FBI Crime Data Explorer

Status Report (4/6)

18F

Project plan

The next several months will consist of the following phases: 1) preparing the CDE for a public launch, 2) evolving the CDE based on post-launch feedback and the product roadmap, and 3) transitioning ownership of the CDE to CJIS personnel. Below is a high-level overview of the project approach and it's key milestones:



Important notes:

- The timeframes listed here are approximate and meant for directional purposes only.
 Project status will be communicated via these status reports, weekly check-ins with CJIS staff, and scheduled checkpoints.
- While the plan outlines the key activities for the next several months, 18F's current funding is projected to run out by May 20, 2017. CJIS and 18F staff are working to modify the current agreement to ensure that the project remains funded.
- **UPDATE**: 18F recently learned that the FBI requires its own authority to operate (ATO) in order to publically release the CDE. Once all of the paperwork is submitted, this process can take 90 days to complete, which would push the release timeline for the CDE back to July, 2017. In the meanwhile, 18F plans to extend the current ATO secured through GSA through July in order to continue development and testing.

Executive Summary of Activities:

Coming out of last week's sprint review, 18F was asked to explore two directions for improving the granularity of the CDE experience. These directions include an agency and city perspective, with agencies representing multiple ORIs and being the lowest level of granularity the CDE could provide, and cities representing a "picture of crime" across a distinct geographical area. As such, the team is building a series of prototypes to be tested with users that will help assess the value and feasibility of both approaches. The goal of these activities is to surface key considerations so that the project team can decide on a direction with confidence at the next sprint review on Thursday, April 13.

In the meanwhile, 18F is scheduling a series of user feedback sessions (with members of law enforcement and the general public) on Thursday, April 6 and Tuesday, April 11 to prove out specific concepts and inform product design. Readers of this status report and members of the project core team are encouraged to observe these feedback sessions.

Aside from user research and prototyping, 18F is working with FBI security to understand what documentation is required for it's ATO process. Assuming we have a clear sense of what is required, our goal is to submit all necessary documentation by the end of the week.

Looking ahead:

- User feedback sessions are being scheduled for Thursday, April 6 & Tuesday, April 11.
- The next sprint review will be on Thursday, April 13.
- The next sprint will start on Wednesday, April 12.

Open Issues:

- Jason Pulice/CJIS to provide the CNAME mapping for crime-data-api.fbi.gov to point to crime-data-api.fbi.gov.domains.api.data.gov.
- Mike to coordinate with CJIS security and establish a timeline and associated milestones
 for securing an FBI ATO in order to mitigate the risk of security requirements delaying the
 launch of the CDE.
- Larry to transition the project team from Zen Hub to Waffle (https://waffle.io/), which is another task management tool built around Github issues. The hope is that Waffle will be more accessible than Zen Hub because it's just a website and doesn't require a download in order to use.
- Roberta to work with Larry & Alex on securing the next round of funding for the project.

Key Risks

- Managing expectations: There are many stakeholders involved in this project and
 different perspectives on what the CDE should do and why. Aligning around what is both
 feasible and of highest value to users will be key to achieving the best possible result and
 managing expectations going forward.
- **Limited opportunity:** The CDE is limited to *presenting* the data that's available from the FBI. It will not directly affect the volume, quality, or timeliness of the data it displays.
- **Dealing with uncertainty:** There is uncertainty around what data will be available, what it can support, and how it will be updated.

- Agile, user-centered design, and open data: 18F works in ways that are new to the FBI and may present organizational and cultural challenges.
- **Providing visibility around decision-making and approval:** How might shared responsibilities among the project core team, the FBI's ATO process and the Office of Public Affairs influence our ability to make decisions in a timely manner?