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INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDIT  
Integrated Justice Information Sharing  
(IJIS) Broker  
Department of Justice

APRIL 2017

15DP-05

REPORT SUMMARY

The IJIS Broker allows local, state, and federal agencies, as well as certain public entities, to share criminal justice information in a timely, accurate, and efficient manner. The expedient exchange of information is critical for justice agencies, most importantly law enforcement, to be able to carry out their mission and ensure public safety, including providing notifications for victims of violent crimes. The Department of Justice has made progress to date, but the full potential of IJIS Broker has yet to be achieved, due to the necessity of additional exchanges, upgrades to electronic criminal records, and an enterprise case management system for Montana courts (FullCourt). Based on the current status, crime victim notification through the IJIS Broker is inoperable at this time and may not be online when the Montana Constitutional Initiative 116, also known as Marsy's Law, takes effect in July 2017.

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## Context

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has pursued a number of grants to fund the IJIS Broker beginning in 2005 with the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) grant of \$269,000. Since its inception, DOJ has been awarded federal grants to help fund this system and is continuing to implement new exchanges and improvements. Crime Victim Notification through the IJIS Broker has been put on hold until an enterprise solution for the courts' case management system can be realized based on the need for a real-time interface to consistent court data.

## Results

While the audit work focused on information system controls (general and application business-process) associated with IJIS Broker, the over-arching objective was to gain an understanding of the purpose of this system and whether it has accomplished what was

intended. While the backbone infrastructure of the information sharing broker has been developed and deployed, there are data exchanges within the original project plan that have not yet been established. For the exchanges that do exist, the controls in place provide assurance that integrity of the data passed by the IJIS Broker is not compromised. The notifications of IJIS Broker should be re-examined to eliminate unauthorized disclosure of personally identifiable or criminal justice information. In addition, limitations with the current electronic criminal record repository (also known as Computerized Criminal History), as well as exchange partner business processes, present challenges to the timeliness of when information is shared with the justice community. Finally, the department can strengthen its continuity of operations capabilities in the case of a disaster or emergency to include an alternate "warm"

site for the purpose of recovering critical information systems, including IJIS Broker, with the least amount of downtime.

Recommendation Concurrence	
Concur	6
Partially Concur	0
Do Not Concur	0
<b>Source: Agency audit response included in final report.</b>	

For a complete copy of the report (15DP-05) or for further information, contact the Legislative Audit Division at 406-444-3122; e-mail to [lad@mt.gov](mailto:lad@mt.gov); or check the web site at <http://leg.mt.gov/audit>  
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