Review of South Dakota Division of Investigation (SD-DCI) Technology Assistance

Client Agency

South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (SD-DCI)
Rapid City, SD

Participating IJIS Institute Staff

Greg Trump
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Analyst International, Inc.

Dates Onsite Services Provided

January 18, 2011

Overview of Technology Assistance Request

The IJIS Institute received a request for TA from SD-DCI as pertained to their SD Connect project. Upon internal approval to proceed with the TA engagement, the IJIS Institute staff worked directly with the SD-DCI in defining the specifics of the engagement. A TA questionnaire was completed and reviewed, and subsequently, a contract agreement was negotiated jointly authorizing the TA engagement.

The Client was fortunate to receive an information sharing grant for a project referred to as South Dakota (SD) Connect. The goal of the SD Connect project is to put in place a statewide coordination of law enforcement record management systems that can be queried by all law enforcement throughout South Dakota to identify people, addresses, vehicles, and relationships among people that are not currently identifiable. As South Dakota has no operational State Fusion Center at this point, the ability for local law enforcement to draw linkages between criminals and criminal activity is hampered and only reinforces the importance of this project.

As defined in the contract agreement, the primary goals of this TA engagement are to assist SD-DCI by:

1. Refining the vision and operational capacity of the Connect SD project.
2. Defining the best platform for operational use by local Law Enforcement (LE).
3. Assisting with the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, in which to select the best vendor available in the required software development.
4. Assisting in the creation of a project plan and schedule of activities

**Type of Technology Assistance Services Provided**

The TA Team performed a site visit for the SD-DCI organization on January 18-20, 2011. A series of meetings with key project managers, stakeholders, and technical staff occurred during this time. These activities were necessary to complete the scope of work as outlined in the applicable contract agreement.

The IJIS Institute provided a team of experts in Law Enforcement, justice and public safety system integration, network design and IT security practices for this engagement. These consultants represented a consortium of IJIS Institute member companies and alliance partners that possess the required experience and expertise in: Law Enforcement, justice, and public safety domains, relevant technologies and product sets and the applicable information sharing standards and capabilities.

Specific onsite activities that were performed by the TA Team included:

- **Problem Definition:**
  - Review major current issues and determine State priorities for each
  - Review of relevant current and planned systems and associated timelines

- **Current Situation Assessment:**
  - Review of current “As Is” information sharing environment
  - Discuss organizational policy and the advisory commission
  - Gather information and documentation on current and planned applications, systems and networks
  - Review of network infrastructure and facilities relevant to supporting a secure information sharing environment
  - Gather information and documentation on current requirements for the automation of real time inter-agency, intra-agency information sharing
  - Review of current facilities and infrastructure

- **Needs Analysis:**
  - Determine IT management and technology resource needs
  - Assess the most cost effective implementation of the planned system
  - Identify the computer, network and security technology applicable to facilitate the automation of real time information sharing
Determine the facilities infrastructure needs

Recommendations:
- Develop general and specific recommendations relevant to strategic system planning
- Develop “To Be” configuration recommendations
- Develop recommendations for improved information sharing

Actions and Initiatives:
- Define major initiatives
- Prioritize actions to be taken

Overview of Observations and Recommendations

A copy of the full TA report is available to authorized personnel only and can be found on the IJIS Institute web site at www.ijis.org.

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