Improving the Completeness of Firearm Background Checks through Enhanced State Data Sharing: Indiana Evaluation Report, December 2015

The Indiana Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC) received an Implementation Grant in October 2013 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to enhance state data sharing in order to improve the accuracy of firearm-related background checks. JTAC proposed to complete the following four project activities:

1. Increase the number of mental health records submitted to the National Instant Criminal Background Checks System (NICS) Index by providing records for those individuals who were involuntarily committed to state mental institutions dating back to 2000;
2. Deploy the Odyssey case management system to the 20 criminal courts in Marion County and develop interfaces unique to Marion County, including an interface to the Marion County jail system, the Prosecutor system, and the Indiana criminal history (CHRIS) repository at the Indiana State Police;
3. Develop an interface between the Odyssey case management system and the Indiana Courts Information Technology Extranet (Incite) Mental Health Adjudication Reporting application, triggering real-time submission of mental health adjudications to the NICS Index; and
4. Share data between the INcite Mental Health Adjudication Reporting application and the handgun permit file of the CHRIS repository to allow the Indiana State Police (ISP) to identify individuals that should be disqualified from obtaining handgun permits.

This report details the evaluation findings for Indiana's *Improving the Completeness of Firearm Background Checks through Enhanced State Data Sharing* project. The first section of the report provides background information regarding the data sharing environment within Indiana's criminal justice system. The second section outlines the design and implementation of each project activity. The third section discusses technical assistance and evaluation activities conducted by SEARCH (the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), including an analysis of the evaluation data collected for each activity. The final section of the report shares lessons learned and recommendations for promising practices.

Data Sharing Environment

The Indiana Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC)[1] was created in 1999 by the Indiana Supreme Court in recognition of the impact of computer technology on the courts and the need for uniform policies on implementation of information technology within the Indiana judicial system. JTAC's purpose was to develop a long-range strategy for technology and automation within Indiana's courts, including the development of standards for court case management systems, electronic filing, and use of the Internet for sharing judicial information.

Several JTAC initiatives directly contributed to the activities proposed for the current project. These include the selection and incremental statewide roll-out of the Odyssey case management system, the development of interfaces between Odyssey and the Indiana criminal history (CHRIS) repository and between Odyssey and Indiana prosecutor systems, the creation of the Indiana Courts Information Technology Extranet (INcite), and the development of the Mental Health Adjudication Reporting application for INcite. These initiatives are briefly described below.

- Odyssey is a web-based case management system (CMS). Following the recommendation of three review committees which oversaw a 10-month procurement process, the Indiana Supreme Court chose this Tyler Technologies Inc. product for its courts and clerks. JTAC began converting legacy systems to the Odyssey CMS in 2007, and 204 of 395 courts were using Odyssey at the start of the current project.

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[1] In November 2014, the Indiana Supreme Court issued an Order Concerning Court Technology Objectives, Initiatives, and Projects (http://www.in.gov/judiciary/files/order-other-2014-94s00-1411-ms-711.pdf) that essentially eliminated JTAC and consolidated the supervision of court technology under the authority of the Indiana Supreme Court's Judicial Technology Oversight Committee. This report references JTAC since it was active during the majority of the project.

- JTAC developed and implemented an interface between Odyssey and the criminal history repository maintained by the Indiana State Police. The repository, called CHRIS, receives all criminal case information electronically from the courts.
- JTAC also developed and implemented an interface to the system used by Indiana prosecutors, the Indiana Prosecutors Case Management System (IPCMS). This interface enables the electronic filing, or e-filing, of criminal cases from the prosecutors' system to Odyssey, ensuring that all required data fields are complete. The e-filing of criminal cases from the prosecutor also improves the accuracy and completeness of criminal history records since these data are eventually submitted to CHRIS via the above-referenced Odyssey-to-CHRIS interface.
- The Indiana Courts Information Technology Extranet (INcite) serves as the host environment for all of Indiana's web-based data exchange applications. While the data exchange applications are discrete pieces of software, INcite is the single, secure point of access that employs security features such as data encryption and authentication to ensure only authorized users can see and use data.
- JTAC developed a mental health adjudication reporting application that has been in use since July 2009. The application, which is accessed via INcite, was designed to capture information about individuals who fall under six mental health-related categories that make them ineligible to possess a firearm. Those categories are for persons who have been 1) civilly committed, 2) found mentally ill and dangerous or gravely disabled, 3) found guilty but mentally ill, 4) found not responsible by reason of insanity, 5) found incompetent to stand trial, or 6) found not guilty by reason or lack of mental responsibility. Whenever such an adjudication occurs, the court manually enters the case number, name of the individual, and at least one numeric identifier into the Mental Health Adjudication application. An electronic record of the information is created and transmitted to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), and that record is then extracted by the NICS Index.

