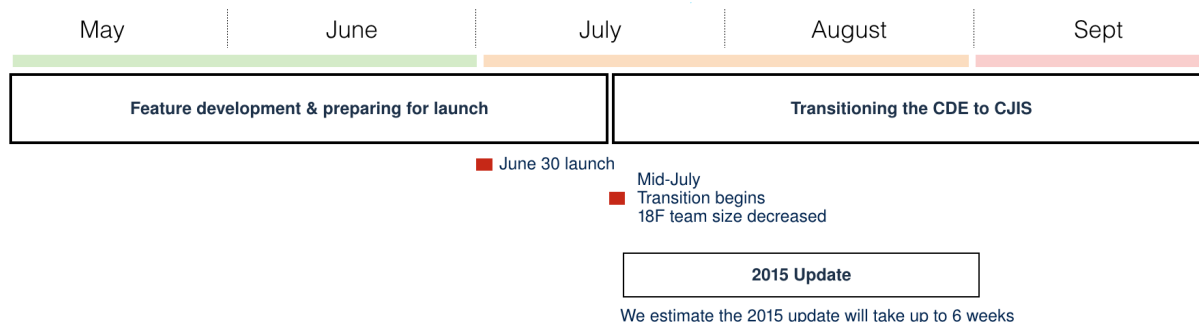# FBI Crime Data Explorer

Status Report (8/17)

18F

Project plan

The remainder of the project will consist of the following phases: 1) preparing the CDE for launch and 2) transitioning ownership of the CDE to CJIS. Below is a high-level overview of the project approach and it's key milestones:

Executive Summary of Activities:

Last week 18F conducted a workshop to faciliate the transition of the CDE to CJIS. This week the team is focused on broadening the relationship with the transition team, by providing walkthroughs of key components of the system and outlining next steps for feature development. Specific tasks in support of these goals include:

- Pairing with the transition team to begin development on a new representation of the "all violent and all property crime" queries. Background on this feature is available here, but it offers an excellent opportunity for Jacob to become more acquainted with the frontend and its supporting APIs.
- Providing the CJIS business line with an overview of Cloud.gov support services. 18F will schedule a follow-on call with the transiton team to review the technical aspects of Cloud.gov as a hosting service.
- Continuing with the 2015 data update. We remain on track for completing the update by August 21st.

For more detail on what the team is currently working on see the "to do" and "in progress" columns on our Waffle board: https://waffle.io/18F/crime-data-explorer.

2015 data update:

Expected delivery date: August 21st, 2017
Status: **On track**

Background & disclaimer: We estimate that updating the CDE with 2015 data will take approximately 6 weeks to complete. This process involves several steps (see below) and includes documenting and automating selected aspects in order to make future updates easier. While we have confidence in hitting the August 21st delivery date, this is the first time 18F has attempted this process and so there are still unknowns. 18F recommends that CJIS sets expectations appropriately with senior management based on weekly progress towards this goal.

Key steps for the 2015 update:

- Our first step is to upload the 2015 data provided by CJIS to the 18F database that powers the CDE. This can be time-consuming, as we'll look to automate several aspects of the process to make future updates faster. To complete the upload we'll need to make sure that the new data matches our schema and handle any irregularities as they are identified. - **COMPLETE**
- Once the data is completely loaded, we'll repurpose and run our transformation scripts to process only the new 2015 data. This process will take time because of the amount of computational resources required to complete it. Also, careful steps must be taken to minimize downtime of the CDE. If downtime is required, we'll need to coordinate with CJIS so that relevant stakeholders are aware of any disruptions in service. **– COMPLETE**
- When the new aggregated data is built we will need to verify the results. **– WE ARE HERE**
- Once verified, we can expose the new data to the Explorer web interface.
- Finally, we'll wrap-up the process by documenting key aspects for future updates. This will be an excellent opportunity to collaborate with the transition team so that they understand how this process should work in the future.

Open Issues:

- 18F led a workshop to gather feedback on the future vision and goals of the CDE and delivered a roadmap to outline next steps. With the roadmap available, a CJIS product owner should start reviewing the near-term priorities and create a new product backlog for the CDE. This product owner should also start working with Jacob and other members of the transition team to guide development activites and to deliver new features for the CDE.
- In light of the priorities set by the roadmap exercise, 18F has proposed a follow-on engagement aimed at assessing how New UCR can best support the CDE in its new role as the preferred platform for publishing UCR data. An added benefit of the engagement is that it would allow additional time for the 18F team to support CJIS in the transition of the CDE. Although the earliest such a project could start is in October, 18F will need to know the level of interest at CJIS so that it can plan staff allocations accordingly.

- CJIS asked for the current product backlog to be migrated to an internal Jira instance, with Jira being the preferred workflow managemnet tool for CJIS. In order to do this a Jira instance must be created and access will need to be shared with 18F.
- 18F has implemented a solution that will scan feedback submitted through the CDE using a set of predefined keywords provided by CJIS. If feedback containing these keywords is detected the system will alert the FBI of potential threats via email. To complete these feature we need to establish FBI email addresses to send and receive the notifications from. Mike is currently working on this issue.
- The CDE currently has a non-standard URL that doesn't identify it as an FBI product and which may confuse prospective users. CJIS is coordinating with OPA to secure an "FBI.gov" URL.

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?