SEARCH Resolution 09-53

Of the Membership Group of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics

November 18, 2009

Support for the Law Enforcement National Data Exchange (N-DEx) System as the National Information Sharing Repository for Law Enforcement

WHEREAS, the entire United States (U.S.) criminal justice community has articulated the need for a methodology and system to collect and share incident, arrest, booking, and other justice information necessary to help correlate suspects with crimes, increase the potential for improving case clearance rates, and other purposes of the justice system;

WHEREAS, this need has resulted in the development of the N-DEx System by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division;

WHEREAS, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) recognizes that the FBI CJIS Division has developed N-DEx, in collaboration with state and local agencies, to serve as a national information sharing system;

WHEREAS, the IACP CJIS Committee, the FBI CJIS Division Advisory Policy Board (APB) and the Global Justice Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC) have all approved and promoted the use of the N-DEx IEPD as the national standard for sharing incident, arrest, booking, and other justice information;

WHEREAS, N-DEx is governed by the CJIS ABP;

WHEREAS, SEARCH has a long history of advocating for information sharing to improve justice decision making;

WHEREAS, SEARCH helped to formulate the concept of N-DEx by being involved from the project inception; and

WHEREAS, N-DEx is being developed with guiding principles such as data ownership remaining with the data providers, clearly articulated data-use controls, data quality and privacy values that are consistent with SEARCH positions on these topics;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Membership Group of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, that:

'SEARCH endorses N-DEx as the national incident data sharing mechanism and encourages justice agencies to participate both in the use of the system and the contribution of their data.'