Project Design

As previously mentioned, Indiana identified four activities that would build upon the above initiatives and further improve the number and accuracy of available firearm background check-related records. Each of those activities is detailed below.

Family and Social Services Agency (FSSA) Mental Health Adjudication Data

In 2009, Indiana passed legislation requiring the courts to electronically report information related to mental health adjudications to the NICS Index. As a result of that legislation, JTAC created the Mental Health Adjudication application in INcite, and, between July 2009 and the start of this project, Indiana courts had submitted over 4,000 records for individuals who should be prohibited from possessing firearms as a result of a mental health adjudication. JTAC, however, also wanted to report mental health adjudications that occurred prior to July 2009 and believed that such information was available through the Department of Mental Health and Addiction, a division of the Indiana Family and Social Services Agency (FSSA).

Avitar, the computer system used by the FSSA, contains a database of individuals who were involuntarily committed to state mental institutions beginning in 2000. A data file containing the name, date of birth, race, gender, and reason for commitment for these individuals was extracted from Avitar, and JTAC proposed to create a program to submit the data through the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application to the NICS Index. JTAC estimated that this extract could result in hundreds of additional historical records being made available for a NICS background check.

Odyssey Deployment to Marion County Criminal Courts

Marion County is Indiana's most populous County and the location of its capital city, Indianapolis. In 2013, there were more than 54,000 criminal cases filed in Marion County's 20 criminal courts, and these cases were managed in a legacy CMS called JUSTIS, a system that was implemented over 30 years ago and no longer supported by a vendor. The deployment of the Odyssey CMS in these courts would ensure that much of the

historical criminal case data as well as all of the new criminal case data would be incorporated into the statewide database.

Deployment of Odyssey, though, involved more than just the courts and clerks' offices in Marion County as the JUSTIS system was also used to enter booking information, initiate the prosecutor's charging document, and transmit disposition information to the state criminal history repository. JTAC, following deployment of Odyssey in the criminal courts, worked with the jail, prosecutor, and Indiana State Police to create new interfaces between the CMS and the systems used by these agencies. As previously mentioned, the interface between Odyssey and CHRIS as well as the interface between Odyssey and the IPCMS were already developed so needed only to be initiated for Marion County.

JTAC anticipated that the implementation of the Odyssey interfaces would have a significant impact on the completeness of criminal case information, both in Odyssey as well as in CHRIS. Specifically, the legacy interface between the prosecutors' system and JUSTIS did not include the arrest number (TCN), but the e-filing interface between IPCMS and Odyssey does, so this key data field will begin to be exchanged for all criminal cases. An additional improvement to the legacy system was the provision of an error report from CHRIS to the courts so that court staff could review cases that fail to correctly link to the records in CHRIS.

Odyssey/INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application Interface
As explained above, mental health adjudications were manually entered into the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application by court staff. This manual entry was done following the entry of the same information into the Odyssey CMS, creating the need for duplicate data entry by staff. JTAC's proposed interface would eliminate the need for double entry by developing an interface between Odyssey and the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application. The interface would work as follows: when court staff enter a qualifying mental health adjudication in Odyssey, that adjudication entry triggers the submission of all required information from the Odyssey criminal record to the Mental Health Adjudication application. Data entry is done once, in Odyssey, with the resulting record being electronically submitted to INcite then electronically submitted to the NICS Index.

INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application/CHRIS Interface
Indiana is one of a few states that offers a lifetime handgun permit, meaning that there is no required renewal of the permit and thus no new background check conducted on the licensed individual. It is the responsibility of the Indiana State Police (ISP) to initiate the disqualification process when there is documented evidence that a previously licensed individual is no longer a "proper person" to be licensed as defined by Indiana Code (IC) 35-47-1-7. There are 13 requirements to be a proper person, one of which is being a person who has not been found by a court to be mentally incompetent, including being found: (A) not guilty by reason of insanity; (B) guilty but mentally ill; or (C) incompetent to stand trial. In other words, a proper person would not have a record in the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application.

The ISP, through its NCIC switch, facilitates the transmission of mental health adjudication information from the INcite application to the NICS Index, but does not have direct access to this data. ISP requested that JTAC build an interface from the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application to the CHRIS repository, thus giving ISP access to mental health adjudications so that records in the application could be compared to records in the handgun permit file.

Technical Assistance and Evaluation
SEARCH and NCSC received a Technical Assistance Grant from BJA, the purpose of which was to 1) help the states that received *Improving the Completeness of Firearm Background Checks through Enhanced State Data Sharing* grants succeed in their projects and 2) to conduct evaluations of their projects. To facilitate both these goals, SEARCH and NCSC conducted site visits, offered/provided technical assistance, created evaluation plans,

and collected data related to the outputs and outcomes of project activities. A detailed discussion of the technical assistance and evaluation activities associated with Indiana's project follows.

Site Visits
Two site visits were conducted during the project: an assessment visit on May 16, 2014 and an evaluation visit on May 20, 2015.

The assessment site visit included staff from JTAC, FSSA, ISP, the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council (IPAC), the Indiana Department of Corrections, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), and technology contractors BCforward and APPRISS. Meeting participants discussed the project's goal and objectives, the project staff's need for technical assistance, and the plan to evaluate the project. The results of the technical assistance and evaluation plan discussions are below.

The evaluation site visit included staff from JTAC and IPAC. Meeting participants reviewed the implementation and outcomes of the project's activities, the evaluation data provided for each activity, and the lessons learned during the project. Evaluation results and lessons learned are discussed below.

Technical assistance
It was determined that JTAC would most likely not need technical assistance from SEARCH and the NCSC for this project. Given JTAC's extensive experience with both the deployment of the Odyssey CMS and the development and implementation of Odyssey interfaces and INcite applications, a decision was made during the assessment site visit to periodically review whether or not technical assistance could be provided. By the end of the project JTAC had not requested such assistance.

Evaluation Plan
Two aspects of each project, process and impact, are being evaluated. A process evaluation determines whether the activities of a project were accomplished as planned. To do this, the evaluator compares the implementation plan, including the estimated timeline and anticipated outputs, to the project's actual timeline and outputs (an output is the service or product that results from a project activity). An impact evaluation determines whether the activities of a project had the anticipated effects on the goals of the project. To do this, the evaluator reviews the outcomes of the project (an outcome is the difference that is made because the project activity is completed) and determines if those outcomes contributed to the overall project goals. In this instance, the overall goals of the project are to increase information sharing and firearm-related records reporting. The following table shows the outputs, outcomes, and measurement strategies used to evaluate each project activity.

Table1: Evaluation Plan

Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Measurement Strategy
1. **Extract from the Family and Social Services Agency (FSSA) and upload to the NICS Index a data file of individuals involuntarily committed to state mental institutions between 2000 and 2009**	Data file of individuals involuntarily committed to state mental institutions between 2000 and 2009	Increased number of records of individuals prohibited from purchasing a firearm due to involuntary commitment in the NICS Index	Number of new records entered into the NICS Index as a result of the extraction of data from the FSSA database

