

# CISS Project Picks Up Steam

It's no holds barred, full steam ahead with the CISS Project. Both Xerox and CJIS initiated the resumption of development efforts for CISS following the acceptance of the signed contract amendment by the Attorney General's Office on February 27, 2015.

On Wednesday, February 25th, 2015, CJIS hosted a CISS Project Kickoff Meeting to announce the new CISS Release Plan. The CJIS Project Management team reviewed the plans going forward for collaboration between Xerox, CJIS and the Connecticut criminal justice community that will enable all parties to get back on track with the program.

The leadership teams from Xerox and CJIS have diligently worked to re-baseline the release plan and are actively working to coordinate their activities to proceed with CISS development. See [Project Management Updates](#).



The CJIS Operations team is building two test teams to test software and systems developed by both Xerox and CJIS technical teams. The test teams will design test plans, determine the testing tools needed, and schedule users for Release 1. User acceptance testing (UAT) will involve participation from the Xerox and CJIS teams and applicable stakeholders.

The CJIS Help Desk is preparing a ticketing system that will support Release 1. Users can login using their CISS password for assistance, or they can call the Help Desk and speak to a Help Desk support person.

CJIS is looking forward to working together with Xerox and the Connecticut criminal justice community to develop the most ambitious system for sharing criminal justice information in the nation. ❖

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 Connecticut's Criminal Justice &  
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## Seizing Opportunities for Innovation at DESPP

In his famous Stanford University commencement speech in 2005, Steve Jobs said, "You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future. You have to trust in something—your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever. This approach has never let me down, and it has made all the difference in my life."



Steve Jobs was one of the greatest proponents of innovation of modern times. Dr. Dora Schriro, Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Commissioner, has spent the better part of a lifetime connecting the dots, and designing and transforming legacy criminal justice systems. She is a nationally recognized leader in corrections and civil detention, and is widely praised for development of definitive policy analysis in the nation's homeland security efforts and as an innovator in risk assessment and crime prevention. And, she is the only person in the nation to have led two state and two city correctional systems. Prior to being appointed commissioner of DESPP, Schriro served as commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction, and, in 2003, was appointed by then Governor Janet Napolitano as Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections (DOC). In 2009, as the Senior Advisor on Immigration and Civil Detention to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Napolitano, Schriro worked on civil detention immigration reform. When the new Office of Detention Policy and Planning (ODPP) department was formed as part of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Schriro was appointed as its first director.

Schriro dedicated much of her career to taking on systems that were in need of reform, implementing improvements, and seizing opportunities for innovation. While serving as Director of the DOC in Arizona, the Harvard Kennedy School awarded the Innovations in American Government to the department for its efforts on reform.

Schriro was appointed Commissioner of DESPP in 2014 by Governor Dannel Malloy. Schriro's first year as Commissioner of DESPP was spent learning about how the six different agencies in DESPP work. Specifically, she reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the people who work there, how the divisions interact, and the availability of resources. Schriro firmly believes in collaborative decision making, so building a team environment is of utmost importance.

*Continued on Page-5*



# RMS Network

## Connectivity Information and Statistics At-A-Glance

The CJIS Technical team and CJIS' Public Safety Liaison recently collaborated on a project that will provide more information to all stakeholders on the status of router connectivity between CJIS/BEST, CONNX, and CISS, and local law enforcement.

