

State of Michigan

Death In Custody Reporting Plan

The Michigan State Police (MSP) is the State Administering Agency (SAA) for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG). Part of the responsibility of the Byrne JAG SAA is to conduct Death In Custody Act (DCRA) reporting on a quarterly basis. For each quarter, MSP must either (1) report all deaths in custody that occurred in their jurisdictions during the corresponding quarter and provide basic information about the circumstances of those deaths or (2) affirm that no deaths in custody occurred in the state of Michigan during the reporting period. This plan outlines MSP's roles and responsibilities for collecting DCRA data and reporting it to the Department of Justice.

DCRA Data Collection Infrastructure

The state of Michigan does not have a death-in-custody reporting law requiring state and local agencies to report to MSP. The below table displays the total number of each type of law enforcement agency submitting DCRA data to MSP.

Type of Agency	Number
Local Law Enforcement Agencies:	476
County Jail/Lock-up Facilities	83
Michigan Department of Corrections Facilities	19
Michigan State Police	1
Total DCRA Reporting Agencies	579

The MSP Grants and Community Services Division (GCSD) provides on-going technical assistance to reporting agencies throughout the year. GCSD staff continually reach-out to non-reporting agencies to encourage their participation to achieve our goal of 100 percent compliance.

Data Collection Methods

The MSP GCSD is responsible for collecting DCRA data from state and local agencies. The MSP GCSD reaches out directly to the Michigan Department of Corrections and MSP Field Operations Bureau to obtain DCRA data.

The GCSD collects DCRA data through an online survey from all local agencies and a customized spreadsheet from the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC). In the most quarter, MSP GCSD achieved a 100 percent compliance rate. The primary factor driving non-compliance is the "affirmative no" reporting requirement. Law enforcement agencies are overwhelmed and understaffed and most never have a death-in-custody. Asking them to affirm they haven't had a death-in-custody four times a year is burdensome.

The GCSD has two Byrne JAG staff who work part-time on DCRA reporting, including the following activities:

- Conducting quarterly DCRA surveys using an online reporting tool
- Maintaining contact information for 579 DCRA reporting agencies
- Conducting outreach to agencies not submitting
- Cleaning data prior to entry into the PMT
- Following-up on deaths reported in previous quarters with incomplete information

In addition to the survey, GCSD staff follow-up by phone and email for agencies that have not completed the survey in attempt to gain their compliance. GCSD staff also utilize the assistance of the Michigan

Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP) and Michigan Sheriff Association (MSA) to reach out to their members to request they submit their DCRA survey. GCSD has a long history of partnering with the MACP and MSA on law enforcement initiatives. The MACP and MSA have been integral to gaining our current 100 percent compliance rate with DCRA reporting requirements.

Data Reporting Methods

DCRA data is currently entered manually into the Performance Measurement Tool by GCSD staff based on online survey results. GCSD staff review submitted DCRA data from local agencies and follow-up with agencies if there is missing information. GCSD staff do not currently have the capacity to follow-up with agencies to update the status of records previously listed as pending investigation.