



NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION CENTER FOR BEST PRACTICES STATE LEADERSHIP IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Providing states with the right resources can go a long way toward helping them apply state-of-the-art communication and data exchange technologies to share justice information. To that end, the Office of Justice of Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is garnering the expertise of the National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices. With funding and leadership from BJA, NGA has created a multi-faceted initiative designed to help states implement strategies to improve the sharing of justice information across agencies, disciplines, and levels of government.

This initiative, called the State Leadership in Criminal Justice Information Technology Integration Project, has three central activities: a workshop series, planning grant initiatives, and a joint NGA Center/BJA justice IT implementation grant program. The project has benefited states in the following ways:

- Administered grants to provide states with financial resources to develop and update justice information sharing plans and strategies.
- Conducted a series of regional technical assistance workshops to explore key justice IT integration leadership issues.
- Conducted regional executive policy forums for criminal justice information sharing professionals and governors' criminal justice policy advisors.
- Produced a series of *Issue Briefs* to inform governors and their policy advisors about the importance of justice integration, and ways in which states' chief executives can support efforts to advance justice information sharing improvements.
- Helped develop a white paper that identifies and defines the key milestones of justice information sharing.
- Developed a website that provides access to information about the NGA Center justice IT integration project.

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