



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Hawaii

ONE STATE'S EXPERIENCES WITH JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING USING THE OPEN JUSTICE BROKER

The OJBC offers a very low-cost way of acquiring and using technology. For \$85,000 per year, the State is able to implement critical justice information exchanges— at less than a quarter of the cost of comparable proprietary commercial solutions.

—Liane Moriyama
Administrator
Hawaii Criminal Justice
Data Center

Hawaii Integrated Justice Information Sharing (HIJIS) Program

The HIJIS Program formally began in 2007 and is a joint effort led by the State Attorney General and key decision makers representing the principal justice agencies throughout Hawaii, including the Judiciary, law enforcement, prosecution, intake services, public safety and affiliated agencies, as well as key Federal agencies.

Early on, the HIJIS partners turned to SEARCH for assistance in establishing a foundation for statewide justice information sharing, starting with a strategic plan and privacy policy that were business-driven and based on national standards, followed with a governance model and technical architecture. Together, these foundational elements allowed HIJIS to coordinate plans and investments; make sound, sustainable decisions; and implement low-cost technology infrastructure.

The partners are now seeing evidence of their hard work and are benefitting from the collaboration (see Capabilities). Hawaii joined the OJBC in part because the State embraced the vision of being able to share the progress it has made with its work products with other states. Today, Maine and Vermont are taking advantage of Hawaii's efforts to date and are building on it for their states. The OJBC's collaborative approach to information sharing means that Hawaii, in turn, will also benefit from other states' development efforts.

OJBC CAPABILITY

Subscription and Notification

Through the OJBC, Hawaii now has a reusable infrastructure to notify practitioners of key events that occur in the justice process, including the arrest of a person of interest or a change in their legal status. Practitioners will ultimately include authorized persons in the justice, court, and law enforcement agencies across systems participating in the HIJIS program.

In the initial implementation, probation and parole officers receive real-time email notifications any time one of their supervisees is arrested. Subscriptions occur automatically as a result of information entry in the probation and parole case management systems.

Hawaii is currently developing a secure manual subscription capability, which will allow practitioners to create and manage subscriptions through the OJBC portal.

In the future, the HIJIS subscription/notification capabilities could expand to include use by licensing authorities, employers, victims, investigators and detectives.

OJBC CAPABILITY

Streamlined Federated Query

Within the OJBC, Hawaii has built a federated query in which practitioners can access information, via a central portal, from a wide range of HIJIS partner agencies' systems. HIJIS secures access to the query portal with a "federated identity" approach, in which users' existing credentials (accounts and passwords) are reused, thus eliminating the need to create a centralized user directory. This approach—

- enhances overall security of services and user credentials,
- improves the end-user's experience by not requiring multiple usernames and passwords, and
- saves IT administration costs by reusing existing credentials.

The Hawaii implementation of the OJBC federated query currently provides access to criminal history records and bench warrants. The query performs a form of "smart grouping" of records, called entity resolution, which allows the end user to better understand the likelihood that multiple search results actually represent the same person.

Behind the scenes, the HIJIS federated query uses national justice information sharing standards, such as the Global Reference Architecture (GRA) and National Information Exchange Model (NIEM). This helps make the implementation extensible, meaning it is straightforward to add new systems to the federated query—and it is easy to reuse this solution in new environments.

The OJBC query enhances public safety by revolutionizing the investigative process—reliable and up-to-date information that supports critical decision-making is made available in a single, secure location.

Future plans

Hawaii justice information sharing leaders envision leveraging the OJBC and HIJIS to:

1. Grow the federated identity management capability, enabling single sign-on across additional justice partner agencies
2. Participate in the Federal Rap Back program by enhancing the existing OJBC subscription notification capabilities
3. Streamline the flow of incident, charging and court disposition information to lower costs, increase data integrity and reduce data entry. Hawaii will reuse OJBC capabilities already developed by Maine and Vermont
4. Expand on the existing firearm search capability to provide law enforcement access to a firearms registration query, reducing response time from days to seconds.