



CDL Felony Conviction Reporting Workshop 2: Business Process

October 25, 2023

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) hosted the second of three online workshops to discuss the business process for felony CDL conviction reporting. Seventeen participants attended, representing law enforcement, prosecutors, the judiciary and clerks, and state driver license agencies (SDLAs) from nine states. Representatives from national traffic and safety organizations also attended. In this workshop, participants joined breakout groups to discuss the critical path of reporting felony convictions, and solutions to improve the business process, ranging from no-tech (human focus) to high-tech (future world). The key challenges and potential solutions discussed are outlined below.

Critical Path Challenges



All Stages

1. Lack of uniform policies at each point in process.
2. Lack of stakeholder communication or work-group to address issues, enforcement authority needed at the table.
3. Lack of CDL regulation awareness and need for training.
4. Better alignment between state statutes and federal regulations.



Capture

Collecting needed data roadside or at incident for a complete case file

5. Lack of standard, easy to understand forms (e.g., citation, criminal complaint).
6. Inconsistent, unreadable, or optional data fields (e.g., underlying barcode data on DLs).
7. Minimal data validation available (e.g., real-time access to other datasets, or out-of-state data).



Identify

Flagging relevant drivers, cases, and charges at filing with court or prosecutors

8. Non-motor vehicle charges aren't flagged as a CDL case (e.g., kidnapping, domestic violence).
9. Limited access to driver and/or criminal history data to know full picture (e.g. out-of-state records).
10. Data needed for systems to identify qualifying cases not available (commercial vehicle used, charges).



Monitor

Ensuring felony CDL cases are handled in compliance with federal and state regulations

11. Flagged cases need to be monitored as charges change to determine if the case qualifies at disposition.
12. Diversions or reductions accepted without factual basis.



Report

Transmitting convictions to the SDLA to ensure timely and correct record updates

13. Court process may lead to reporting delays (e.g., waiting on diversion, sending paper abstracts).
14. Relevant felony charges and non-MV charges not mapped to ACD codes.



Measure Performance (Review)

Measuring stakeholder performance to assess accuracy and timeliness

15. Monitoring CDL compliance in the felony court division is a low priority given other demands.
16. Lack of readily available CDL data (e.g., identified CDL cases, out-of-state cases).

Solutions

No-Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved, standard intake forms (citation, criminal complaint, probable cause affidavits) with clear questions.• Judgment forms (or sentencing orders) with standard elements (CDL at incident, vehicle used in commission of felony).• CDL Advisory Group in every state.• Legislation to support standard forms and policies on reporting.
Low (current)-Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CMS flags or color codes (similar to juvenile cases).• Subscription or notification alert system for criminal or relevant charges related to current case.• Charge enhancement monitoring.
High (future)-Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read-only access to CDLIS for other stakeholders (a way to access out-of-state information).• AI keyword search/review to identify cases or catch missing cases.• National CDL data repository or query portal for state driver license information.• Standard CDL License with required minimum data (digital license).• Standard electronic data exchange for reporting convictions.