

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA # B-4

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE May 3, 2011

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS) Status Report and Dissolve the Formal ICJIS Commission

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the ICJIS Status Report.
2. Approve the dissolution of the formal ICJIS Commission along with the associated Commission By-Laws and Conflict of Interest Code.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscally, ICJIS has met or exceeded the original goals of the project. Prior to the current implementation of ICJIS, its predecessor "CJIS" was a group of terminal based mainframe applications that had an estimated annual expense of \$748,000. ICJIS operational costs have proven to be significantly less than those experienced in the previous environment. The 2011-2012 recommended budget is \$758,160 which includes \$270,460 in "intangible asset" depreciation.

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BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2011-271

On motion of Supervisor Withdraw, Seconded by Supervisor DeMartini  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Chiesa, Withdraw, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: O'Brien

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended

4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION: Please note that this Item contains a clerical error regarding the date of the ICJIS Commission's meeting on page 4. The correct date is 12/17/2010 (not 12/17/2011).

*Christine Ferraro*

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No. BD-80-5

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**FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)**

When you subtract out the depreciation, the operational budget is \$487,700 which is a 35% reduction over our original mainframe CJIS budget.

ICJIS is funded through internal CAP charges to each of the ICJIS Departments (Sheriff, District Attorney, Public Defender and Probation). Charges are determined based on projected software expenses, hardware expenses and resource utilization throughout the year. At the current funding level, ICJIS will continue to maintain its critical infrastructure, software maintenance and pursue internal and external integration initiatives.

**DISCUSSION:**

The development of a fully integrated criminal justice information system has been a goal of Stanislaus County for several decades, with numerous meetings, issues, discussions and significant undertakings. In 1997, a "Stanislaus County Justice Network Technical Team" developed a list of needs and issues that argued for the need to continue pursuing an integrated system. It identified issues surrounding data timeliness, data quality, and information sharing existing in the then-present environment that could be mitigated by an integrated electronic system. At that time at least six different, mostly independent, justice information systems were being used by Stanislaus County.

The need for a fully integrated system was further stressed in the Stanislaus County Information Technology Audit, Assessment and Strategic Plan (ITSP) approved by the Board of Supervisors in September 2000. That plan became the impetus for bringing County department representatives together once again for extensive discussions that resulted in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Feasibility Study for the development of an Integrated Criminal Justice Information System (ICJIS). In December 2001 the Board of Supervisors approved the MOU and then on June 18, 2002, the Board of Supervisors approved proceeding with the development of the ICJIS project.

**The Goal**

The initial goal of the Stanislaus County ICJIS project was to develop an integrated criminal justice system across all County justice agencies. The system was to employ the same development environment in all components in order to simplify interfacing while allowing each agency to maintain department specific modules residing on individual file servers. This structure would ensure compartmentalized security and control. A key goal of ICJIS was the reduction of duplicate data entry by sharing data throughout the system and between departments. Another key objective was to migrate away from the County

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Mainframe computer system which was seen as expensive, difficult to update, and not responsive.

ICJIS was expected to provide more accurate data, a more responsive (i.e. quicker) system, and a more open platform that could allow for development and integration of future capabilities such as electronic document management ("EDM") and geographical information systems ("GIS") components.

### **The Process**

A vision of an open-standards, web-based system emerged as the County studied the best way to implement a justice information system. The project was initially funded as a loan made possible by an internal borrowing. It was envisioned that once the system was substantially complete, the ICJIS departments would be able to repay the loan by contributing annually an amount equivalent to the Mainframe charges they were experiencing at that time as it was anticipated that the original mainframe charge would exceed on-going ICJIS operational costs. ICJIS operational costs have proven to be significantly less than those experienced in the mainframe environment, allowing the ICJIS departments to pay off the loan, reduce overall expenditures related to system maintenance and increase system functionality and overall utility of ICJIS.