2.	**Deploy Odyssey (the statewide court CMS) to the criminal courts in Marion County, including the implementation of interfaces between IPCMS (the statewide prosecutor CMS) and Odyssey and between Odyssey and CHRIS (the state repository)**	Use of the Odyssey CMS in the criminal courts in Marion County Interface between IPCMS and Odyssey that electronically transmits all required criminal case data Interface between Odyssey and CHRIS that electronically transmits all required criminal case data	Increased availability of criminal case data to all law enforcement agencies, courts, probation officers, and the public Improved accuracy of criminal case information transmitted to Odyssey Improved completeness of criminal case information transmitted to Odyssey Improved accuracy of data transmitted to criminal history repository Improved completeness of data transmitted to criminal history repository	Number of Marion County criminal courts that begin using Odyssey prior to the end of the project Review specifications of the interface between IPCMS and Odyssey Review specifications of the interface between Odyssey and CHRIS Number of new criminal case records submitted via IPCMS that contain the arrest number (TCN) Number of dispositions and sentences successfully sent through the Odyssey/CHRIS interface Number of dispositions and sentences remaining on error reports generated by CHRIS for the criminal courts in Marion County
3.	**Build an interface between Odyssey and the mental health adjudication reporting application in INcite (Indiana Courts' Information Technology Extranet)**	Interface between Odyssey and INcite's mental health adjudication reporting application that automatically transmits mental health adjudications to INcite	Real-time submission to the NICS Index of disqualifying mental health adjudications	Review specifications of the interface between Odyssey and INcite's mental health adjudication reporting application Number of transactions between Odyssey and the Mental Health Adjudication Reporting application
4.	**Develop an interface between the INcite mental health adjudication reporting application and CHRIS**	Interface between INcite's mental health adjudication reporting application and CHRIS that automatically compares individuals in the INcite data file to those in the permit holders database	More efficient identification of individuals that have a firearm permit that subsequently have been disqualified from purchasing a firearm	Review specifications of the interface between the INcite mental health adjudication reporting application and CHRIS Number of individuals found to be disqualified from purchasing firearms due to disqualifying mental health adjudication

Data Collection

The measurement strategies identified in the evaluation plan above became the data that was collected during the project. A baseline set of data was gathered for June 2014 and updates to that baseline were collected each quarter for the following three quarters (July-September 2014, October-December 2014, and January-March 2015); additional data regarding the FSSA mental health records was collected in June 2015. The following is a table of the data collected during the project.

Table 2. Evaluation Data

Activity	Data Element	Baseline (Jun 2014)	Jul-Sep 2014	Oct-Dec 2014	Jan-Mar 2015	Jun 2015
1. **Extract from the Family and Social Services Agency (FSSA) and upload to the NICS Index a data file of individuals involuntarily committed to state mental institutions between 2000 and 2009**	Number of new records entered into the NICS Index as a result of the extraction of data from the FSSA database	Original file = 4,147 records				838 records submitted to NICS Index
2. **Deploy Odyssey (the statewide court CMS) to the criminal courts in Marion County, including the implementation of interfaces between IPCMS (the statewide prosecutor CMS) and Odyssey and between Odyssey and CHRIS (the state repository)**	Number of Marion County criminal courts that begin using Odyssey	22 courts*	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Review specifications of the interface between IPCMS and Odyssey	E-filing XML	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Review specifications of the interface between Odyssey and CHRIS	Rap Sheet XML	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Number of new criminal case records submitted via IPCMS that contain the arrest number (TCN)	0	372	1,447	1,606	NA
	Number of dispositions (D) and sentences (S) successfully sent through the Odyssey/CHRIS interface	D = 0 S = 0	D = 6,578 S = 5,540	D = 3,838 S = 4,790	D = 3,848 S = 5,736	NA
	Number of dispositions (D) and sentences (S) remaining on error reports	D = more than 2,500 S = more than1, 000	D = 2,503 S = 1,008	D = 1,178 S = 822	D = 1,028 S = 730	NA
3. **Build an interface between Odyssey and the mental health adjudication reporting application in INcite (Indiana Courts' Information Technology Extranet)**	Review specifications of the interface between Odyssey and mental health adjudication reporting application	INcite XML	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Number of transactions between Odyssey and mental health adjudication reporting application	74	30	57	97	NA
4. **Develop an interface between the INcite mental health adjudication reporting application and CHRIS**	Review specifications of the interface between the INcite mental health adjudication reporting application and CHRIS	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Number of individuals with firearm permits subsequently found to be	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

	disqualified due to mental health adjudications					

*Prior to the start of the project, none of the Marion County Criminal Courts were using the Odyssey CMS. Deployment of the CMS to the courts occurred between the start of the project in October 2013 and the time of the baseline measurement in June 2004.

