

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Public Act 245 of 2008
Section 303
Database Systems Data Usage and Communications – 4th Quarter

Section 303 of 2008 P.A. 245 requires the Department of Corrections report quarterly, on its plan to implement secure, encrypted internet-based database systems that can electronically communicate with each other and with other law enforcement related databases by September 30, 2009.

In August 2006, the Department finalized a plan to web-enable the OMNI application to allow controlled access to portions of OMNI from the Internet. The internet-based application will serve the following needs within the context of the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry initiative (MPRI):

- Provide background information on the offender
- Provide transitional case planning information including risk assessment, criminogenic needs, “protection factors” or strengths (e.g., job skills, family support) and records relating to the offender’s possession of essential documents, proposed housing, child support obligations, income support, and criminal detainers
- Provide a mechanism by which authorized community providers can access case information during parole supervision

To achieve the goals of the MPRI, certain data elements must exist in the OMNI desktop application prior to being deployed as a web application. Therefore, programmers are making changes simultaneously to OMNI desktop while developing the web-based version.

The OMNI web application will not replace the OMNI client/server desktop application. Instead, OMNI Web is designed to provide a means to access specific data elements through a web interface. Access is limited to those individuals who are expressly given access rights to view offender information.

The first round of business owner beta testing was completed and the results have been returned to the Michigan Department of Information Technology for programming. Further, due to the application being available on the public facing internet, it was apparent the application security required revisions. As a result, revised security specifications have been identified to administer access to web-based Department applications.

The Department is nearing the beginning of joint application design (JAD) sessions to discuss items to be included in Phase II of the application development. This phase will include information sharing with local prosecutor’s regarding prisoners nearing consideration of parole as well as parole decisions made by the Parole and

Commutation Board. Additionally, the Department has entered into a data sharing agreement with the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to share current probationer and parolee residence information. The OAG is planning to use this data to geographically map offender residences as part of their mapping project.

At least 609 law enforcement agencies continue to have access to the Department's offender data electronically through the LEIN system, either directly or indirectly. The LEIN system provides an integrated manner in which law enforcement can obtain information from multiple information sources. This is secure and accessible independent of the type of software system utilized by each law enforcement agency and accessible from a desktop or patrol vehicle.

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