Assessment of Current Technology Environment and Recommendations for Integration and Enhancing Data Sharing

Client Agency

Department of Public Safety
State of Iowa

 Participating IJIS Institute Staff

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Dates Services Provided

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Overview of Technology Assistance Request

The Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) is made up of multiple divisions, each of which has certain independent information files and databases. DPS recently began an “as is” assessment of their systems as a foundation for developing a plan for future development with a focus upon information sharing at the enterprise level. Management’s intent is to develop a plan for the implementation of a “One DPS” concept. One DPS refers to a conceptual computer system environment in which all DPS Divisions can share appropriate data seamlessly, securely, and efficiently.

The Iowa DPS requested that the IJIS Institute conduct a technology assistance site visit to assess the current technological environment of their diverse systems and offer recommendations for feasible approaches to integrating key information systems and enhancing information sharing and data exchange. The DPS is seeking guidance and recommendations from the IJIS Institute’s Technology Assistance team regarding the most effective and logical course of action to incorporate, as appropriate, into their “One DPS” plan.
Type of Technology Assistance Services Provided

Specific activities performed by the TA Team included:

◆ Review of Business Issues:
  – Evaluated the capabilities of current systems from a business perspective,
  – Assessed current strategic planning efforts for criminal justice information sharing,
  – Reviewed the functional requirements of desired information.

◆ Review of Technical Issues:
  – Reviewed the technology of systems in the existing DPS environment as used by the various divisions,
  – Examined desired or “to-be” technology environment,
  – Reviewed technology standards and best practices being used in the field of criminal justice information sharing.

Overview of Observations and Recommendations

A copy of the TA report can be found on the IJIS Institute website at www.ijis.org.

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