Activity 1: FSSA Mental Health Adjudication Data
The original Avitar-generated file given to JTAC included 4,147 records of individuals involuntarily committed to state mental institutions between 2000 and 2009. This file was available to JTAC at the time of the baseline data collection in June 2014. JTAC review of the records in the file revealed that 1,379 records had previously been submitted to the NICS Index, that 1,762 records were dated prior to the state's requirement to report to the NICS Index, and that 168 records were missing data required for submission to the NICS Index. The remaining 838 records were submitted in two batches, one at the beginning and one at the end of May 2015. As explained above, the delay in submission was the result of the research that needed to be done to identify duplicates as well as the time needed to gain permission from the state's judges to submit the records.
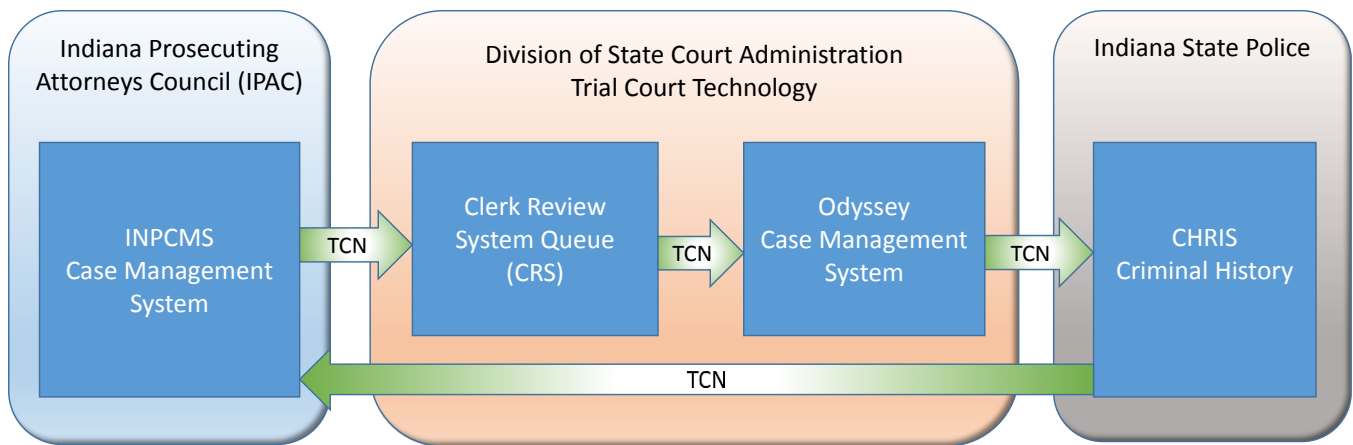
Activity 2: Odyssey Deployment to Marion County Criminal Courts
The Odyssey case management system was deployed to all 22 criminal courts in Marion County by the baseline data collection in June 2014. Prior to deployment, JTAC staff coordinated the technical activities to ensure historical case information was migrated into Odyssey and conducted several training sessions for court staff.

To establish the electronic means for prosecutors to file cases electronically with Odyssey, project stakeholders leveraged the OASIS Electronic Case Filing (ECF) 4.0 specification, a national model utilized by justice entities throughout the country. This approach uses web service interfaces among IPAC and JTAC case management systems to create a criminal complaint, submit the message on a national data standard – the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) – and file it in the appropriate court for subsequent court clerk review. Project stakeholders appropriately leveraged the necessary data elements in the specification and extended the model to reflect any unique requirements in the JTAC namespace, including the transaction control number (TCN).

Similar to the IPCSM and Odyssey interface, ISP and JTAC leveraged national standards and reused existing specifications to establish criminal case disposition reporting and update services among Odyssey and the CHRIS system. These web services are based on the NLETS XML Rap Sheet specification, which supports the reporting of case and charge dispositions to be recorded in a criminal history repository, for subsequent reporting to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The web-services are triggered by several events within either system, including assignment of person and case identifiers, case updates, and case dispositions.

