

# The Case for Racial Profiling Prohibition, Part I

## How CT is Addressing Racial Profiling in Traffic Stops

Racial profiling has come to the forefront of national news in the last ten years and has recently been a subject of news reports in Connecticut. One particular report of a racial profiling incident in 2012 that targeted Latino businesses and residents of East Haven, CT focused on the actions of members of the East Haven Police Department.

This report attracted the attention of the US Department of Justice and the FBI. As a result, the FBI arrested three police officers and one sergeant in East Haven. The officers were indicted for routinely parking patrol cars in front of Latino-owned businesses and stopping Latino customers who were entering or leaving the businesses. They also towed their cars and arrested or detained them.



The East Haven Police Department racial profiling incident sparked members of the public, civil rights groups and the state government to question the actions of local officials and their encounters with the public during traffic stops, which, in Connecticut, total approximately 650,000 traffic stops a year. Though reported incidents of racial profiling during traffic stops in Connecticut are few in comparison to the overall traffic stop total, state officials saw the value of having data to support decision making.

First enacted in 1999, the Alvin W. Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act (PA 99-198, Connecticut General Statutes Sections 54-11 and 54-1m) prohibits any law enforcement agency from stopping, detaining, or searching any motorist when the stop is motivated solely by considerations of the race, color, ethnicity, age, gender or sexual orientation. Further, this law allows any motor vehicle operator who feels that he or she has been stopped solely due to one of these considerations to file a formal complaint. It was not until the Connecticut General Assembly made several changes to this law, including a key provision which shifted responsibility for its implementation to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), that the law was fully realized.

In 2006, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced an incentive grant program available to all fifty states in an effort to encourage states to enact and enforce laws that prohibit racial profiling in traffic stops and maintain and provide statistics to the public on motor vehicle stops.

#### CJIS Governing Board

Revolutionary Technology Linking Connecticut's Criminal Justice & Law Enforcement Community September 2014 Vol. 3 No. 9 www.ct.gov/cjis

Co-Chairs Mike Lawlor, Under Secretary, Office of Policy & Management

Judge Patrick L. Carroll, III, Chief Court Administrator

Members
Hakima Bey-Coon, Esq., Designee,
Office of Victim Advocate
Eric Coleman, Senator,
Co-Chair, Joint Comm. on Judiciary
Melody Currey, Commissioner,
Dept. of Motor Vehicles
Donald DeFronzo, Commissioner,
Dept. of Admin. Services
James Dzurenda, Commissioner,
Dept. of Correction
Gerald M. Fox, Representative,

Gerald M. Fox, Representative, Co-Chair, Joint Comm. on Judiciary Carleton Giles, Chairperson Board of Pardons and Paroles Kevin Kane, Esq., Chief State's Attorney,

Office of Chief State's Attorney John A. Kissel, Senator,

Ranking Member, Joint Comm. on Judiciary
Richard C. Mulhall, Chief,
CT Police Chiefs Association
Rosa C. Rebimbas, Representative,
Ranking Member, Joint Comm. on Judiciary

Dr. Dora Schriro, Commissioner,

Dept. of Emerg. Services & Public Protection

Susan O. Storey, Esq.,

Chief Public Defender,

Division of Public Defender Services

CJIS SENIOR MANAGEMENT Sean Thakkar, Executive Director Mark Tezaris, Program Manager

Comments, corrections, and inquiries about this newsletter should be directed to:
Sean Thakkar, CJIS Executive Director,
Sean. Thakkar@ct.gov, or
Patty Meglio, Technical Writer,
Patricia. Meglio@ct.gov

### **CJIS Academy**

#### **OBTS Certification Classes**

Classes will continue to be conducted at 99 East River Drive, 7th floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. For more information and to sign up, visit the CIIS Academy Webpage. ❖

CJIS Support Group: 860-622-2048

CJIS Website: www.cjis.ct.gov



#### **OBTS** Training Date

• October 16, 2014, 9 AM to 12 PM

#### **OBTS** and **CISS** Overview

• September 16, New Haven Police Academy, New Haven, CT



For more information on CJIS and for additional publications, go to <a href="https://www.ct.gov/cjis">www.ct.gov/cjis</a>



### 



### **RMS** Certification

With the new certified RMS applications, local Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) will be able to transmit arrest information to other agencies using Information Exchanges. Before they can do this, each LEA will need to pass a certification process that enables the RMS/CAD systems to communicate with CISS. To support this process, CJIS and BEST are helping to install and configure the new routers.

