



## SEARCH

The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics

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# Membership Bulletin

## 2008 Winter Meeting Review

Discussions ■ Elections ■ Awards

*The SEARCH Membership held its 2008 Winter Meeting in San Francisco, California, January 22–25, 2008.*

*This **Membership Bulletin** provides a brief summary of meeting highlights—including meetings of the Board of Directors, Membership Group and award selections.*

### Message from the Executive Director

Our 2008 Winter Membership Group Meeting included thoughtful debate on the critical issues that affect our organization in a major way today and into the future thanks to the key people—Members, Federal partners, and private-sector experts who participated.

One of the many highlights of the January meeting was participation by Dr. **Jeffrey L. Sedgwick**, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Dr. Sedgwick participated in the Board meeting and the Federal Partners Panel. His thoughtful and informative contribution to the discussion was greatly appreciated.

During this period of economic and political change, it's especially important for our organization to continue communicating the important work we do within the

justice and public safety arena. I

look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting in July.

Ron Hawley



### Mark Your Calendars!

#### 2008 Annual Membership Group Meeting

July 23-25, 2008  
Crowne Plaza Cleveland  
City Centre  
Cleveland, Ohio



Winter Meeting presentations are available at <http://www.search.org/about/membership/meetings.asp>.

## Board Meeting Highlights

On January 22, Mrs. **Miriam Carver**, a policy governance theorist and consultant, returned to assist the SEARCH Board of Directors in further development of their Ends policies for the new policy governance. A follow-up Board meeting was held on January 25 for further detailed discussion regarding development of the Ends (outcomes to be accomplished, for whom and at what cost) policy. Board Chairman **Francis X. “Paco” Aumand** (Vermont) summarized the discussion in preparation for next steps at the July 2008 Annual Meeting. Adopting the Carver Model enables the Board to efficiently focus its attention on governance, which is its key responsibility, and strengthen its strategic leadership.

“This transition is extremely valuable and positions the Board to focus on governance rather than the management of staff,” said Executive Director **Ron Hawley**.

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## Membership Group Meeting

### Guest Speakers, Presentations and Reports

■ **Fusion Centers:** SEARCH Deputy Executive Director **Kelly J. Harris** discussed the purpose and potential of Fusion Centers—a “collaborative effort of two or more agencies that provide resources, expertise, and information to the center with the goal of maximizing their ability to detect, prevent, investigate, and respond to criminal and terrorist activity.” The Department of Homeland Security has provided more than \$380 million to state and local governments in support of these centers. Ms. Harris presented an overview of Fusion Centers in Texas, Arizona, Florida, and Georgia. SEARCH Member Major **Brad Bates**, Chief Information Officer, Kentucky State Police, presented an in-depth look at Kentucky’s Fusion Center, its core agencies, issues and capabilities.

■ **NICS Improvement Act.** SEARCH Director of Law and Policy **Owen Greenspan**; Mr. **Frank A. S. Campbell**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy, U.S. DOJ; Dr. **Gerard F. Ramker**, Chief, Criminal Justice Data Improvement Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S.

DOJ; and Ms. **Lisa Vincent**, Unit Chief, Appeal and Liaison Unit, Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, FBI, presented background information and updates on the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), illustrating its state participation and growth over the past year.

The first of three planned focus groups met to discuss the NICS Improvement Amendment Act, which is funded under both state and court grants. This legislation has the potential to have an impact on every SEARCH Member. The legislation:

- Amends the Brady Act to provide incentives to states and require federal agencies to provide complete information to the Attorney General on persons prohibited from possessing firearms.
- Establishes substantial new grant programs for states and state court systems to create the automated systems needed for complete record reporting.
- Provides penalties for states failing to meet statutory record completeness goals.

**Mr. Frank Campbell discusses background information on NICS.**



**Ms. Lisa Vincent presents updates and maps illustrating NICS participation to the Members.**

- **SEARCH Impact in the Field and Breakout Sessions.** SEARCH's Program Division Directors highlighted our organization's impact in the justice and public safety field through its operational program activities. Staff discussed major accomplishments, examples of key technical assistance and training activities, and future directions.

