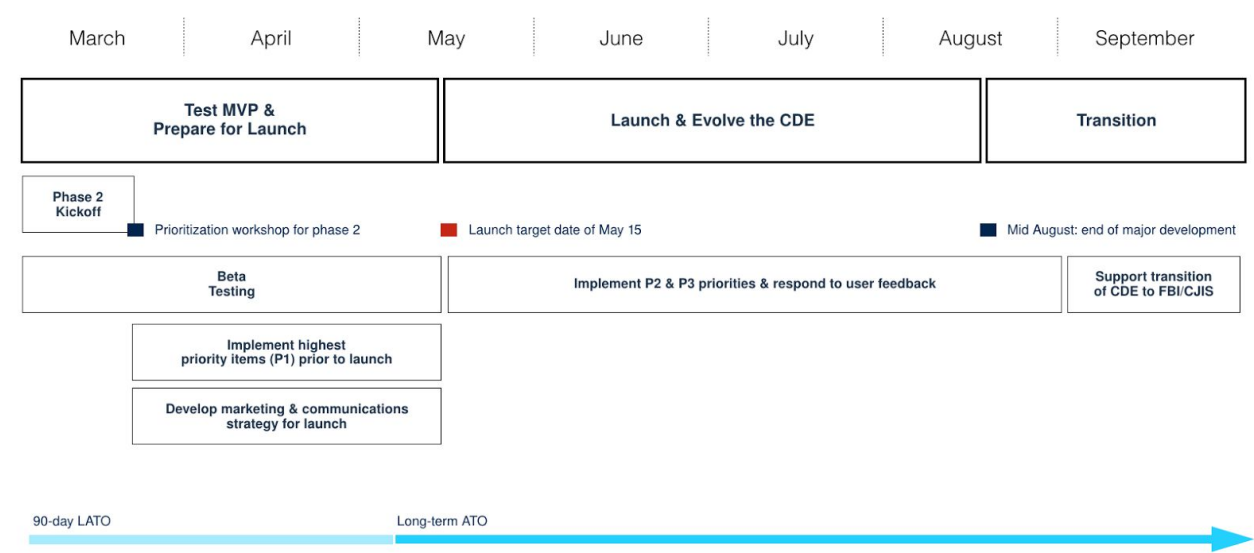**FBI Crime Data Explorer**

Status Report (3/9)

18F

Project plan

This is the first status report for "phase 2" of the FBI CDE project. This phase will focus on pilot testing the MVP that was delivered as part of phase 1, adding features that have been prioritized by the project core team, launching the CDE to the general public, and transitioning ownership of the CDE to CJIS.

Below is a high-level overview of phase 2 activities:

Executive Summary of Activities:

Last week 18F held a conference call with CJIS to discuss the current state of the project. While it was apparent from the call that 18F and senior leaders at CJIS are not aligned in terms of agile/lean working methods and expectations for the first iteration of the CDE, the participants agreed to organize a workshop to realign and establish clear priorities for the next 60-90 days.

The workshop is tentatively scheduled for **March 14-15** at CJIS in West VA., but the timing of these activities will ultimately depend on the availability of Amy Blasher, who is new to the project and plays a key role in setting direction for the CDE. The goal of these discussions is to provide core stakeholders with important context, such as what has been learned from user research/testing and how the volume and quality of available UCR data may influence priority-setting going forward. For more details, please see the **preliminary agenda** that has been sent with this report.

In the meanwhile, 18F is conducting a "transitionary sprint" to prepare the application for pilot testing and plan for the next phase of work. Specifically, the team is hardening the code base to improve maintainability, stability, and performance, while also adding visual polish and exploring approaches for showing more granular perspectives of UCR data. 18F will share preliminary designs for county-level perspectives during the upcoming workshop and socialize how some limitations, such as a lack of county-level NIBRS participation, may affect future decision-making.

You can view the latest version of the CDE application at:
https://crime-data-explorer-demo.fr.cloud.gov/#/

This URL will be updated after each sprint. The next update will be early next week.

Open Issues:

- Larry to work with Sammy to confirm the timing for the March workshop and necessary stakeholder participation.
- Sammy to clarify whether or not CJIS obtained blanket PRA approval for the CDE project.
- Jason to clarify why we only have data going back to 1960, when the UCR program has data going back beyond that data. This isn't a problem, we just want to be able to explain why the CDE only shows data that goes back to 1960.
- Mike to check on the status/likelihood of being able to obtain approval for the CJIS team to use ZenHub - a web browser plugin for task management. This tool will allow the 18F and CJIS teams to work more effectively together and to share a common view into the state of the product backlog.
- Mike to check with Jason Pulice for help mapping the CNAME for crime-data-api.fbi.gov.
- Larry to work with Sammy to schedule a review of the draft data dictionary for the CDE.

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?