CJIS has decided to work with three RMS Vendors as part of the first workflow release. As the project progresses, CJIS will include other RMS/CAD vendors.

To aid the planning, communication and scheduling process, CISS is working on a charter for each RMS/CAD vendor. The RMS Vendors Charter, a working document between RMS/CAD vendors and CISS project managers, will

include project overview, scope, assumptions, dependencies and constraints. It will also define the way that issues and risks will be documented and resolved, and include communication plans, meeting schedules and other project information.

All RMS/CAD vendors and CISS project managers must agree on the information contained in the RMS Vendors Charter. CJIS received approval from two of the three initial RMS vendors on the RMS Vendors Charter. CJIS plans to move forward with the third vendor within the next couple of weeks.

The CJIS Technical team will continue configuring Local Area Network (LAN) access at local LEAs. They will do the following:

Continued on Page-7

## CJIS' New Help Desk Manager

CJIS would like to introduce Pat DeMichele (pronounced "Dee My-cull") as the new CJIS Help Desk Manager. Pat was born in Waterbury, CT and attended Gibbs College in Norwalk where he graduated with an A.A.S. in Computer Network Operations. Prior to joining the CJIS team, Pat worked at CorCystems as a technical engineer and later as a Service Manager where he managed a Help Desk. Pat will be creating new processes and procedures to stand up



a new Help Desk for CJIS. His efforts will also include the configuring of a new and robust ticketing system that will support CJIS applications, users, and internal staff. Pat lives in Plymouth, CT with his wife, Teresa. •

# Charles Polizzi Joins the CJIS Team

Charles Polizzi is the newest member of the CJIS Project Management team. Charles was born and raised in Marlboro, New York, just seventy miles north of New York City. He attended Fairmont State College in Fairmont, West Virginia, and holds a bachelor's degree in



Business Administration. Charles brings over fifteen years of experience working in program and project management for technology and financial service companies. He holds certifications as a Project Management Professional (PMP), Lean Six Sigma Green Belt and Certified Lean Practitioner. Charles has three children and resides in Simsbury, CT. ❖

"Developing a transparent system to view the

data by members of the public, policy makers,

and law enforcement administrators is an

important component of this project."

#### Racial Profiling, continued from Page-1

At that time, Andrew Clark, Director for the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP) at Central Connecticut State University, was working with then CT General Assembly Judiciary Committee Co-chair Rep. Mike Lawlor, on numerous criminal justice policy issues. In January 2012, in response to the East Haven racial profiling incident, Lawlor, in his new role as Under Secretary for Ciminal Justice Policy and Planning at OPM, encouraged Clark and the IMRP to apply for the grant through the Department of Transportation. In May, 2012, the IMRP were awarded a \$1.2 million NHTSA grant to support implementation of the Alvin W. Penn Act.

In this effort, the IMRP, in consultation with OPM, established a Racial Profiling Prohibition Advisory Board to help

oversee the design, evaluation, and management of the racial profiling study mandated by P.A. 12-74 "An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information." This project, known as the Connecti-

cut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project (CTRP3), tasks the IMRP, the Advisory Board, CJIS and all appropriate parties to expand and make available the collection and analysis of traffic stop data in Connecticut. The project brings together experts in public policy, civil and human rights, and criminal justice. The Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP) is a non-partisan, University-based organization dedicated to enriching the quality of local, state and national public policy. <sup>1</sup>The Advisory Board is made up of members of the CT legislature, local human and civil rights organizations, state and local police, Judicial (JUD), Depart of Motor Vehicles (DMV), University of New Haven and CCSU faculty and staff, Department of Transportation (DOT), and other local groups. CJIS' role is to improve the way that criminal justice agencies communicate and share information across system components, and how data is managed on

Though first enacted in 1999, the revised law provided a more rigorous application of the original. It mandated the electronic submission of racial profiling data to allow for more timely and thorough analyses. It required the distribu-

1 http://web.ccsu.edu/imrp/. CCSU, Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP).

tion of a notice to inform motorists of their right to file a complaint if they feel they were profiled. Additionally, failing to comply with the provisions of the Alvin Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act could result in a withholding of state funds from a local law enforcement agency. Funds from the grant also allow for officer training and public awareness activities.

