data sharing to meet the requirements for operation of law, automated erasure processing. Sentence discharge management is the primary goal of systems that emit data consumed by DESPP to use for subsequent offender-level eligibility determination.

Currently, the project is in the Systems Integration Testing phase to deliver the components needed for IT automation to meet the legislation requirements with anticipated Production delivery by 1/1/2024.

Additional information on Clean Slate including eligibility requirements can be found on the Clean Slate government website.

For questions concerning the Clean Slate Automation Project, please reach out to CJIS-CT Technical Project Manager, Mark Sperl (Mark.Sperl@ct.gov)

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Questions
Comments
Concerns

For any questions, comments, or concerns about anything covered in this newsletter, please contact CJIS-CT Help Desk

Phone: (860) 622-2000
Email: CJIS.HelpDesk@ct.gov
Support Hours of Availability: Mon - Fri, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

If you would like to recommend topics to discuss in the next quarterly newsletter, please contact CJIS-CT Technical Writer/Communications Specialist, Tamika Potts, at tamika.potts@ct.gov.

How are we doing?

We
want
to
hear
from
you!

CJIS-CT is excited to announce our new Customer Satisfaction Survey that will be integrated in the CISS Search Portal! Starting in July 2023, you will see a request to complete a customer satisfaction survey after you complete a search. This survey will be an opportunity to allow our team to gather feedback to make improvements within the application. The goal is to understand the needs of our users and improve our customer's user experience. The results of the survey will act as a catalyst for changes to be discussed within our User Group. We look forward to hearing your thoughts as we continue to make improvements.

Did you know?

CJIS-CT is a government agency within the State of Connecticut. During communications with agencies, we discovered that some government agency staff members believed CJIS-CT was a corporate vendor of the State of Connecticut.

The CJIS-CT Governing Board, created by Public Act 99-14 in 1999, was directed to primarily engage in activities that constitute the administration of criminal justice. Our mission is to provide information sharing services to the CJIS-CT Community. Thus, our criminal justice application CISS (CT Information Sharing System) was created.

Acronyms Reference

BOPP = Board of Pardons and Paroles
CISS = Connecticut Information Sharing System
CJIS = Criminal Justice Information System
COLLECT = Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing Network
CPCA = Connecticut Police Chiefs Association
CSO = Connecticut Information Security Officer
CSSD = Court Support Services Division (Judicial)
CSP = Connecticut State Police
CUAR = CISS User Authorization Request
DCJ = Division of Criminal Justice
DESPP = Dept. of Emergency Services and Public Protection
DMV = Dept. of Motor Vehicles
DOC = Department of Correction
DPDS = Div. of Public Defender Services
EAN = Early Arrest Notification
JUD = Judicial Branch
LEA = Law Enforcement Agency
MVP = Message Viewer Portal
RMS = Records Management System
SCO = Superior Court Operations Div. (Judicial)
SLEO = Sworn Law Enforcement Officer
TAC = Terminal Access Coordinator
UAR = Uniform Arrest Report

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