

Announcement of Grant Funding

The CMIS Division of the Louisiana Supreme Court announces an opportunity for Louisiana city and parish courts to apply for grant funding in order to improve electronic records management and reporting. The overall goal of these grants is to improve the timeliness, completeness, and accuracy, of records that qualify for submission to Louisiana criminal history database (CCH), and to the FBI National Instant Background Check System (NICS).

Funding to support this initiative was generously provided by the U.S. Department of Justice and Bureau of Justice Statistics in partnership with National Center of State Courts and SEARCH, via the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, consistent with their interest in improved reporting of dispositions in strategic areas of public safety concern, and consistent with recent legislative changes, including but not limited to Acts 403 & 404 of the 2013 Louisiana Legislative session, Louisiana Revised Statute 13:753, Louisiana Revised Statute 14:35.3, and Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure 330.3.

City and parish courts with state misdemeanor jurisdiction, are therefore invited to submit applications for funding for software, and/or professional services projects, that either initiate electronic records reporting, or that enhance existing electronic records reporting, with inclusion of the following five data elements for transmission to CCH and/or NICS, via CMIS:

1. A mental health finding (to CCH & NICS):
 - a. Incompetent to stand trial.
 - b. Not guilty by reason of insanity.
2. A warrant issued for failure to appear; and warrant cancelled or satisfied (to NICS).
3. A court-ordered firearm prohibition as a condition of probation per C.Cr.P 895 A(6) (to NICS).
4. Domestic violence conviction, qualifying under federal law (to NICS), or Louisiana law (to CCH).
 - a. Qualifying under federal law, U.S.C. 922(g)(8):
 - i. A misdemeanor crime of domestic violence (MCDV) conviction in a qualifying Louisiana conviction charge category:
 1. R.S. 14:35, simple battery
 2. R.S. 14:35.3, domestic abuse battery
 3. R.S. 14:36, assault
 4. R.S. 14:37, aggravated assault
 5. R.S. 14:38, simple assault

6. R.S. 14: 103A(1) & 14:103A(4), disturbing the peace

AND

ii. A qualifying NICS defendant relationship to victim, defined in U.S.C. 922(g), and in U.S.C. 922(a)(32):

1. Current or former spouse of victim (can be same sex)
2. Parent/step-parent of victim
3. Guardian of victim
4. Child in common (child must be born)
5. Person is cohabiting or has cohabited as spouse of victim (can be same sex)
6. Person is cohabiting or has cohabited as parent of victim
7. Person is cohabiting or has cohabited as guardian of victim
8. Person similarly situated to spouse (can be same sex)
9. Person similarly situated to parent of victim
10. Person similarly situated to guardian of victim

b. Qualifying under Louisiana law, as currently defined in Louisiana House Bill 841 (pending governor's signature), which modifies Louisiana Revised Statute 14:35.3:

i. An R.S. 35.3 domestic abuse battery conviction, in which "the intentional use of force or violence [is] committed by one household member or family member upon the person of another household member or family member," with "family member" defined as of the following relationship categories:

1. Spouses
2. Former spouses
3. Parents
4. Children
5. Stepparents
6. Stepchildren
7. Foster parents
8. Foster children

5. An arrest charge, or conviction, in an incident identified by a prosecutor as having sufficient "domestic" elements to qualify for reporting to CCH, but not fully qualifying under 4a or 4b above.

Applications should specifically answer how the jurisdiction will enhance electronic data reporting by adding these five data elements, and data values, to the electronic disposition data sent to the CMIS records repository.

Who is eligible to apply?

Louisiana city and parish courts can apply that have jurisdiction of state level misdemeanor offenses are invited to submit an application for funding to upgrade court systems with software solutions for reporting disposition data.

What is required to apply?

- Review this [grant announcement](#).
- Share the [CMIS specifications](#) with prospective vendors.
- A signed **cover letter** of application on the clerk of court's letter head.
- A signed copy of the [public bid law Clerk of Court memo](#) provided as part of this packet, from the Clerk of Court printed on appropriate letter head stationery.
- [Answers to narrative and technical questions](#) provided as part of this packet.
- A **detailed proposal** from the vendor(s) for the project, which includes the implementation cost, and implementation schedule with the project completion date no later than August 1, 2015.
- A copy of a signed [certified assurances form](#) provided as part of this packet.
- A completed [security survey form](#) provided as part of this packet.
- A completed [XML data format compliance form](#) provided as part of this packet.
- Sample copies from your jurisdiction of: a police report from your law enforcement agency; a charging instrument used by the District Attorney's office; a demographic sheet provided with the charging instrument.
- The applicant must be in good standing with all Louisiana Supreme Court reporting programs including, but not limited to: CMIS reporting, protective order reporting and annual reporting.

When are applications due?

Applications are due on July 1, 2015.

When will notification of award be announced?

Notification of a grant award will be made on or before July 15, 2015.

Who should I contact to answer any questions?

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