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Group II

Chinon



Preliminary Report

Assignment II

**PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION REPORT**

Subject: Rhode Island State Police

Gaming Enforcement Unit

February 20, 2015

**INTRODUCTION:**

Chinon Development has been retained by Officer Gerald McKinley, a Sergeant of the Rhode Island State Police | Gaming Enforcement Unit, to analyze their processing needs to help them streamline the managing and reviewing of large amounts of data relevant to background investigations. The scope of this preliminary investigation is to identify inefficiencies in the current processing of the data, and to recommend the implementation of a database-backed web application that will fully meet the required needs of the Gaming Enforcement Unit. The goal of this preliminary investigation is to identify the specific requirements of the functionality of the proposed system.

**SYSTEMS REQUEST SUMMARY:**

Presently the Gaming Enforcement Unit’s file-system is operating in both pen and paper, and digital excel documents. Each officer begins investigations by gathering pertinent information in order to conduct background checks for gaming employees in the state of Rhode Island. They track information including: Name, Phone Number, Address, City, State, and Date of Birth for each potential hire. Each investigation is assigned a case number and a detective who will conduct the investigation. The Detective will also track the location of employment, and will assign a Gaming License Number. Each investigation also tracks the date the investigation began and the date the investigation is closed. According to the officers of this specific department, the current system is disorganized, dysfunctional, and “a nightmare to use.”

**PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:**

The following problems were found during the preliminary investigation.

* There is no joined environment in which Detectives can receive assignments, conduct them, and report back to their superiors. The Sergeant is subjugated to disjointed investigations, and presently has no way to really track manpower on each assignment.
* Due to the short comings of the current file system in place, there is no centralized database that can receive ad-hoc investigation queries. The officers are left to comb through physical excel spreadsheets and hand written data. It is often unorganized and difficult to read, and hard to gather pertinent data to conduct their assignments.
* After the investigation is completed, there is no functionality in place for the sergeant to easily put together a concise recommendation that can be sent in a read only format to the respective parties at the hiring casino.

The following requirements will need to be met in the final Web Application:

* Data needs to be transmitted out in a user friendly read only format. Data will be sent to the Department of Regulations, the Lottery Commissions, and other agencies.
* The Web Application will need to be secure as the information contained in the Database will be highly sensitive.
* Each Officer involved in the Gaming Enforcement Unit will need to be able to query the database to have all the data at their disposal. This includes but is not limited to: References from past employers, License information, looking up and comparing results of questionnaires.
* The Web Application will need to be able to track man power, project management, and billing on the time scale for man power for each investigation. Possibly more accounting functionality as well.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The current method utilized by the Rhode Island State Police | Gaming Enforcement Unit for collecting data and conducting Criminal Background Investigations (BCI) is not capable of satisfying the needs the taskforce has today. As the number of gaming employees and casino locations continues to grow in the State of Rhode Island, the demands on the existing system will become too intense for the current system in place. Since table gaming will only continue to become more popular there will be a need to hire more staff to conduct these investigations.

Based upon the information gathered during the preliminary investigation interviews Chinon Development recommends an entirely new system be implemented. The new application will be a user based, database backed web application. This new system will have emphasis in the following areas:

* Real time integrated data entry that can be ad-hoc queried and sent out to external agencies securely.
* Project management and manpower tracking that will allow for improvements in the accountability of each officer’s tasks.
* Multiple levels of security that will protect the vital information stored in the database.

**EXPECTED BENEFITS:**

The Preliminary Investigation performed by Chinon Development has identified areas within the Gaming Enforcement Unit’s BCI data collection system that should be rebuilt from the ground up into a single integrated application that will greatly increase the productivity of the department in future investigations. Upon completion of the current System Analysis, Chinon will identify the major shortcomings and strengths of the current system in order to make the new application user friendly and fully functional to meet the needs requirements of the department.