Justice organizations are looking for ways to provide secured access to multiple agency information systems with a single logon. The GFIPM initiative provides the justice community with a security and information sharing architecture that is based on an electronic justice credential. This standards-based justice credential can be used to securely connect law enforcement and public safety personnel to interagency applications and data over the Internet.

Federated identity is part of Global’s vision for promoting secure nationwide information sharing.

Global Advisory Committee Recommendation

In the past several years, federated identity deployments have grown, matured, and expanded in depth and breadth across multiple industries. As the standards have matured, more organizations are becoming aware of the compelling business case for building federated communities. As such, a critical objective of the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) Security Working Group (GSWG), which oversees the GFIPM project, is to ensure compatibility by collaborating with other key ongoing projects within Global as well as those that cross domain boundaries, such as the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), the Information Sharing Environment, and the Law Enforcement Information Sharing Program.
To this end, the Global Advisory Committee has made the following recommendations:

♦ Recognize GFIPM as the recommended approach for development of interoperable security functions in authentication and privilege management for information exchange among cross-domain justice information sharing systems.

♦ Urge the members of the justice community to consider GFIPM as a potential building block to a layered security solution when authenticating users among cross-domain organizations.

How can justice organizations share information with new partners while securely safeguarding data, maintaining privacy, reducing administrative burdens, and providing their users the ease of single sign-on?

One recommended solution is GFIPM. It represents a strategic change and dramatic improvement in the way justice organizations establish the trust relationships needed to share information. GFIPM provides a standardized justice credential to be used by members and partners of the justice community. This credential will allow more information to be shared in new and automated ways with reduced management burden and improved security and on a broader scale. GFIPM effectively breaks down the traditional barriers of stovepiped systems to better safeguard our nation.

GFIPM Framework

The GFIPM framework provides the justice community and partner organizations with a standards-based approach for implementing federated identity. Common use of these standards across federation systems is essential to their interoperability. Leveraging the Global Justice XML and NIEM, a standard set of XML-based elements and attributes (referred to collectively as GFIPM metadata) about a federation user’s identities, privileges, and authentication can be universally communicated.

About Global

The U.S. Department of Justice’s Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) serves as a Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Attorney General on critical justice information sharing initiatives. Global promotes standards-based electronic information exchange to provide justice and public safety communities with timely, accurate, complete, and accessible information in a secure and trusted environment. Global is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

For more information about Global efforts, including the GFIPM initiative and corresponding deliverables, please visit the Global Web site, http://it.ojp.gov/GFIPM.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2005-NC-BX-K164 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.