Global Highlights—Late Fall 2006

Meet Global’s New Leaders
At the November 2nd U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Global Advisory Committee (GAC) meeting, members made important decisions about Global’s future by electing new GAC leaders.

❖ Mr. Robert Boehmer, Director of the Institute for Public Safety Partnerships, University of Illinois at Chicago, was elected Global Chairman. Mr. Boehmer represents the National Criminal Justice Association on the GAC. Previously, he led the Global Privacy and Information Quality Working Group, overseeing the delivery of the Privacy Policy Development Guide and Implementation Templates, a key Global resource. Increasing Global’s visibility, accessibility, and usefulness to the justice community will be primary areas of emphasis for Chairman Boehmer: “I am ... committed to increasing Global’s outreach activities. As I mentioned at the meeting, I want to make sure that people in the justice world know about Global and are able to take advantage of the good work that has already been done. I want to ... also find a way to describe the technical work that Global has done in a manner that is understandable to policymakers.”

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GAC elections are held every two years. Chairman Boehmer and Vice Chairman Johnson began their tenure immediately upon election, succeeding retired Colonel Kenneth Bouche and Mr. Thomas O’Reilly, respectively.

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GJXM? NIEM? What’s Going On?
Like the GJXM, the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) enables information sharing, focusing on information exchanged among organizations as part of their current or intended business practices. However, while the GJXM is focused on public safety, NIEM can include any number of domains and supports cross-domain information exchanges. NIEM was based on the GJXM, and though the two diverged briefly during review of the by the Global XML Structure Task Force (XSTF) concluded that they are converging and that is appropriate to merge them into a single data model. This recommendation was confirmed by the Global Advisory Committee, and the GJXM and NIEM will be merged into a single release in early 2007.

Key Points:
❖ Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXM) investments are protected, so the merger will not negatively impact existing investments in the GJXM.

❖ The GJXM will become the justice domain within NIEM and will continue to be governed by Global. In addition, all domain governance bodies have a role in shaping the direction of NIEM.

❖ The two data models will be complementary and efficient (data is not duplicated) and allow seamless interoperability via tool sets.

❖ Additional information, including technical discussions, is available at www.niem.gov/articleMigration.php.

To help ensure interoperability among information systems, the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Homeland Security are in the process of updating existing grant special condition language to offer further guidance and promote consistent implementation of the NIEM/GJXM data models. (For more information on NIEM and GJXM, please see page 4.)
Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM)

Success Stories in Information Sharing: The Ohio OLLeISN Experience

The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP), in partnership with the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro’s Office, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services, Ohio State Highway Patrol, and the Buckeye State Sheriffs’ Association, has accomplished what few states have—justice information sharing locally but on a statewide scale.

Through the Ohio Local Law Enforcement Information Sharing Network (OLLeISN), located at the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, an unprecedented 600-plus local law enforcement agencies are electronically sharing justice information throughout the state through a unique grassroots effort initiated by private, public, and nonprofit entities and utilizing the U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ’s) Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM).

Through grant funding made possible by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Ohio local law enforcement leaders pooled resources to build OLLeISN, connecting all law enforcement agencies’ records management systems (RMS) into a central repository.

The OLLeISN endeavor was facilitated by DOJ’s GJXDM for multiple exchange schemas. This highly successful and acclaimed model has led to improved justice information sharing in many states and counties and was the key to making the Ohio project affordable and efficient. The OLLeISN technical staff found the GJXDM to be very usable, starting with the production release, version 3.0. As subsequent GJXDM versions were released, most of the extensions needed by the OLLeISN were made available and incorporated.

OLLeISN is a multijurisdictional system, meaning Ohio’s local law enforcement agencies have the RMS information and computer-aided dispatch (CAD) information across jurisdictions. The system is guided by established technical and security standards, as well as model policies developed by the statewide OLLeISN Steering Committee (chaired by Gary Vest of the Powell, Ohio, Police Department) and contributes to officer safety by making more information about suspects or situations available. The system upholds a “give-to-receive” policy. Available 24/7 to authorized users, OLLeISN may be accessed online through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway (OLHEG) Internet portal managed by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, as well as directly through several OLLeISN-certified CAD/RMS vendors.

OLLeISN and OHLEG are strategic partners in facilitating information sharing in Ohio but are two distinct efforts. OLLeISN collects and shares local law enforcement data through its database located at OHLEG. The OHLEG search engine (OHLEG-SE) is a tool developed to allow authorized users to search OLLeISN and other state and national law enforcement databases that are available through OHLEG. The 580 connected agencies share their data with OLLeISN by uploading their local data to the OLLeISN repository through secure hardware VPN connections.