"Developing a transparent system to view the data by members of the public, policy makers, and law enforcement administrators is an important component of this project. For the first time, the electronic collection system developed by CJIS makes it possible to create a system for public consumption of data. In the fall of 2014, raw data files and summary tables will be available online through the Connecticut Data Collaborative portal. The information will

be updated regularly and allow for more immediate access to data for decision making." <sup>2</sup> There will be a public announcement in early September on the project's progress, including a report on data collected

from October 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. This preliminary report will be followed by a twelve-month report using data from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014 (available in January, 2015).

The value that the Racial Profiling Prohibition Project brings to the community is tremendous. Since data will be available at near real-time online to the public, a police chief can make decisions and curtail improper behavior on current investigations. And, policy decisions can be made based on data rather than perceptions. To improve trust and communication between local law enforcement and the community, analysis of racial profiling data will be part of a program to educate the public, improve officer training, and provide a channel for public feedback on racial profiling issues. The benefits could extend beyond our state's borders. The US federal government is considering replicating the Racial Profiling Prohibition Project on a national level.

Next month, Part II, Racial Profiling: How Data is Collected and Analyzed

References: Barone, Ken. 2014. Interview by author. New Britain, CT. 26 August. Clark, Andrew. 2014. Interview by author. New Britain, CT. 26 August.

For more information, go to: Profiling the Alvin Penn Act

2 State of CT Traffic Stop Data Report, Oct. 1-May 31, 2014.

crime and criminal offenders.

### **CISS Project Management Updates**

#### **Waves 1-3**

#### **Automatic electronic Information Exchanges**

CJIS' project managers are working on project charters and scheduling with stakeholders and will continue along this path in September.

Uniform Arrest Reports (UARs) and Misdemeanors will be the first two arrest processes that will be part of Release 2 for CISS. The work efforts involved for this release include the normal project development cycle.

The CISS Project team will begin scheduling working sessions with each of the agencies to coordinate their schedules with the schedule for the first workflow release. CJIS understands that not all agencies will be able to participate in the first release because of schedule conflicts, but adjustments will be made to accommodate them as much as possible.

Judicial completed a second review of the Agency Interface Build Out Charter. CISS Project Managers will make updates to the Charter and review it once more with Judicial, at which time it will be finalized. The CISS Project team will create a charter for each agency. The Agency Charter, a working document between an agency and CISS project managers, will include project overview, scope, assumptions, dependencies and constraints. It will also define the way that issues and risks will be documented and resolved, and include communication plans, meeting schedules and other project information. •

PM Updates, continued on Page-6

#### **Accomplishments**

 Judicial completed a second review of the Agency Interface Build Out Charter.

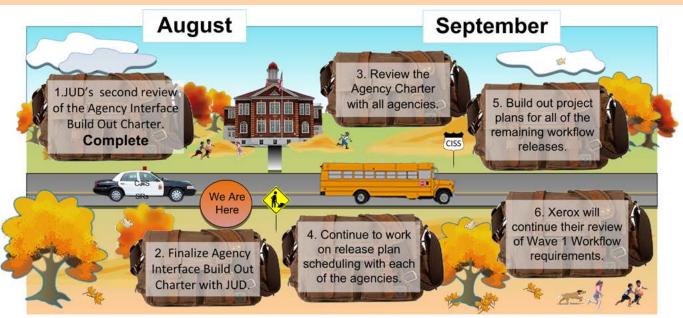
#### **Next Month**

- 2. Finalize Agency Interface Build Out Charter with Judicial.
- 3. Review the Agency Charter with all agencies.
- 4. Continue to work on release plan scheduling with each of the agen-

#### **Next Month (contin.)**

cies.

- 5. Build out project plans for all of the remaining Workflow releases.
- 6. Xerox will continue their review of Wave 1 Workflow requirements.



CISS Project Management Updates, continued from Page 5

#### Search Releases User search of criminal justice agency data systems

The CISS Business team with assistance from the CJIS Public Safety Liaison created user interface (UI) business requirements for the results pages for Search Release 1 (SR1). The requirements show information gathered from the Offender Based Information System (OBIS) and the Paperless Re-Arrest Warrant Network (PRAWN) and the Department of Correction (DOC) photos. They will provide a guide for Xerox's technical design when the contract re-engages and will be used as a guide for stake-holder engagement and collaboration.

