PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER:
01469

PROJECT TITLE:
Development of a LESIS Strategic Plan

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:
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PROJECT OBJECTIVE:
The Alabama Office of Law Enforcement Systems Integration and Standards (LESIS) was created by the Governor to develop an integrated criminal justice system. This project is one of the first steps in the complex process which will eventually convert traffic records from manual reporting on paper, to electronic data entry, transmission and processing. This project will involve building consensus, identifying the desired future configuration and capabilities, and laying out a path which will allow them to be achieved.

PROJECT ABSTRACT:
LESIS is governed by the Directors of seven State-level departments: Public Safety, Administrative Office of Courts, Criminal Justice Information Center, Economic and Community Affairs, Transportation, Corrections, and the Attorney General's Office. Other members include the state's Chief Information Officer and five additional members appointed by the Governor. Each of the agencies has a unique mission in serving the state, but there are discernable overlaps and in criminal justice responsibilities. Executive Order Number 21 appropriated funds for the development of LESIS and called for development of a statewide strategy for an integrated criminal justice system that addresses the following objectives:

- Develop a strategic plan for the integration and standardization of communications and data-sharing systems between law enforcement agencies within the state.
- Implement the statewide strategic plan for integrating information systems in the criminal justice community to promote greater efficiency of operations, greater accuracy of information, and greater economy in the use of public resources.
- Improve public safety by developing the standards and infrastructure for making more-timely, accurate, and complete information concerning offenders available statewide to all criminal justice agencies and to individual decision makers in the system including police officers, judges, and correctional officers.
· Develop technical and administrative standards to promote information sharing by addressing compatibility, interoperability, and integration issues for federal, state and local computer information systems.
· Improve productivity of criminal justice agencies reducing redundant data collection and input efforts among the agencies and by reducing or eliminating paper-based processing.
· Improve decision making by government officials relating to the reduction and control of crime problems through the means of better statistical measures for evaluating public policy.
· Assure the evolution and development of a standardized communications system to share routine and emergency information between law enforcement agencies and between jurisdictions.
· Improve coordination between criminal justice and social service agencies focusing on drug interdiction, child abuse, juvenile justice and domestic violence issues. Develop a coordinated plan within Alabama to improve information sharing among criminal justice agencies to establish eligibility for federal grant assistance under the Crime Identification Act of 1998, and assure that departments and agencies of government work cooperatively and collectively to address these issues in the public’s interest.

PROJECT TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
1. Identify involved stakeholders
2. Gather and review data (interviews, surveys, literature reviews, ongoing research, etc.)
3. Prepare draft document
4. Conduct facilitated meetings
5. Develop strategic plan based upon steps three and four

MILESTONES AND DATES:
• Jan 1, 2001 – Initiate systems analysis.
• May 15, 2001 – Conclude work and deliver final product.

TOTAL BUDGET:
One-half year project: Alabama Administrative Office of Courts $20,000

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
No direct involvement of students is anticipated.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS:
This project is a continuation and expansion of several UTCA projects. Two of these are particularly appropriate: 00476 - “Modification of AUTAR & Supporting System Studies,” and 01469 - “Development of the LESIS Strategic Plan.”

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
No technology transfer will be involved.

TRB KEYWORDS:
Criminal justice, strategic plan, information system, computer utilization