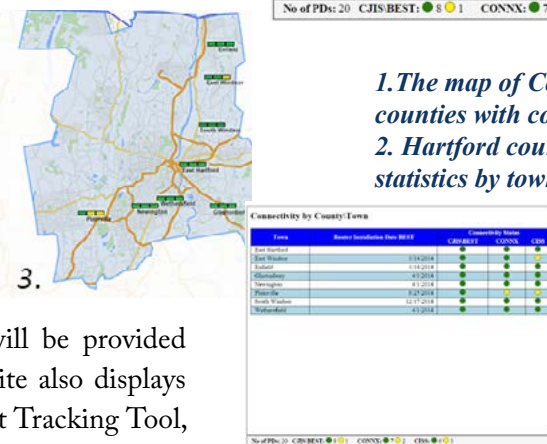
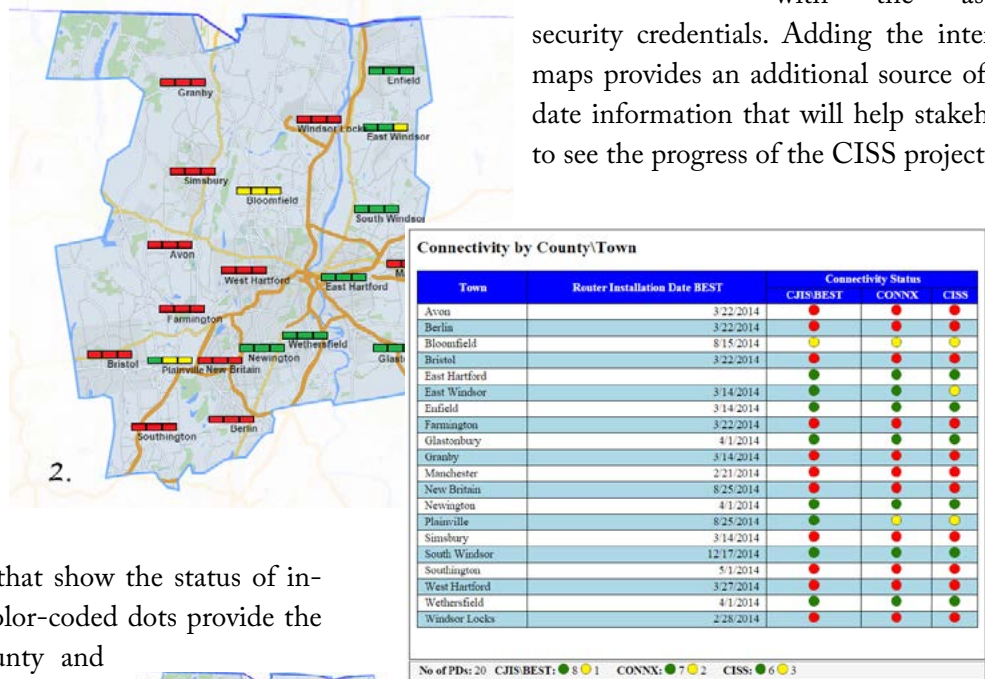
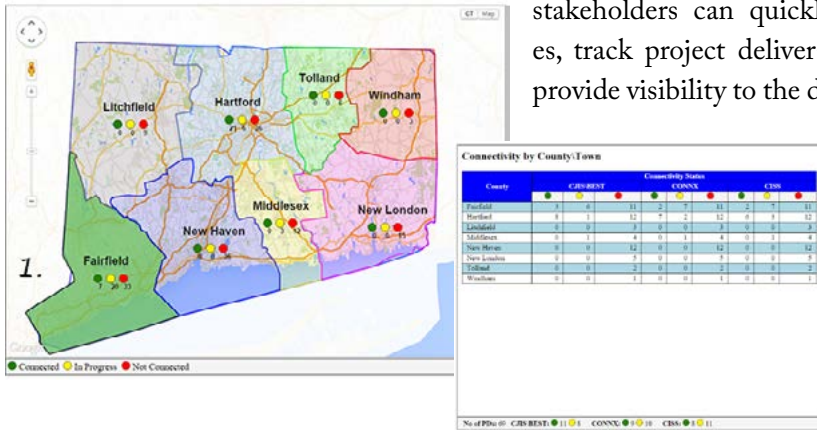
The team created an interactive map of the State of Connecticut. The map is divided up into eight regions by county and includes connectivity statistics on each region and totals for the state. From this map, a user can drill down by county and get statistics on CJIS/BEST, CONNX, and CISS connectivity by individual town in that county.

Alongside the maps are tables that show the status of individual counties and towns. Color-coded dots provide the at-a-glance status of each county and town. Yellow dots show connections that are in progress, green dots show connections that are complete, and red dots show not completed. Totals by county and state are listed at the bottom of each table of statistics.

