



JIS

Annual Report FY21

Justice Integration Services

NATHALIE STIERS, DIRECTOR

As JIS presents the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2021, we reflect on all that was accomplished during an unprecedented year of change. As the world sought, not just to adapt, but to thrive under these circumstances, technology has most often been the answer. In our environment, this was no different. The staff of JIS worked tirelessly over the past year to ensure that the departments we serve were prepared, from a technological perspective, to operate successfully.

In addition, many of the projects that were already in progress were able to significantly assist with allowing members of the public to interact with departments remotely, coinciding perfectly with the timing which changed this from convenient to critical. An example of this is the implementation of e-filing for the Circuit Court Clerk and Criminal Court Clerk, with the Juvenile Court Clerk's project on track to go live later this year. Several projects over the past couple of years, such as these, have continued to bring the courts closer to being able to operate in paperless fashion. Projects scheduled for the next fiscal year remain focused on this goal.

Another project which promises to open the door to significant opportunities is the implementation of a data analytics solution. JIS has been working with a tool and datasets to test capabilities and viability for our environment. It is an understatement to say that we are excited by the possibilities. This will provide abilities to leverage the vast amount of court data which this city has accumulated in ways which significantly surpass older technologies and reporting processes in terms of ability, speed, and flexibility. We look forward to the many ways in which this tool can be used to view data and make decisions, and effectively afford leaders the ability to proactively work with their data.

These are a couple of highlights which just begin to describe the wonderful work that only remains possible through the strong collaboration between the departments in the JIS community. I continue to be marveled by the efforts, dedication, and strong commitment of our 17 partners which always put the greater good above all else. That is what makes this model so successful, the work rewarding, and the shared pride in accomplishment well deserved.

I wish to thank my staff for another year of strong commitment to creativity, productivity, quality, reliability and growth. I would like to thank all of the JIS departments for their continued support and collaboration efforts, which brings vision to reality year after year and keeps Nashville at the top of the list in the provision of a fully integrated justice system. I would like to extend special gratitude to Judge Mondelli and Judge Brothers, who chair the JIS Policy Committee. Your support and guidance is vital and is immensely appreciated.

MICHAEL F. MONDELLI, JUDGE

What a difference a year makes. In 2020 JIS was struck by Covid just like all other Metro Departments; but being the technology “go to” department for the Davidson County Criminal Courts found itself in a unique pressurized environment.

Notwithstanding the universal potential disruptive impact of Covid on the physical health of JIS staff it found itself vigorously challenged by the sudden overnight technology gap created when “work from home” and “virtual” and “in quarantine” appearances became the preferred way of doing “the people’s” business.

With all Criminal Court dockets restricted to no trials and reduced numbers and only incarcerated individuals permitted to make personal appearances and only in matters of dire constitutional consequences conducting Court business was forced into the “virtual appearance” mode.

Although the technology to go virtual was available it was not widely accessible; no one foresaw the immediate impact that would require huge hardware upgrades, purchases, installations, maintenance and other user issues...which tremendously increased the JIS workload.

Now a year later virtual court appearances (although not the norm) are more common place and the magnificent response of our JIS staff to this Covid phenomenon demands our recognition and THANKS...to our Director Nathalie Stiers and her entire Staff.

Furthermore with passage of the Mayor’s 2021-22 budget JIS gets budgetary and staff increases it has not seen in years. So here’s hoping the future will be brighter and healthier for all.

STEERING COMMITTEE

The work that JIS performs is prioritized and approved by the JIS Steering Committee.

Members:

John Singleton

Michaela Mathews

Donna Josslyn

Benny Rigby

Kim Risby

Robert Daniel

Donna Blackbourne Jones

Andy Sullivan

Kyle Sewell

Glen Arnold

Nathalie Stiers

POLICY COMMITTEE

The Policy Committee is the primary decision and policy-making entity of JIS. This committee approves the design, development, and operation of all JIS procedures and projects.

HONORABLE MIKE MONDELLI, Chair General Sessions Court Division VI **

HONORABLE THOMAS BROTHERS, Vice-Chair Sixth Circuit Court **

Mr. Daron Hall

Honorable Cheryl Blackburn

Ms. Maria Salas

Honorable Hamilton Gayden

Mr. John Drake

Honorable Sheila Calloway

Honorable Angelita Dalton **

Mr. Lonnell Matthews **

General Glenn R. Funk **

Mr. Richard Rooker **

Mr. Howard Gentry**

Ms. Martesha Johnson **

The Operations Subcommittee provides day-to-day assistance and guidance to the Director of JIS regarding financial management and operations. Additionally, its members review and recommend policies and procedures to the JIS Policy Committee. The JIS Director also serves on the Operations Subcommittee. Policy Committee members who also serve on the Operations Subcommittee are denoted with **.

