

SEARCH Briefing

SEARCH Board of Directors

2024 SEARCH Winter Meeting

January 22, 2024



SEARCH

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Purpose of the Board Retreat

Each year the SEARCH Board of Directors organizes a retreat where they:

- 1) Review the governance policies, bylaws, and operations of the organization,
- 2) Review the status of state criminal history repositories and SEARCH Members,
- 3) Assess the evolving impact of changes in law, policy, and operational practices impacting the state repositories and SEARCH Members, and
- 4) Identify critical business drivers that are impacting the organization.

Purpose of the Board Retreat (cont.)

The retreat includes:

- 1) Reports on current projects, activities, and funding streams supporting the organization,
- 2) Relationships with other agencies and organizations, and the value of strategic partnerships to further the mission of SEARCH,
- 3) A review of federal legislative and policy initiatives that are impacting SEARCH Members and criminal history systems, and
- 4) A robust discussion of strategic and tactical priorities for the coming 12-months and beyond.

Board's Vision of Priority Planning Areas for SEARCH 2024 – 2026

Focus Areas

Following a lengthy discussion of the key driving forces affecting state repository operations, the Board identified the following key focus areas to determine the resources and strategies needed to address their future vision of SEARCH:

- 1. Data and data analytics (including CCH data quality dashboards) to improve criminal history records and disposition reporting.**

1. Data and data analytics (including CCH data dashboards) to help build criminal history records to improve disposition reporting

A. CCH Metrics: Support State Criminal History Repositories in developing universal criminal history data quality standards by reinvigorating the SEARCH CCH Metrics Working Group. This will help increase focus on data and analytics, expand the use of CCH data quality dashboards, and more accurately and timely measures of data improvement strategies. Engage the Membership in small group sessions to define universal data quality metrics, including how to gather, calculate, and effectively report actionable measures. Develop functional specifications for criminal history data quality dashboards that can guide both the in-house developers and CCH industry solution providers.

1. Data and data analytics (including CCH data dashboards) to help build criminal history records to improve disposition reporting (cont.)

B. Research Agenda: Create a research agenda to leverage criminal history data for informational and policy purposes. The research agenda will focus on gathering and measuring data and understanding key issues and systems, and help states look inward to identify successes and progress. Building this research capacity and curating CCH data can empower repositories and SACs to ensure data quality, respond to demands for information from legislators and key stakeholders, and help understand system workflow and other demands.

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2. Integrated justice planning to support criminal history records improvement efforts.

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C. Integrated Justice/CHR Services: Focus on strengthening funding for integrated justice/CHR services. Work with states have them build SEARCH services into their NCHIP grants; it is the broadest funding mechanism available. Highlight core services SEARCH provides that support integrated justice and issues directly related to CHR management. Prepare canned NCHIP grant language on smaller, proven projects that states can use. Submit a project proposal to BJS, under NCHIP funding, on a broad, national effort to examine CHR data quality improvement, with focus areas of metrics, methodologies, and functional specifications to build this capacity.

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3. **Digital forensics and information systems security.**

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D. Digital Forensics Support: Continue and expand SEARCH efforts in digital forensics support to state and local governments. While not core to SEARCH's mission, expanding digital forensics services can provide margin to allow SEARCH to pursue other goals. This effort should include additional work in strengthening information systems security of critical infrastructure.

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4. **Creating value for SEARCH Members by supporting Winter and Annual Membership Group Meetings, Virtual Roundtable Sessions, and ongoing engagement and research.**

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- E. CCH Knowledge Transfer:** Produce and disseminate 5-minute videos by interviewing Members on successful projects, strategies, and resolution to common issues, as well as to convey important standards, best practices, and knowledge. This will reinforce the importance of the role that CCH stakeholders play and the material contribution they are making.
- F. Public Education:** Focus on efforts to educate the public about what repositories are; explaining standards and constraints repositories abide by; identify the value of CHRI; and reinforce the importance of data quality. These efforts should draw a distinction between official criminal history records Consumer Reporting Agencies. Address the importance of CCH data quality.

4. Creating value for SEARCH Members by supporting Winter and Annual Membership Group Meetings, Virtual Roundtable Sessions, and ongoing engagement and research (cont.)

- G. Industry Council:** Explore creation of an Industry Council of CRAs, solution providers, policy advocates, and key justice agencies (e.g., courts) that offers a mechanism to facilitate open dialogue on issues of concern (such as Clean Slate), and provides them a role in and voice at SEARCH Membership Group meetings. The Industry Council should enable SEARCH and Industry to understand each other's positions, and offer a forum for discussion, education, collaborative solutions, and action, with a goal of supporting integrated justice.
- H. Industry Showcase:** Host an Industry Showcase at a Membership Group Meeting on message switch technology to familiarize Members with the companies, their products and services, and implementation issues.

4. Creating value for SEARCH Members by supporting Winter and Annual Membership Group Meetings, Virtual Roundtable Sessions, and ongoing engagement and research (cont.)

- I. **Strategic Relationships with Other Organizations:** Continue to develop strategic relationships with other organizations and entities that align with SEARCH strategic priorities, focusing particularly on the Justice Information Resource Network (JIRN), National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), FBI CJIS APB, Compact Council, National Center for State Courts/National Association of Court Managers/Conference of State Court Administrators (NSCS/NACM/COSCA), Consumer Data Industry Association (CDIA), and the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO).

2024 Annual Membership Group Meeting



2024 SEARCH Membership Group Annual Meeting

July 23-25, 2024

Horseshoe Las Vegas Hotel

Las Vegas, NV

Details to come