The maps will be available for viewing in each agency's SharePoint site, which will be provided by CJIS, by late spring. Each SharePoint site also displays the Project Tracking Tool. Using the Project Tracking Tool,

stakeholders can quickly monitor their resources, track project deliverables and milestones, and provide visibility to the details of a project as it progresses from beginning to end.

The new Project Tracking Tool will provide a live feed of information that will be accessible to anyone with the assigned security credentials. Adding the interactive maps provides an additional source of up to date information that will help stakeholders to see the progress of the CISS project. ❖



1. The map of Connecticut divided into eight counties with connection status and statistics
2. Hartford county with connection status and statistics by town
3. Viewing only those towns that are nearly or fully connected, with statistics.

# CISS Project Management Updates

## Gearing Up for Search Release 1

February saw a lot of activity in preparation for the launch of Search Release 1. CJIS worked on project plans, the development environment, documentation, and data replication.

The CJIS Project Management team worked on resetting the baseline of the project plan with Xerox to coincide with the CISS Release 1 Kickoff. And they defined the roles and responsibilities of both teams. They also worked with affected stakeholders at the Department of Correction (DOC) and Judicial (JUD) to define the rules of engagement. This will help to provide a smooth launch with minimum impact on agency resources.

Meanwhile, the CJIS Technology team implemented the CISS Development Environment for Xerox. The Xerox team began development work in the new environment in February and development activity will continue into March.

Judicial invited CJIS to connect to its High Availability mirror site for Criminal Motor Vehicle System (CRMVS) and Protection Order Registry (POR) connectivity. This new connection will allow more frequent and more current replications of these datasets.

Efforts will continue in March with final preparations for design work. The CJIS Project Management team will complete the requirements for Release 1. Once complete, the CJIS Project Management team and the CJIS Business team will collaborate with the Xerox team and affected stakeholders to formally accept the requirements and sign off on an agreement. Once an agreement is reached, the Xerox team can begin design work on Search.

The Xerox and CJIS teams will confirm the technical documentation and functioning of the Paperless Re-Arrest Warrant Network (PRAWN) and Offender Based In-

formation System (OBIS) replicas, in preparation for the Design phase.

The Project Management team will also reset the baseline for the SharePoint Project Tracking Tool for each agency. This will enable each stakeholder to track and adjust their resources for the CISS project and to view project tasks and the project timeline.

Information Exchange Focus Group Sessions originally scheduled for March will be delayed until May and June. The March 19th session will instead focus on finalizing the requirements for Release 2 - Uniform Arrest Report (UAR) and Misdemeanor Summons Arrest Notices.

Plans are underway to draft the first RMS vendor contract with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CROG) for RMS Certification with CT:CHIEF RMS. CT:CHIEF RMS is a browser-based records management system that organizes, stores, and transmits secure law enforcement and public safety information. Once certified with CT:CHIEF RMS, a local law enforcement agency will automatically be in a position to obtain access to CISS.

Also in March, the CJIS Technical team will build the system testing (SYSTest) and user acceptance testing (UAT) environments. Xerox will use the SYSTest environment to test the software in the system. CJIS will provide user testing in the UAT environment. Both environments will provide a means to analyze the design and functions of Search Release 1. ❖

For more information on CJIS and CJIS publications, go to [www.ct.gov/cjis](http://www.ct.gov/cjis)

*Innovation at DESPP, continued from Page-2*

Setting goals and objectives, budgeting resources, participating in legislative discussions and being a supportive and encouraging leader are her priorities. Training, also important to Schriro, empowers people, and as a result, helps to keep Connecticut safe.

One example of the collaboration of the department's divisions that she is especially proud of is the effort to reverse the impact of accidental heroin overdoses in Connecticut. DESPP recently provided training classes on the administration of Narcan to all of the state's Troopers and to Connecticut's firefighters and police officers. Narcan is a medication used to help save lives by reversing the effects of overdosing on opioids, including street drugs such as heroin, and prescription painkillers such as Oxycontin. The need for this action was demonstrated twenty times over the past several months since DESPP undertook this initiative; nineteen of the twenty individuals were revived by troopers. The effort to provide State Troopers with Narcan has been a collaborative task between the Governor's Office and several state agencies, including DESPP, the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and the Department of Correction (DOC).