JIS STAFF

Director

Nathalie Stiers

Program Manager

Lisa Kiningham

Office Manager

Brandi Kyle

Customer Support Center

Jerry Barnes
Jeff Greer
Dan Peery
Richard Poteete

Application Development

Wesley Becker
Michael Dortch
Will Gordon
Gary Hill
Emmanuel Ndamukong
Joe Phillips
Gary Privette

Pryia Sahai
Edward Sears
Matt Smith
Butch Thomas
Janet Tyree
Chris Wolff

The mission of the Justice Integration Services department is to provide customized, integrated case management software and technology support products to Metro Nashville Justice Agencies so they can manage and use shared information to improve the administration of justice for the Nashville community.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ADULT PROBATION (ADPB)

Probation End Date Enhancement

At the request of General Sessions Probation, the display of the probation end date was modified in the Adult Probation application. Instead of displaying a single probation date on the Case Summary window, the date is now displayed on the Warrant tab. If multiple warrants are associated to a case, the system calculates and displays the probation end date for each warrant. Prior to this change, the probation officer had to manually determine the probation end date for each warrant on the case.

Amended Probation Violation Warrant for DUI Bond

Probation officers had a need to be able to amend probation violation warrants that had already been created. JIS made a change to the Adult Probation application which gives probation officers the ability to create and print an Amended Conditions of Bond Violation Affidavit/Warrant for DUI Bond offenders. Now, instead of having to repeatedly create a new probation violation warrant every time a defendant violates their probation requirements, an amended one can be generated and processed.

Recovery Court Current Phase Report

This enhancement, requested by the General Sessions Probation Recovery Court staff, added the following features to the ADPB Recovery Court Current Phase Report.

- Ability to remove Case Filing Date
- Report additions and modifications

Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS)

Attorney Attribute-Value Table

Several modifications were made to the CJIS AVTs to ensure that they were being replicated in the District Attorney Grand Jury application. This enhancement provides better integration between the two systems.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Electronic Filing and Document Management

While the development of the e-filing and document management system was completed in 2019, the system was not put into production. The Criminal Court Clerk's office received approval to implement the system and JIS, along with a third-party vendor, deployed it to production the first quarter of 2021.

This has allowed attorneys to file court related documents from wherever they have internet access and allows the ability to file documents outside of normal business hours.

The system provides a better way to track and store documents, ensure documents are entered into CJIS in a timely manner, and provides a better overall service to the Criminal Justice System.

Along with this deployment, JIS implemented a document management system (DMS). The new DMS stores all documents in a file system, removing them from the media database. The advantages of this are better performance and the simplicity of saving the files. It also lessens the burden of backing up the files and reduces database traffic.

District Attorney Victim Witness (DAVW)

Enhancements Phase 3

At the request of the District Attorney's Office of Victim Witness, enhancements were made to the DAVW application. These enhancements focused primarily on enhancing statistics for reporting purposes. They consisted of changes that allow for multiple dispositions on a file to be accounted for on reports, identifies a file as a cross warrant or conflict and have those excluded from reports as needed, forces a user to choose an answer for EIM, and included functionality to add a victim/witness that is not in CJIS to a file.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Juvenile Case Management System (JCM)

Diverted Case Functionality

JIS worked with the Juvenile Court to add new functionality for diverted cases to the Juvenile Case Management System (JCM). This new functionality allows cases from the Diverted Queue to be created as other case types, instead of the diverted case type only. This enhancement puts control into the hands of the customer to make the case type selection rather than relying on a hardcoded value.

Juvenile Information Management System (JIMS)

Import Data from ARMS into the JIMS Citation Queue

This enhancement provided increased data integration between the Police Department and the Juvenile Court systems. JIS worked with the Metro Police IT department to obtain data from their Arrest Management System (ARMS) to import the juvenile citation data directly into JIMS. Prior to this project, the clerk's staff would have to access and query the Police Department's ARMS application and manually enter arrest information into the JIMS application. This new feature provides a much more efficient method for gathering the data.

New Notification for FCRB Docket Type

The creation of an email notification system now allows for notifications to be sent to all attorneys on the Foster Care Review Board dockets ten days prior to their scheduled court date. This notification is designed to remind attorneys in advance of their scheduled court appearance.

