

## San Diego ARJIS is Test Bed for NIJ-funded Data Mining Tools Evaluation

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The [National Institute of Justice \(NIJ\)](#) has selected San Diego to serve as a test bed for a Data Mining Tools/Crime Analysis Tools Evaluation. The goal of the Data Mining project is to establish a methodology for the evaluation and selection of crime analysis and data mining tools, and to provide feedback to NIJ about the products and resources available for exchanging information across local and state boundaries. Orion, Visual Analytics, I2, and MetaMatrix were the vendors chosen in the down-selection process. [Automated Regional Justice Information Systems \(ARJIS\)](#) will oversee the project and coordinate efforts between the San Diego Data Processing Center (SDDPC), the vendors, and a test group of local crime analysts.

The project began with a market survey in which 37 crime-analysis tools and 60 data mining tools were identified. After soliciting the vendors regarding their interest in the project, 5 responses came from the crime analysis tools, and 12 responses came from the data mining tools. Composite scores were then calculated through a literature search and vendor survey, and the down-selection process began to identify the products most appropriate to crime analyst priorities. A structured evaluation methodology using statistical weighting was developed to select the tools or tool suites that best fit crime analyst needs. These needs were determined through focus group meetings.

The testing of the selected tools will begin soon. A group of analysts will undergo training on the products and then test each tool using a set of scenarios developed by another team of crime analysts. The tools will be linked to the ARJIS Data Warehouse and will be evaluated by the analysts on a wide range of functional requirements.

Upon project completion, the results or findings of this project will include a very important set of lessons learned and will help local and state agencies purchase technology that has already been vetted through the detailed NIJ evaluation process.

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