### **Current Oversight Structure**

Since its inception, the vision of ICJIS has included the concept of a steering or management committee. Initially, this group was simply called the "ICJIS Committee," with it later becoming called the "ICJIS Steering Committee." In 2005, the project experienced some challenges that resulted in the Chief Executive Officer recommending that the Board of Supervisors establish a formal ICJIS Commission to ensure that committee members had a sufficient degree of control over the management of the project. This recommendation was approved by the Board of Supervisors in September 2005, with the Commission's By-Laws approved in February 2006.

Additionally, a team of functional and technical leads known as the "ICJIS Steering Committee" began to meet on a monthly schedule in 2006. The "ICJIS

Developers", including County software developers and contractors began to meet in 2009, as did a group of "ICJIS Information Technology Managers."

The ICJIS Commission is a "Brown Act" body responsible for high-level direction, strategy and overall management of the ICJIS system. The other three groups function to guide day-to-day administration of the system's development and maintenance as well as to prepare recommendations for the Commission on such topics as system enhancement, budgeting, contracting and priorities. While the Board of Supervisors retains final decision-making authority for the ICJIS

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budget, the Commission approves the annual development and maintenance plan, oversees contracts and ensures that the key objectives of the ICJIS system are being addressed.

### **Current Status**

The ICJIS project continues to enhance the overall integration posture of ICJIS. A majority of this year's project plan is dedicated to integration. A couple of the integration efforts on this year's project plan worth noting, are the Court Calendar and Court Minute Order interfaces. ICJIS is currently working with the Courts to establish these two interfaces. These interfaces will enhance the flow of data and reduce a significant amount of 'paper' handling.

ICJIS plays a major role in the everyday business operations of each of the ICJIS departments. It is the core "line of business" application for each of the ICJIS departments and has replaced many labor intensive manual operations which resulted in productivity gains and other departmental efficiencies. ICJIS has increased accuracy and enhanced maintenance capabilities while providing long term cost savings to departments.

Each of the ICJIS partners has achieved a broader level of communication with outside agencies through the implementation of ICJIS by providing interconnected interfaces. The increasingly "interconnected" ICJIS applications contribute to an overall safer community by providing local law enforcement, County Departments, and other agencies vital, real-time, criminal justice information

### **Ongoing Management**

ICJIS development efforts have started to transition from a "development" focus to more of a "maintenance" focus. A significant portion of the original ICJIS objectives have been achieved and ongoing concerns are now dominated by system maintenance and ongoing integration efforts with other internal and external systems.

To accommodate and reflect a project environment that has changed focus from development to maintenance and a corresponding reduced need for management oversight over the direction of new development, the ICJIS Commission unanimously recommended at its 12/17/2011 meeting that the Board of Supervisors be asked to consider dissolving the ICJIS Commission, along with the associated Commission By-Laws and Conflict of Interest Code. A formal committee structure is no longer warranted given the change in focus of the ICJIS project and issues are more efficiently addressed on an ad hoc basis as they occur. The recommendation to dissolve the ICJIS Commission would

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result in a more efficient process, which is beneficial in an environment with increasingly limited resources.

**ICJIS Accomplishments**

The ICJIS system is a remarkable public sector success story. News reports of failed governmental forays into information technology endeavors are all-too commonplace. For a local government such as Stanislaus County to take on developing a standards-based, browser-centric system built largely on Open Source components with such a wide scope and of such a critical, real-time nature is surprising. To have delivered such a quality system as a result is nearly unprecedented in government, at any level. Stanislaus County, the ICJIS Departments and partners all have much to be proud of in what they have achieved in ICJIS.

Due to the diligence, hard work and vision of the ICJIS Departments and partners, today ICJIS is a success. The future of ICJIS is bright and with the continued commitment of the ICJIS departments and partners, ICJIS will continue to evolve, improve and serve well the citizens of Stanislaus County.

**POLICY ISSUES:**

The Board of Supervisors is asked to consider if the acceptance of the ICJIS status report and recommended changes to the management structure will further their goals of efficient government operations and a safe community.

**STAFFING IMPACTS:**

There are no staffing issues associated with this item. Existing staff from the District Attorney, Probation, Public Defender, Sheriff and Strategic Business Technology departments continue to provide support to the ICJIS project.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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