

Names of key clients, key client organizations

Hampden County District Attorney's Office (HCDAO)

- Ray Feyre
- Bruce Condon
- Martha Murphy-Kane

Names of IJIS Institute consultants and their firms

- Susan Anderson - The MACRO GROUP
- Katherine Lubanovic - Sysinct Inc.

Dates services were provided

July 1 – October 3, 2003

Type of Service Provided (teleconference, on-site visits and reports)

The scope of assistance was limited to five calendar days. The consultants initially reviewed written documentation provided by the HCDAO and conducted follow-up conference calls with representatives from the HCDAO to answer questions and clarify the objectives and agenda for the site visit. On September 3 and 4, 2003, the consultants conducted a series of on-site interviews and meetings with representatives of the HCDAO and other agencies participating in the Hampden County Exchange (HEX) project. The site visit was conducted at the HCDAO offices located in Springfield, MA. A final report outlining the consultants' findings and recommendations was delivered to the customer on October 3, 2003.

Overview of client need, high-level statement of work

The HCDAO in Massachusetts is seeking technology assistance from the IJIS Institute to provide a roadmap for expanding their information-sharing region to include other agencies. This integration effort is referred to as the HEX project. At the time this report was developed, the HCDAO uses a case management system (CMS) developed for the State of Wisconsin that is integrated with Record Management Systems (RMS) at three local police departments. This integration provides the participating agencies with arrest, bail, and court information. The HCDAO's integration goals include:

- leveraging and improving the current integration architecture while expanding it to include additional agencies; and,
- incorporating new technologies, such as extensible markup language (XML) and data warehousing, in the expanded integration architecture.

To that end, the IJIS Institute performed the following activities for the HCDAO:

- Reviewed existing documentation about the current HCDAO information sharing architecture;
- Conducted a site visit to meet with representatives from the HCDAO where they will:
 - review the current integration architecture;
 - discuss approaches for expanding the information sharing region; and,

- o address how XML and data warehousing technologies may be incorporated in the expanded architecture.
- Developed a report that includes:
 - o a high-level evaluation of HCDAO's current integration architecture;
 - o integration options for expanding and improving the current integration architecture highlighting how XML and data warehousing technologies might be used in their future integration efforts; and,
 - o a high-level roadmap outlining the actions HCDAO can take to meet their expansion goals based on the integration options presented in the report.

Outcomes/Recommendations

Based on the IJIS Institute's findings, the consultants recommend that the HCDAO and participating HEX agencies leverage the governance structure and support already in place to develop an overall information exchange strategy. The resulting strategy will be the basis for updating and expanding the current information exchange architecture. Specific actions within the strategy should include the implementation of XML technologies within the information exchange architecture. XML will help streamline the current information exchange process and facilitate HEX's compliance with standards set forth by the Justice XML Data Dictionary (JXDD). In addition to employing XML, implementing a centralized data warehouse can ease the expansion of the HEX project and its current information exchange architecture. Additional key benefits to installing a centralized data warehouse include its cost effectiveness and allow participating agencies to retain ownership of their system's data. A copy of the TA report can be found on the IJIS Institute website at www.ijis.org.

Contact Information

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