Electronic Filing and Document Management

Over the past year, Justice Integration Services continued to work with the Juvenile Court Clerk's office, and the product vendor, on the development of their e-filing and document management application. The system has been fully developed and seamlessly integrated into the current JIMS case management system. Final development and testing tasks are underway to complete the project. As a part of the project, the JIS analyst assisted the Juvenile team with documenting existing business processes and provided assistance with defining future business processes needed once E-filing is in production. JIS continues to tweak the server setup and configuration in preparation for a projected go-live in the fall of 2021.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mental Health Court & Veterans Treatment Court

Online Application for Referrals

A new website was designed and developed for the Mental Health Court and Veterans Treatment Court. The new site provides ease of access for a client's Attorney of Record to submit an Online Application Referral for treatment. As soon as the application is submitted online, it is directed to the appropriate court staff for processing. This enhancement streamlines the court's application process and expedites the treatment options for clients in need. Prior to this site, paper referral forms were manually completed and delivered to the court for processing.

Online Traffic School (OTS)

Class Scheduling Flexibility

As a result of the pandemic, a large number of traffic school class reschedules and class location changes became necessary. Therefore, application changes were made to the Online Traffic System to allow the application administrators to perform these functions for existing enrollments. By putting this ability in the hands of the Traffic School customer, it gave them much more flexibility and control, and expedited the process tremendously.

Enhanced Auditing Capabilities

New functionality was added to the Online Traffic School application to further heighten auditing capabilities. The modification enabled management and auditors more enhanced ability to track overrides that occur within the system, giving even greater detailed accounts transactions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Traffic Violations Bureau Information System (TVIS)

TVIS Integration with Online Traffic School

This enhancement allows the Traffic Violations Bureau's TVIS application to receive real-time event data from the Online Traffic School (OTS) application. The OTS event actions that will be received in the TVIS application are listed below:

- OTS Class enrollments
- OTS Class completions
- OTS Class reschedules
- OTS Non-compliance

Prior to this enhancement, the Traffic Violations Bureau team would continually receive reports from the traffic school administrative staff. The Traffic Violations Bureau team would then manually enter the traffic school events into the TVIS application. Now, these events are automatically created giving the TVB staff the ability to see real-time traffic school data within the TVIS application.

Circuit Court Clerk Intranet

Over the past year, Justice Integration Services worked alongside the Circuit Court Clerk's office to evaluate a legacy application currently in use. It was decided that a portion of the functionality should become part of the TVIS application. JIS started development on that project with anticipation of completing it later in the year. The remaining pieces of the application will be moved to a vendor-supported case management system.

Circuit Court Clerk Support

Justice Integration Services evaluated the IT infrastructure in place at the Circuit Court Clerk's office. This included everything from existing hardware to applications and tools in use. In collaboration with Circuit's team, JIS has helped to streamline processes and reduce the hardware footprint.

In addition, JIS has helped to troubleshoot and resolve issues with various applications that are used on a daily basis. This will be an ongoing effort as JIS will continue to support the technology needs of the Circuit Court Clerk's office going forward.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Data Analytics

When decision makers are provided with a way to view data in a visual and interactive way, it can help them better understand their organizational needs. Looking at the same data in multiple ways can help to identify issues and generate questions which could lead to all types of benefits. Some of the benefits could include quicker and improved decision making, enhanced productivity, improved transparency and cost reduction, data quality, and error reduction.

This was approached as a data analytics discovery and pilot project in order to leverage the wealth of data present in the databases used by the applications developed and supported by JIS. All tools reviewed had excellent capabilities. They were able to provide users and managers with the views and flexibility necessary to achieve the benefits mentioned. They also contained the necessary security, required to prevent unauthorized viewing of data between users in different organizations as well as within departments in the same organization.

JIS has tested tool capabilities and built scenarios against some of the case management applications with great success. JIS is excited about the possibilities this will create for the departments and their leadership. Pursuing the use of data analytics will remain an important part of JIS' focus going forward.

Reporting Server

Justice Integration Services continued to reduce the growing burden on production databases by diverting queries and reporting to a server which serves that purpose exclusively. The reporting server is an exact copy of the production databases and kept in real time so reports and queries accurately reflect current data. It allows for faster processing of reports, and by reducing the load on the production environment, it alleviates the risk of slowing down or interrupting processes.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Circuit DMZ Move

Last year JIS began planning the move of the Circuit Court Clerk DMZ to the ITS DMZ/VMWare DMZ Infrastructure. This project meant moving physical servers, virtual servers, and the network from one location to another. After many planning meetings with Metro ITS's network team, security team, server team and virtual infrastructure team, a plan and a date were confirmed. Then the ice storm hit and delayed the project.