Based on the Impact in the Field presentation, three Focus Group Sessions were held to solicit Member needs, thoughts, and recommendations in the following areas:

- Information Sharing Architecture
- Communications Interoperability
- Privacy Policy Development

- **California Justice Information Sharing Project.** Mr. **Tony Doonan**, Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information, CJIS Division,



**Tony Doonan**

California DOJ, presented the 10 goals of Vision 2015, a collaborative California criminal justice information sharing project. SEARCH has been asked to assist the Architecture-Governance team on this undertaking. As a part of the enterprise architecture planning and development effort for Vision 2015, SEARCH is assisting the Cal DOJ in the development and establishment of a National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) Information Exchange Policy.

- **N-DEx Project.** Mr. **Timothy Reid**, Supervisory Special Agent, FBI CJIS N-DEx Project Office, presented an overview of major National Data Exchange (N-DEx) activities and milestones. Implementation of the N-DEx project (Increment 1) was scheduled for deployment on March 24, 2008.

- **Board Presentation on Bylaws and Policy Governance.** SEARCH Chairman Aumand led the session to inform Members about how the new Carver Policy Governance Model methodology will

serve SEARCH. Adopting the Carver Policy Governance Model has resulted in changes to SEARCH Bylaws, and the Membership has been invited to make additional suggestions to the Bylaws. Members **Dan Foro** (New York) and **Diane Sherman** (Michigan) are leading the Membership in this effort.

- Ms. **Laura L. Rogers**, Esq., Director, Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. DOJ, addressed the Membership on implementation efforts and progress since her last presentation. She has now made presentations at the last two SEARCH meetings.

## Roundtable and Panel Discussions

- **Federal Partners Panel:** Two Federal justice agency representatives, Dr. **Jeffrey L. Sedgwick**, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. DOJ; and Mr. **Carl Peed**, Director, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. DOJ, provided overviews of their agencies' recent activities and initiatives. This was Mr. Peed's first visit to a SEARCH Membership Group meeting.



**Jeffrey L. Sedgwick**



**Carl R. Peed**

- **Washington Scene:** SEARCH General Counsel **Robert R. Belair** provided an overview of Federal legislative activity, including the status of criminal justice funding, homeland security funding, NICS legislation, and future criminal justice legislation and Congressional activity.
- **A Roundtable Discussion** led by SEARCH Executive Director **Ron Hawley**, provided a forum for the Membership to discuss with their peers a range of relevant issues. Texas Member **Mike Lesko** said the Texas Department of Public Safety, in cooperation with Texas Police Chiefs Association, has been working on a project that will make Texas property files freely available at [www.Trace.com](http://www.Trace.com). Former Illinois Member **Ken Bouche** is currently Vice President of Trace, an organization that makes stolen property data available through the Internet so consumers can check a second-hand purchase before they buy.

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## Awards and Recognitions

The Board selected recipients for SEARCH's two annual awards, which will be bestowed at the 2008 Annual Meeting this July in Cleveland. For more on these awards, including a list of past recipients, see <http://www.search.org/about/awards/>.

### O.J. Hawkins Award

Mr. **Domingo Herraiz**, Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S.D.O.J, will receive the 2008 *O.J. Hawkins Award for Outstanding Contributions in Criminal Justice Information Systems, Policy and Statistics in the United States*. He is being recognized for his outstanding contributions to the field of justice and public safety information sharing. Mr. Herraiz has served as the Director of BJA since his appointment by President Bush and confirmation by the



**Domingo Herraiz**

Senate on March 8, 2004. He came to BJA from the State of Ohio, where he served on the Governor's Cabinet as the Director of the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). Prior to OCJS, Mr. Herraiz was Executive Director of the Ohio Crime Prevention Association, the largest state crime prevention association in the country, and also served as the Executive Committee Chair of the Crime Prevention Coalition of America.

During his tenure at BJA, Director Herraiz has made outstanding contributions to the field of justice and public safety information sharing. Under his leadership, the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global)—a Federal Advisory Committee to the Attorney General—continues to develop significant resources for practitioners, particularly with regard to developing critical standards for information sharing, such as the Global Justice XML Data Model (GJXDM).

Another of Director Herraiz's legacies is the National Sex Offender Public Registry (NSOPR). BJA made a major impact on nationwide information sharing with the development of this online resource that links state sex offender registries across the entire United States so that the public can have instant, comprehensive and timely access to sex offender data.

