

Chairman Hancock
Chairman Worthan
Members of the Justice System Appropriations Subcommittee

As the new, and perhaps temporary, CJIS coordinator, let me tell you that the **Criminal Justice Information System** initiative does make a positive difference for Iowa's citizens.

Before talking about how it makes a difference, let me give you an analogy that describes what CJIS actually does. Everyone here has been at doctors' offices, lawyer offices, government or other offices where you sit down with a clipboard and complete the same information on 3, 4 or 5 different forms. Then, the receptionist takes the forms and retypes the same information in however many documents he or she must prepare for administrative purposes. We all get frustrated by the wasted amount of money, time and inconvenience.

Using a computer enterprise service bus, the goal of CJIS is to require the entering of criminal justice information only one time, and then to convey that information immediately to any other criminal justice agency in need of that information..... despite their use of differing information systems.

This "enter once, share immediately" approach makes a positive difference to Iowa citizens by saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars each year in administrative costs, in having more accurate records, and by providing better protection to the public and to law enforcement officers.

Attached is a copy of the **CJIS Infrastructure Report** and the **Iowa CJIS Briefing Book**. While not drafted for legislative purposes, I am hopeful that you will find both of them to be helpful in understanding the importance of the information exchanges that CJIS facilitates. These include immediate state-wide dissemination of the existence of protective orders, of changes in addresses for sex offenders, and real-time information (including pictures) from the Dept. of Corrections to "cops on the street" to help with investigations and to protect the safety of peace officers.

The CJIS Coordinator is charged with supervising the creation and maintenance of the CJIS exchanges. This supervision includes preparation of RFPs for necessary consulting services, negotiating and overseeing contracts for hardware, software and consulting services; fostering continued cooperation between the various branches of government and state agencies with criminal justice responsibilities; and to make sure that Iowa taxpayers are getting the most value for their investment in this money-saving program. Unfortunately, if the Coordinator position is not continued, there will be significantly less oversight of our investments in CJIS.

I urge you to talk to your local county attorneys, court clerks, sheriffs, probation officers and police officers about our CJIS exchanges. I expect that they will report the benefits of a system where traffic tickets are written and delivered to the Court electronically; where OWI information is conveyed from the Court to the Dept. of Transportation automatically without need for paper notices; where crime victims receive automatic notifications of offender movements and appeals; and, for Polk County, where

the Sheriff is aided in collection of booking and jailing costs by receiving electronic notices of the dispositions of criminal cases.

With support from the Legislature, Governors Vilsack, Culver and Branstad, along with Chief Justices Ternus and Cady, have been instrumental in creating and supporting this nationally recognized and necessary criminal justice program.

Thank you for your past and future support. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the CJIS program or the CJIS Coordinator position.

Keith

Keith A. Kreiman
Coordinator
Criminal Justice Information Systems
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Lucas State Office Building
Office: (515) 725-2264
Mobile: (515) 210-0560