Collectively, the event-specific triggers significantly reduce the need for manual data entry when managing accurate and complete criminal history records. The following diagram illustrates how the ICPMS, Odyssey, and CHRIS systems use the transaction control number (TCN) to ensure charge, case, and person information are consistently shared among the respective systems.

Once Odyssey was deployed and the interfaces with IPCMS and CHRIS were implemented, JTAC was able to start providing data related to the records that were being shared between these systems. Between July 2014 and March 2015 there were 3,425 new Marion County criminal case records submitted via e-filing that contain the TCN. During that same timeframe, there were 14,264 dispositions and 16,066 sentences successfully submitted via the Odyssey/CHRIS interface. Following the deployment of Odyssey the ISP ran error reports for the criminal courts in Marion County, providing lists of dispositions and sentences that were rejected by CHRIS. The initial error reports, which were run by the baseline data collection in June 2014, contained over 2,500 dispositions and 1,000 sentences that were not able to be successfully matched to the criminal history record. By the end of the project in March 2015, the Marion County criminal courts had researched, corrected, and resubmitted almost half of these records and there remained 1,028 dispositions and 730 sentences on the error reports. As previously stated, JTAC continues to work with the Marion County criminal courts to research, correct, and resubmit these remaining records.

Activity 3: Odyssey/INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application Interface
The interface between Odyssey and the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application was implemented by the baseline data collection in June 2014. The implementation approach for this interface was similar to other INcite applications in that it uses web services and XML-based messages that are shared among the systems. While the new interface is functional and will eliminate redundant data entry by court staff, the message specifications are unique to this implementation, meaning that the messages are not using national standards. This is not an unusual situation, as no reference specification yet exists for this specific exchange scenario.

The second part of this interface, INcite to NICS Index, is actually an interface between the INcite Mental Health Adjudication Reporting application and the Indiana Data and Communications System (IDACS), which is the primary message switch to NCIC. The interface uses a series of simple messages to add, remove, and confirm the submission of mental health adjudication records with IDACS for subsequent managing of existing firearm permit holders in Indiana. These specifications do utilize an older national data standard, which is sufficient for reporting purposes as long as the data requirements are met by all stakeholders.

At the time of the baseline measurement, 74 transactions had occurred between Odyssey and the Mental Health Adjudication application. By the end of the project, in March 2015, an additional 184 transactions had taken place.

Activity 4: INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application/CHRIS Interface
The last activity – building an interface between the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application and the CHRIS repository – was not completed by the end of the project. As a result, there were no interface specifications available for review nor was any data collected regarding the number of individuals with firearm permits that were subsequently found to be disqualified due to mental health adjudications.

Evaluation Results

Indiana completed three of their four project activities and continues to work on those tasks that were not finished by the end of the project. Below is a discussion of the project's timeline, outputs, and outcomes.

Timeline

JTAC provided the following list of tasks for the four activities to be completed during this project. The solid gray months indicate JTAC's estimated time for completing a task while the dot-patterned months indicate the actual completion time for the task. An overlap of the two indicates that the task was completed during the estimated timeframe. As can be seen in the timeline, the majority of tasks associated with this project were completed during JTAC's estimated timeframe. Those tasks that were not completed as estimated are explained below.

Table 3. Timeline

	2014									2015				
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
FSSA Mental Health Adjudication Data														
Requirements gathering				░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░
Software development				░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░
Upload data to INcite and NICS Index				░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░	░
Odyssey Deployment to Marion County Criminal Courts														
Convert data to Odyssey test environment	░	░	░											
Marion County review of data	░	░	░											
Conduct Odyssey training	░	░	░											
Deploy Odyssey to courts and clerks office	░	░	▓	▓										
Provide on-site deployment and training to the courts		░	░	░										
Implement Odyssey/CHRIS interface			░	░	░									
Monitor Odysssey/CHRIS interface						░	░	░	░					
Clear error reports (conviction submissions to CHRIS)							▓	▓	▓					
Continue to enhance interface work						░	░	░	░					
Odyssey/INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application Interface														
Requirements gathering	▓	▓	▓											
Software development	▓	▓	▓											
Testing, de-bugging, and deployment	▓	▓	▓											
Monitor interface				░	░	░								
INcite Mental Health Adjudication Application/CHRIS Interface														
Requirements gathering					▓	▓								
Software development						▓	▓	▓						
Testing and implementation								▓	▓					