This award formally acknowledges an individual's service, dedication and contributions that have improved the justice community's ability to develop and use criminal justice information, and is intended to honor an individual whose efforts have had a national impact over a significant period of time. Mr. Herraiz was nominated by former SEARCH Executive Director **Gary R. Cooper**, himself a previous recipient of the *O.J. Hawkins Award*, who wrote that "Director Herraiz continues to aggressively pursue avenues to develop, implement and advocate for tools and resources for the justice and public safety community. His contributions to date, and I'm sure beyond, will long serve the nation's justice and public safety community."

## Gary R. Cooper Meritorious Service Award

Ms. **Diane Sherman**, Director, Criminal Justice Information Center, Michigan State Police, will receive the 2008 *Gary R. Cooper Meritorious Service Award*, presented each year to the SEARCH Member who has provided outstanding work on behalf of SEARCH and criminal justice information services.



**Diane Sherman**

Ms. Sherman, a SEARCH Member since 2002, has been an active, involved, and committed leader. She has served as a member of the SEARCH Board of Directors; Law and Policy and Research and Statistics Program Advisory Committees; and the Washington, D.C., Presence Ad Hoc Committee. Most recently, Ms. Sherman has been involved in the Planning Committee for the Carver Governance Methodology Training Retreat for the SEARCH Board of Directors; and the Bylaws Committee to bring the SEARCH Bylaws into conformance with the 2007, newly adopted SEARCH Policies, under the Carver Policy Governance Model.

Ms. Sherman has been the Director of the Criminal Justice Information Center of the Department of State Police since 2003. Over the years she has been responsible for the programs associated with the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS), criminal history records, traffic crashes, pistol registrations, concealed weapons permits, uniform crime reporting, the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN), and the Sex Offender Registry.

The Criminal Justice Information Center provides access to all users of the Michigan Criminal Justice Information Network (MiCJIN) portal and performs such diverse functions as crime analysis and criminal background searches. The center also houses all Michigan State Police incident reports, a centralized mug shot system, and handles all Freedom of Information requests for the department. Ms. Sherman is a member of the Criminal Justice Information Systems Policy Council and the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee. Michigan was one of the first states to offer background checks over the Internet, to procure the advanced AFIS 21 system and to

implement electronic fingerprint transactions between the FBI. She was instrumental in establishing the MiCJIN portal as a method to satisfy information sharing needs and meet federal security requirements.

Currently, Ms. Sherman is coordinating the implementation of the Adam Walsh Act, the development of a new records management system, and the creation of a sound crime and information analysis and research structure.

Ms. Sherman was nominated for this award by Hawaii Member **Liane Moriyama** and Florida Member **Donna M. Uzzell**, both of whom are previous *Cooper Award* winners. In their nomination letter, they wrote that “in her five-plus years as a SEARCH Member, Ms. Sherman has demonstrated important leadership qualities, has given freely of her time and expertise, and has shown a strong commitment to SEARCH and the national criminal justice information management community.”

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## SEARCH Welcomes New Members

SEARCH is pleased to announce four new appointments to the Membership Group:

- Captain **Thomas Dobson**, Chief Security Officer for the New Mexico State Police, was appointed on November 21, 2007, by Governor **Bill Richardson**.



**Thomas Dobson**

- Superintendent **Timothy F. McLain**, Oregon Department of State Police, was appointed on January 17, 2008, by Governor **Ted Kulongoski**.



**Timothy F. McLain**

- Assistant Chief **David J. Karnitz**, Technical Services Bureau, Washington State Patrol, was appointed on February 7, 2008, by Governor **Christine O. Gregoire**.



**David J. Karnitz**

- Mr. **Gary K. Cooper**, Director, California Justice Information Services Division, California DOJ, was appointed on March 5, 2008, by Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger**.



**Gary K. Cooper**

“We’re pleased to welcome Captain Dobson, Superintendent McLain, Assistant Chief Karnitz and Mr. Cooper to the SEARCH Membership, and look forward to their valuable expertise and participation,” said Mr. **Ron Hawley**, SEARCH Executive Director.