

The Value of Information Sharing to Local Government Executives



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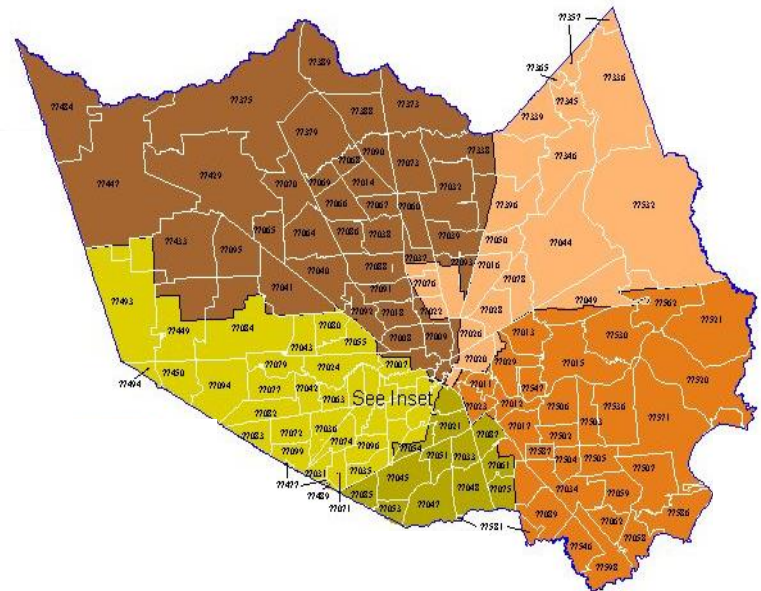
Who is the National Association of Counties?



- Only national organization representing county governments in the U.S.
- Advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government
- Improves the public's understanding of county government
- Assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research
- Membership totals 2,352 (of 3,066) counties, representing over 80% of the nation's population

Who is Harris County?

- Harris County
 - Founded – December 22, 1836
 - 3rd Largest County in the United States
 - Population – 3,693,050
 - County Seat – Houston 4th Largest city in the United States
 - Land Mass – 1788 Sq. Miles
 - Larger than 24 states and the District of Columbia
 - 2 Major Airports
 - 2nd Largest International Container Port
 - Major Refineries
 - One of the largest medical centers in the world.



The Need for Information Sharing is Pervasive



Federal



State



Local

There is a need to share information across jurisdictional boundaries

How Does Information Sharing Add Value To Local Government?



- Creates a **consistent, integrated, and standard platform** upon which to build information sharing initiatives.
- Provides a **framework** to share information through:
 - Cost Reductions
 - Efficiencies
 - Standard Methodologies
 - Open Architectures
- **Enables successful enactment of national plans.**

Why Is Data Sharing Important



- Complete enterprise-wide information sharing is *not* universally possible.
- A national mechanism to identify and facilitate broad information exchange with other agencies and jurisdictions needs to be adopted.
- Agencies are often **unable to effectively share information in a timely, secure, manner** and too often there are **fundamental differences in the nature and understanding of information between agencies.**

Information Sharing By Regional Radio System



- **Regional SmartZone Radio System**
 - One of the largest 800/700 mhz multijurisdictional radio systems in the nation.
 - Serves over 500 federal/state/local departments and agencies with over 34,000 radios.
- **Radio System Information Sharing**
 - Interoperable radio talkgroups
 - Mutual Aid talkgroups
 - Unit to unit messaging on MDT system
 - Provides access to various local, state, and federal databases
 - License plate inquiry history (last 30 days)
 - ✦ Upon running a License Plate inquiry, the Mobile Data Message Switch provides information on any MDT that has run that same license plate in the last 30 days.

National Incident Management System (NIMS)



- NIMS provides a consistent, flexible, and adjustable national framework within which government and private entities at all levels can work together to manage domestic incidents
- Standardized training
 - Instructor lead
 - Web-based
- NIMS during a disaster
 - Single comprehensive national approach
 - ✦ Addresses Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
- Effective for large emergencies such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita

The Texas Path to NIEM



- To coordinate the development and operation of justice systems so that those systems are able to share information consistently and accurately, in a manner that maximizes the services provided to justice information users in Texas.
- To create a consolidated justice data model for the state of Texas.
 - Provide for sharing of information among disparate systems.
- The Texas Justice Information Exchange Model
 - Supports collaborative inter-agency information sharing State-wide by being fully conforming to NIEM.
 - Serves as the foundation for use by all levels of government.
- Establish the final governance model
- Comply with the national NIEM model

Information Sharing Initiatives in Texas



- Computerized Criminal History (CCH) system
 - Contains information reported to DPS by local agencies.
 - ✦ Used for both criminal and non-criminal justice screening
- Southeast Texas Crime Information Center (SETCIC) – Serves as a central repository for warrant and pawnshop information and allows agencies to share data.
 - SETCIC online since 1984
 - Through SETCIC, agencies can clear open warrants and generate revenue by collecting outstanding fines
- Electronic Arrest Reporting
 - Electronic reporting of fingerprints and arrest reports to DPS using “live-scan” fingerprint capture and reporting systems.
 - ✦ 34 law enforcement agencies around Texas submit fingerprint records to DPS electronically. DPS, in turn, submits them to the FBI. Allows local Texas agencies to get a positive ID **in two hours vs. six weeks.**

Information Sharing Initiatives in Texas



- **Electronic Disposition Reporting**
 - 59 Texas counties are submitting dispositions to the DPS electronically. DPS submits those dispositions electronically to the FBI.
 - **Has a direct impact on the completeness of the Texas data in the FBI criminal files.**
- **Texas Crime Information Center**
 - Theft reports, warrants, missing person reports and sex offender information is accessible via TLETS. TCIC is linked to the NCIC which contains the same type of information from all law enforcement agencies in the country.
- **Video Arraignment**
 - Allows remote locations to perform video arraignment and eliminate the need for transporting prisoners to the downtown courthouse.
- **Inmate Visitation –**
 - Create “inmate visitation centers” where people can go and visit inmates via video. This eliminates the need for public access to the jail facilities enhancing security.

Challenges



- Global clearly understands the value proposition of information sharing.
- The challenge for local government as first responders is to have input in the information sharing initiatives to best support Global initiatives.

THE REAL CHALLENGE IS HOW DO “WE”
DEVELOP INFORMATION SHARING INITIATIVES
TOGETHER?