JTAC originally estimated that it would take three months (July-September 2014) to upload the FSSA mental health adjudication data to INcite and the NICS Index. During those three months, they had planned to gather the requirements needed for record submission, develop the software that would extract the necessary fields from the FSSA file, and upload the records to the two databases. Submission of the FSSA data was delayed, however, so that the legality of sharing the older records (i.e., those created prior to the 2009 legislation) could be researched and so that the judges involved in the cases could be notified of JTAC's intent to submit the records to INcite and the NICS Index. Once permission was received from the judges, the FSSA records were uploaded and this activity was completed in May 2015.

As part of the Odyssey deployment, the Marion County criminal courts were to receive error reports from the Indiana State Police when a conviction record could not be matched to the appropriate criminal history record in the repository. JTAC originally estimated that it would take the courts four months (September-December 2014) to clear those error reports. As of May 2015, JTAC was still working with Marion County to correct the errors received on those reports.

JTAC originally estimated that it would take a total of six months to design, develop, and implement an interface between the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application and CHRIS. During the course of the project, the ISP began migrating their information exchanges from a file drop to web services. This change affected JTAC's estimated timeline, and, as of May 2015, JTAC was still waiting for the Indiana State Police to develop a web service for the interface.

Outputs
Five of the project's six outputs were realized by the end of the project. These include:
- the FSSA data file of individuals involuntarily committed to state mental institutions between 2000 and 2009;
- the use of the Odyssey case management system in all of Marion County's criminal courts; and
- interfaces between IPCMS and Odyssey, Odyssey and CHRIS, and Odyssey and INcite's Mental Health Adjudication application.

Outcomes
Five of the project's six outcomes were also realized by the end of the project. These include:
- an increased number of records of individuals prohibited from purchasing a firearm due to involuntary commitments;
- the increased availability of criminal case data to all criminal justices agencies;
- the improved accuracy and completeness of criminal case information transmitted to the Odyssey case management system;
- the improved accuracy and completeness of data transmitted to the criminal history repository; and
- the real-time submission to the NICS Index of disqualifying mental health adjudications.

Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Promising Practices
The activities completed during this project were a continuation of JTAC's ongoing efforts to deploy the Odyssey case management system to courts throughout the state and to electronically connect the courts to other criminal justice partners such as the prosecutors' office and the Indiana State Police. JTAC's existing technological capacity minimized the impact of this project on its vendors, reducing the costs and time required to complete the work. Since many of the project activities were not new (in the sense that they had been completed for other courts), JTAC had technologies and methodologies in place to help the project move forward smoothly. Even with such experience, JTAC identified the need for additional education and training of staff as a lesson learned during the course of this project. JTAC noted that training staff on the importance of data sharing can make a big difference in the care that is taken during the data entry process. Further, the more staff aware of the various places that use the case management system data, the more engaged they become in ensuring that the data are complete.

The evaluation team noted a number of promising practices being employed by JTAC and the other agencies involved in this project. These include:
- a high level of cooperation between the courts and other criminal justice agencies;
- the leveraging of national standards (e.g., ECF, NIEM, etc.) in their electronic transactions;
- the creation and use of the INcite extranet for electronic exchanges that do not have national standards;
- sharing of the TCN and the ISP's electronic transfer of arrest information to the prosecutor;

- use of a statewide prosecutor case management system;
- use of charges filed by the prosecutor (rather than charges filed at arrest) as the match for dispositions in the criminal history record; and
- awareness of the need to educate staff about the importance of data sharing.

Conclusion

Indiana completed a successful project. JTAC deployed the Odyssey case management system as planned, developed the interfaces necessary to transmit records between Odyssey, IPCMS, CHRIS, and the INcite Mental Health Adjudication application, and, as a result, has met the goal of increasing the number of records that are available for a NICS background check.