The CISS Project Manager updated the Charter for Search Release 1 to correspond to the Release Plan. The Charter contains project details and definitions.

Looking towards September, the CISS Business team will write the second draft of business requirements for the UI and present them to Xerox for their review.

The CISS Business team is working on use cases for the UI. Use cases will help with testing and development and help meet user needs. A use case is a list of steps that define interactions between a user and a system that result in a goal. In the case of a UI, a use case would describe how a user would search and find specific data in CISS.

For SR2, the CISS Project Manager will draft a charter similar in structure to the charter for SR1 and will share the Search Release 1 Charter with the CJIS Community.

#### **Accomplishments**

- 1. CJIS created requirements for the UI.
- 2. The Charter for Search Release 1 was updated.

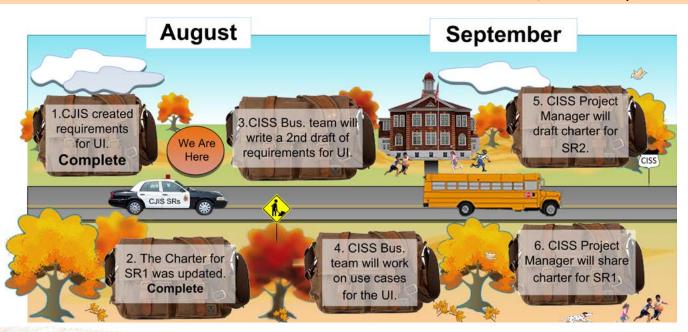
#### **Next Month**

- 3. The CISS Business team will write the second draft of business requirements for the UI.
- 4. The CISS Business team will

#### **Next Month (contin.)**

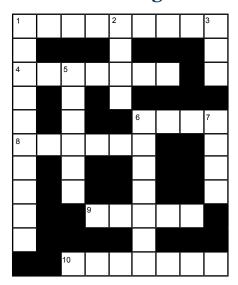
work on use cases for SR1.

- 5. The CISS Project Manager will draft the charter for SR2.
- 6. The CISS Project Manager will share the Charter for SR1 with the CJIS Community.



### **CJIS Crossword Puzzle**

### Test Your Knowledge and Skill on Criminal Justice Vocabulary!



Answers will appear in the October issue of the CJIS Roadmap Newsletter.

Answers to the August CJIS crossword puzzle.



#### RMS Certification, Continued from Page-3

- Work with BEST on configuring the remaining routers
- Confirm LAN connectivity to CISS with each LEA IT contact

The CISS Project Managers will continue work efforts with each pilot RMS/CAD vendor to meet RMS certification.

#### **Across**

- 1. Breaking off a legal case with the intention of resuming it later.
- 4. A decision on a disputed issue in a civil or criminal case.
- 6. Certification that a police officer has met the minimum, entry level and basic training requirements and is thus authorized to exercise the authority of a police officer.
- 8. The voluntary relinquishment of a known right or privilege.
- 9. The meeting of parties to present information on a dispute to an authority in a formal setting with the intent of achieving a resolution to the dispute.
- A challenge to the accuracy of any allegation made against someone in a criminal or civil proceeding, to avoid what would otherwise result in liability.

#### Down

- Person named for the act that prohibits the stopping, detention or search of any person when such action is solely motivated by considerations of race.
- 2. A single undivided entity or whole.
- 3. Agency responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all criminal matters in the State of Connecticut.
- 5. Referring to a classification system used to categorize humans into distinct populations by anatomical, cultural, ethnic, genetic, geographical, historical, and/or social affiliation.
- 6. A set of characteristics or qualities that identify a type or category of person or thing.
- In common law jurisdictions, a civil wrong, intentional or not, that causes someone else to suffer loss or harm, resulting in legal liability for the accused.

#### ~ Meetings ~

#### **CISS Kickoff Session**

September 10, 2014 at 1:00-3:00 pm (tentative) Office of the Chief State's Attorney 300 Corporate Place in Rocky Hill

#### **CISS Monthly Status Meeting**

September 24, 2014, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Judicial Branch IT Division 7th floor, Room 707, Two Riverview Square 99 East River Drive, E. Hartford

#### **CJIS Governing Board Quarterly Meeting**

October 16, 2014 at 1:30 pm Office of the Chief State's Attorney 300 Corporate Place in Rocky Hill