



SEARCH: THE NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR JUSTICE INFORMATION AND STATISTICS JUSTICE INFORMATION EXCHANGE MODEL

Effective information sharing in the justice environment is built on a solid understanding of current business practices. With hundreds of information exchanges routinely occurring in agencies, performing a comprehensive analysis to document processes is essential to create a blueprint for justice information sharing. While justice system organizations often work independently of one another, using similar terminology to describe completely different actions, developing a common methodology and technical tools for analyzing information exchange is key to successful information sharing.

The Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides leadership and support to SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, for the Justice Information Exchange Model (JIEM). JIEM provides the tools for justice system organizations to work together to solve communication problems and to implement standard practices.

JIEM collects information-sharing requirements from users, documents and analyzes current data exchange practices, and designs improved and automated methods for sharing information. JIEM documents the content and context of information exchange from a user's perspective which can then be mapped to the data model. The site can create a standard approach for local information sharing that is compatible with the national mode using the U.S. Department of Justice Global Justice eXtensible Markup Language (XML) Data Model (GJXDM). To date, more than 100 site databases have documented over 20,000 information exchanges.

The Information Exchange Model also includes the JIEM Reference Model (JRM), a business reference for integrated justice that provides a framework of common business processes for use as a starting point for more detailed analysis. JIEM:

- Improves an agency's ability to share operational data beyond county and state boundaries.
- Delivers vital information necessary to implement GJXDM in a state, region, or county.
- Delivers a blueprint to developers in a format compatible with the tools they use to design and create programs and interfaces.
- Saves agencies time and effort in documenting information exchange.

For more information on JIEM, contact David Lewis, BJA Senior Policy Advisor for Justice Information Sharing, at david.p.lewis@usdoj.gov.