As a designated protector of information security, DESPP is working with the FBI to ensure that the information shared using CISS complies with the FBI Security Policy and the CT CJIS Security Policy. It is important to protect the core responsibilities, which include the need to guard sensitive information. Schriro said that her department has developed a strong working relationship with the FBI and will continue to confer with them as the CISS project moves forward.

The CISS project will mean big changes for all of the criminal justice agencies. Schriro is sure that DESPP is up to the challenges facing them. Though the CISS project is a large initiative with lots of moving parts,

Schriro is confident that as the project moves forward, the CJIS Governing Board will be able to address any issue that presents itself.

Dr. Schriro sees CISS as bringing more knowledge to those who need it, and advancing public safety in the state. Information sharing is critical to public and officer safety. "Decisions we make are only as good as the information that we have," she said. More information means more informed judgments.

*"Decision-making will be increasingly evidence-based, enriching the existing body of knowledge."*

In looking to the future, Schriro recognizes that CISS will continue to evolve over time. She added that the participants' access to enriched information may lead to the identification of additional opportunities for programs and policies, further strengthening public safety. Schriro sees CISS as advancing public safety in the state in other significant ways. "Decision-making will be increasingly evidence-based," she said, "enriching the existing body of knowledge." She feels that CISS offers real promise for Connecticut but is also a model for others systems here and abroad.

Looking back, in the years to come, historians will be able to connect the dots that make up the creation of CISS. With the support of progressive thinkers like Schriro, CISS is certain to become one of the most innovative and comprehensive criminal justice information sharing systems in the country. ❖

### ~ Meetings ~

#### **CISS Monthly Status Meeting**

March 25, 2015, 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Criminal Justice Information System  
55 Farmington, 1st floor, Room 1008  
Hartford

#### **CJIS Governing Board Quarterly Meeting**

April 16, 2015 at 1:30 pm  
Office of the Chief State's Attorney  
300 Corporate Place in Rocky Hill



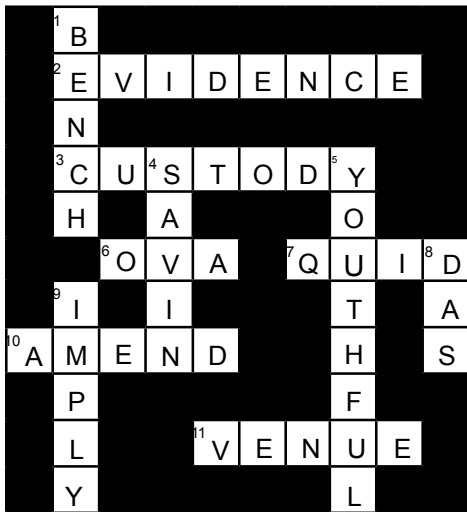
# OBTS Interruption of Service

There will be a temporary interruption of service of OBTS to facilitate the migration from the Oracle to the SQL database environment. The *tentative* time frame of the outage is from April 2, 2015 through April 9, 2015.

CJIS will be sending out an email to all known users just before the interruption and will also send notices once the migration is complete and OBTS is back in service.

Users can also find out the latest information concerning the interruption by going to the [CJIS Webpage](#).

Answers to the February crossword puzzle.



# CJIS Academy

## OBTS Classes

CJIS offers certification classes three times a year for the Offender Based Tracking System (OBTS). The classes will be conducted at 99 East River Drive, 7th floor, East Hartford, CT 06108. For more information and to sign up, visit the [CJIS Academy Webpage](#).

CJIS Support Group:  
860-622-2000  
CJIS Website: [www.ct.gov/cjis](http://www.ct.gov/cjis)

## OBTS Certification Class Schedule

- Tuesday, June 16, 2015
- Thursday, October 15, 2015



# Happy St. Patrick's Day!



## Farewell

CJIS said goodbye this month to Jim Harris. Jim joined the CJIS team in 2013 as one of three Senior Project Managers. Mark Morin and Charlie Polizzi will be taking over his duties as project managers for CISS Search. CJIS would like to wish Jim Harris success on his next endeavor.

