# Development of an Integration Architecture Strategy and Plan for the Navajo Nation Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project (NNIJISP)

**Client Agency**

Navajo Nation Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project (NNIJISP)
Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation
Window Rock, Arizona

**Participating IJIS Institute Staff**

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**Dates Services Provided**

May 12-15, 20009

**Overview of Technology Assistance Request**

The Navajo Nation Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project (NNIJISP) is an initiative of the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch in partnership with the Division of Public Safety and the Office of the Chief Prosecutor. NNIJISP is managed by a Technical Oversight Committee (TOC), comprised of branch and divisional chiefs and IT managers, to address pressing integrated justice information sharing and case management concerns in the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Nation judicial and criminal justice system consists of a complex web of programs, departments, and divisions representing sometimes-competing interests. However, the establishment and implementation of an integrated data input and sharing system will serve the combined interest of all. No one component acting alone can have a significant impact on implementation of a shareable data management system in the formation of an integrated justice information systems (IJIS) environment. By working together, NNIJISP has the potential

to implement an integrated information sharing system once and for all and, thereby, improve the quality and timeliness of justice in the Navajo Nation.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) received the request for Technology Assistance (TA) from the Navajo Nation Judicial Branch. The request was for the IJIS Institute to provide TA services to their Navajo Nation Integrated Justice Information Sharing Project (NNIJISP) to help advance the Navajo Nation's justice and public safety modernization efforts.

The primary goal of this TA engagement is to assist the NNIJISP initiative in the development of an overall justice integration framework (conceptual architecture) and implementation strategy and to provide review advice regarding the development and issuance of a RFP for new Case Management System (CMS). As these new systems are implemented across the primary justice and public safety organizations, it is imperative that they do not develop as silos. The desire is for an architecture that will ensure a comprehensive information management environment, enabled to effectively share information of interest to all justice and public safety organizations.

The TA services are necessary to provide the NNIJISP initiative with expertise and best practices from other information sharing accomplishments by jurisdictions throughout the U.S. This includes raising awareness of programs like the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), the Justice Reference Architecture (JRA), and the Global Federated Identification and Privilege Management (GFIPM).

**Type of Technology Assistance Services Provided**

The TA Team performed a site visit in Window Rock, Arizona, Shiprock, New Mexico, and Farmington, New Mexico, on May 12-15, 2009, and conducted a series of meetings with the Project Management Subcommittee, the Technical Oversight Committee, and more than 100 staff members from various justice and public safety agencies. The IJIS Institute provided a team of experts in justice and public safety system integration. The TA Team worked with the designated NNIJISP representatives to develop an overall justice integration framework (conceptual architecture) and implementation strategy and to provide review advice regarding the development and issuance of a RFP for a new CMS. This framework will address all of the major application components comprising the NNIJISP integrated justice environment. A conceptual architecture, depicting the required capabilities to support a central exchange of information, was developed, including recommended use of relevant standards and technologies (such as NIEM) and services (Master Name Index- MNI).

Additional issues explored included the life cycle development methodology, external connectivity, and policy and governance.

Specific onsite activities that were performed by the TA Team included:

♦ Define current organizational structure and approach to governance under the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) Program.

♦ Define existing applications, user communities, and stakeholders (summarized above) who must buy in to the integration architecture strategy.

- ♦ Assess current technology environment and any plans for future upgrades to strengthen the IT infrastructure.
- ♦ Confirm existing technology standards that have been, or are intended to be, adopted.
- ♦ Define the risks and benefits of different alternatives available for inclusion in the integration architecture strategy, including issues of data ownership and quality.

**Overview of Observations and Recommendations**

A copy of the TA report can be found on the IJIS Institute website at www.ijis.org.

**Contact Information**

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