Delivery Team to Study Adding Civil Commitment Information to QDP Response

Sandra Westerman and Captain David Zimmer from the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office spoke with the Task Force about an idea for improving law enforcement access to public information regarding civil commitments. Law enforcement can already access this information through MNCIS (the court system), but Westerman and Zimmer encouraged the Task Force to consider supporting making this information part of the QDP query – the primary query made by law enforcement for information about individuals they encounter in the field.

“It would add to the information the officer has and would lead to a more positive and safe encounter both for the officer and the committed person,” Zimmer told the Task Force.

Zimmer says having this information more easily available would help an officer “connect the dots.” For example, during a traffic stop involving an individual who had walked away from a facility, if the officer runs a QDP and does not get information on civil commitments, the officer would not know to return the individual to the facility.

The Task Force decided to create a delivery team to look at what would be involved in making this information available to patrol personnel as part of a QDP query response. Task Force members wishing to be on the delivery team should email Dana Gotz, dana.gotz@state.mn.us, or Karen Schiller, karen.schiller@state.mn.us.

Task Force Hears About MN.IT Cyber Security Efforts

MN.IT Information Security Director Aaron Call spoke with Task Force members about MN.IT cybersecurity planning for state IT. Their efforts include establishing a Security Operations Center to manage incidents, identify cyber-attacks, provide situational awareness and ensure containment and remediation of IT threats.

In addition, Call told the Task Force that MN.IT is transitioning from agency-based expertise to a model focused on several goals:

- Establishing a baseline that supports customizable capabilities to support the unique needs of all executive branch agencies.
- Sharing assets and leveraging processes and other sunk-cost assets that can be shared.
- Increasing visibility and event correlation across State data.
- Improving reporting and accountability for IT risk.

When an attack does occur, MN.IT forensic experts work to recover and analyze data stored in or transmitted through electronic devices to identify the root cause of an incident. Some of these experts work as part of the Minnesota Fusion Center on threat analysis.

Task Force Subcommittee Update

Data Practices: Inquired about availability of Humphrey School of Public Affairs students to assist with information gathering, but they are not available until spring semester. The subcommittee will meet next on December 10.

Collaborative Relationships & Funding: Will meet next month to brainstorm about ways to strengthen links between this group and other groups both inside and outside the criminal justice community.

Data & Identification Standards: This group has not met since prior to the joint meeting with the Policy Group.

Innovation & Education: This group is seeking members. Contact Dana Gotz if interested, dana.gotz@state.mn.us.

Electronic Exchange Delivery Team Update

The delivery team will view a demo of the new system on December 17. The product vendor is testing email document submissions, uploading via a web portal, automated folder creation. The next step by the vendor will be to install the product to create the production and test environments.
Project Update: Criminal History System Replacement

BCA product managers provided progress report on development of the state’s new Criminal History System.

The system is scheduled to go live in 2017 with several improvements including better readability, enhanced filtering and searches, and a more readable rap sheet. The project team has been working with a large group of criminal justice stakeholders to identify specific interests and needs in the new system.

Task Force members saw a brief demo including some preliminary screen shots of search results using the new system. Task Force members with specific suggestions are encouraged to contact product managers Carla Duellman, carla.duellman@state.mn.us or 651-793-2424, or Gary Kalstabakken@state.mn.us or 651-793-2726.

Welcome New Task Force Members!

Welcome to Grand Marais Mayor Jay Arrowsmith-DeCoux, Eagan Assistant City Attorney Shana Conklin, and Watertown Mayor Steve Washburn.

All three new members were recommended by the League of Minnesota Cities to fill vacant positions on the Task Force.

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Note: The information in this publication is an unofficial summary of activity. It should not be considered official meeting minutes or an official program status report. Information is subject to change.


Next Task Force meeting: February 12, 2016 at MN Judicial Center, Rm. 230