WPD Training Tracker

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*Abstract*—The Wichita Police Department currently uses a pen and paper system for officers to sign in at training events in order to track attendance.

# Introduction

The Wichita Police Department currently uses physical sign in sheets to track attendance at training events for officers. With this method, there is a heavy reliance on manpower to input sign in data into the police department’s computer systems at a later data. The Wichita Police Department training tracking application aims to eliminate the unnecessary step of manual data entry. The main difficulty with this project lies in integrating different technologies together, such as writing REST API endpoints in JavaScript and sending POST requests to said endpoints via Swift UI. Training Tacker is an iPhone application that is designed to scan a QR code posted at the training site, and track attendance over HTTPS by sending a POST request to Google Apps Sheets that triggers an update to a Google sheet with relevant sign in information. In summary, every officer will have Training Tracker downloaded on their iPhones, a sheet containing the sign in sheet ID of the Google Sheet will be posted at the training site, and officers sign in by scanning the QR code rather than signing their name on a sign in sheet.

# Related Work

Although there exist applications that can scan QR codes, the Wichita Police Department is looking for something that has been developed in house. The main advantages of this are the ability to add features later down the road, elimination of costs of outsourcing, and reliability.

# Design and Implementation

We are developing an iPhone application in Xcode with Swift UI. The frontend functionality of the application simply includes the ability to scan a QR code. The QR code, which will be posted at training sites, will include information such as the meeting date, time and location, and a Google sheet ID used for sign in. The backend of the application includes a function that can pull the iPhone EID, which is a unique identifier for every iPhone. Wichita Police Department has record of which iPhone EID is assigned to which officer; this data can be used as a cross-reference to sign officers in, rather than by their names. Training Tacker will be an iPhone application that scans a QR code posted at the training site. As aforementioned, this QR code will contain relevant data for tracking attendance such as meeting date, time, and location. Once the QR code is scanned by an officer, the officer’s iPhone will send the iPhone EID in a POST request to the REST API written in Google Apps Scripts that will be stored in a Google Sheet to document attendance. This Google Sheet can be exported to CSV format and uploaded to the Police Department’s database via inhouse software.

# Results

Currently, we have the user interface developed and a way to send data to a REST API from Swift UI. We are also currently in the early stages of developing the REST API endpoint for appending data to the end of a Google Sheet once received from the application. In the future we plan to finish writing the REST API as well as implement sending the iPhone EID to the REST endpoint to sign in.

# Conclusion

The application described in this paper aims to eliminate the need to manually input sign in data into a database at a later date. This aims to cut down the cost of manhours needed in order to track attendance at training events.