Throughout system development, direct technology assistance was provided by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), DOJ, through the US Institute (USI). USI—an integral partner in DOJ’s Global Initiative (www.it.ojp.gov/global)—is a not-for-profit corporation that functions as a single industry voice in the development of new information technology, technical and functional standards and practices in the law enforcement and justice information technology world. Researchers at the Georgia Tech Research Institute also played a key role in OLLeISN’s success, developing the software foundations for the GJXDM and providing engineering support and technical guidance. OLLeISN developers received assistance from DOJ’s GJXDM-Knowledgebase and Help Desk, a dynamic interactive resource that provides enhanced levels of technical assistance through an online knowledgebase, as well as the ability to submit questions to live support staff via the Web or e-mail or by phone.

Since becoming operational, OLLeISN’s impact on local law enforcement agencies has been substantial. Plans include increasing the number of OLLeISN participants from 580 to 775 by March of 2007.

For more information on OLLeISN, contact Ted Oakley, OACP, at (614) 761-0330, or ted.oakley@oaoap.org, or oaoap@oaoap.org; or Brett Gerke, OACP Technical Director, at (614) 761-8365, or brett.gerke@oleisn.org.

Companion Resource

Applying Wireless Security Practices to Justice Information Sharing

This new release supplements DOJ’s Global Applying Security Practices to Justice Information Sharing. This document contains expanded information containing wireless overviews and guidelines for secure information sharing. Additional content specifically relevant to wireless environments has been used to expand on the information previously written for security disciplines spanning important elements of an information security architecture. Only issues unique to wireless deployments are addressed in this resource. This document can be accessed at http://it.ojp.gov/documents/wirelesssecurity.pdf.

Updated Resource

Privacy Policy Development Guide and Implementation Templates

Geared toward practitioners charged with developing or revising their agency’s privacy policy, DOJ’s Global Privacy Policy Development Guide and Implementation Templates is a practical, hands-on resource. Using this guide is the next logical step for those justice entities that are ready to move beyond awareness into the actual policy development process. It assists agencies in articulating privacy obligations in a manner that protects the justice agency, the individual, and the public and makes it easier to do what is necessary—share critical justice information.

Included in the new version are the Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Policy Templates for Justice Information Systems (Appendix A), an essential resource for justice system practitioners to use when drafting comprehensive privacy policies. These templates are a product of DOJ’s Global Initiative and were developed in partnership with Alan Carlson of the Justice Management Institute. The templates are relevant to the administration of justice, strategic and tactical operations, and national security responsibilities. They are intended to address all types of public safety and public protection risks and threats, whether criminal or from natural disasters. This updated resource can be accessed at http://it.ojp.gov/documents/Privacy_Guide_Final.pdf.

Editor’s Note: the outreach staff is anxious to share Global successes. If you have a story you would like to relate about your agency’s use of a Global resource, please call Donna Rinehart at (850) 385-0600, extension 285, or e-mail donnar@jfr.com.

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Participation Is Limited to:

- Fusion center directors and senior leadership
- Local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement officers within intelligence units
- Homeland security directors and senior leadership

Conference Background and Focus:

Today, the law enforcement environment is transforming in order to address contemporary challenges. In the wake of this transformation, information sharing barriers are coming down and new proactive efforts are being made to collaborate among trusted partners. Nationwide, the development and implementation of fusion centers have been a major advancement in the ability to collect and share information and intelligence. Using information and intelligence resources, fusion centers produce timely and accurate responses to terrorism and criminal activity.

Based on the tenets of the Fusion Center Guidelines and the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan, the 2007 National Fusion Center Conference agenda will provide an opportunity to learn more about fusion center development and implementation. Featuring both plenary and breakout sessions, the agenda will include the following topics:

- Developing an Intelligence Capability and Fusion Center Security
- Leveraging Existing Efforts
- Regional Workshops: Fusion Center Conference Outcomes and Action Areas
- Federal Forum: National Intelligence Integration Efforts
- Protecting Sensitive Case Material
- Information Sharing Tools and Systems Demonstrations
- Federal Initiatives: Lanes in the Road—Roles/Responsibilities
- National Summary: Federal Initiatives, State and Local Success Stories, and Fusion Center Resources
- Identification of Promising Practices
- Training and Technical Assistance for Fusion Centers
- Target Capabilities
- Open Source Solutions to Information Collection

As highlighted above, certain prerequisites apply to attendance at this conference. Please e-mail global@jfr.com for further information.
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