A new date was established and JIS and Circuit IT Support were finally able to shut down everything involved, and over a weekend JIS moved the physical and virtual servers while Metro ITS moved the network. Everything came back up with very few issues. Over the next few days, minor issues were addressed, concluding in an overall smooth transition.

VxRail

For many years, JIS has used VMWare for the virtual infrastructure. The first VMWare host server was stood up in 2003. It was a stand-alone server which was quickly joined by a second. Soon after that, JIS purchased the first SAN then brought a VMWare cluster online to provide failover redundancy. Over time, this evolved through two separate upgrades, adding a secondary, fail-over cluster to the mix.

JIS just upgraded to the newest version of this architecture which is called VxRail with vSan. This creates a virtual array of disks between hosts reducing the number of failure points while providing higher redundancy and performance. CommVault was also leveraged to create a disaster recovery, secondary VMWare infrastructure by letting CommVault take the backups of the primary system and recreate them on a secondary system with far less complexity than before.

The steps for completing this required months of planning, followed by many weeks of testing, and implementation performed at night and on weekends. The old system was integrated into the new VxRail system in order to be able to pull the VM's into the new infrastructure, then shutdown each VM, migrate it, then apply changes to the new VM to make sure it worked in the new environment.

Once the old JIS infrastructure was completely moved, attention was turned to migrating the old Circuit Court Clerk VMWare vSphere infrastructure using the same method. In the end, three separate VMWare vSphere systems were replaced by one powerful VxRail/vSan system, with all SSD's, over two terabytes of RAM, 200 processing cores and a 40GB network backplane.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Load Balancers for E-filing

This year load-balancers were implemented for the e-filing system. These load balancers are virtual appliances which run on the VxRail/VSAN. There is a redundant pair for the internal network and there will be a redundant pair for the DMZ later this year. The load-balancer pair appears to the logical network as a single system. It connects to a pair of application front-end servers and balances out the user traffic between them, based on predefined weights. If one application server loses connectivity, the load-balancer will automatically shift traffic from the downed server to the server that is still alive. It can be configured to work with far more than just two servers and more applications can be added to it in the future.

The O365 Project - Decommissioning On Premises Exchange

The largest portion of the move from on premises Exchange to the new Office 365 environment has been completed. This entailed moving all data from an on-premise environment to the cloud. Once this initial phase was done, however, there was still much work to do behind the scenes. The months following the data migration were spent updating and tweaking policies and security settings to find the best balance between security and usability. As with these types of projects, some issues take a bit longer to resolve, and final touches are usually necessary. Work in the area of mail routing and the migration of distribution groups are being finalized. Once done, this will mark the completion of the full migration of email to the cloud.

Office Pro Plus (365)

Most departments have had their Office 2013 and older versions upgraded to Office Pro Plus 365 this year. Office 2013 will work with limited capabilities with M365, however, Office Pro Plus can fully leverage M365. As new features are added to, or changed in M365, Office Pro Plus will adapt to those features making them available on the client side. Almost everything that is available in Office Pro Plus can also be accessed in the M365 web portal using this link: <https://portal.office.com>. Since Exchange is no longer on-premise, everything is synced to M365. All data follows a user wherever they go and can be accessed on any device, whether it is Windows, Apple, Linux or any other. JIS and ITS recommend the use of Teams or WebEx for virtual meetings. JIS hosts Teams in the M365 Tenant and ITS hosts WebEx. Both will work with inside users and external users.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

JIS has created a Team called "JIS Training Documentation" which contains many training videos for Office Pro Plus, and M365. All users should be able to access this Team and see the videos, along with any other training material for products like Jabber, WebEx and many more.

Security with M365

JIS now has the ability to run email phishing and attachment tests for the JIS users. JIS will be utilizing this ability to help test the user base to gauge response to phishing emails and opening of attachments without first verifying the sender. These results will be used to further raise end-user awareness of the dangers of these types of emails, with the ultimate goal of continuing to strengthen security and reduce risk.

JIS also now has the ability to run Brute Force password tests to ensure that user passwords meet proper standards, so they are not easily accessed. A single, low access, user can grant a malicious actor a window into the JIS domain, and even the entire Metro network where they can then acquire higher levels of access to access and steal data or worse. This is a concern shared by government entities across the nation. There is never a guarantee that it can be stopped, however, JIS and all of Metro maintain security as a top priority as efforts continue to keep the Metro network and its data safe.

A Year from Home

The pandemic resulted in a rapid and large movement of the court's workforce to remote locations. It also required critical business to be conducted on-premise in a safely distanced manner. JIS worked with customers to establish and implement the most effective options for communication to meet these unprecedented needs. Microsoft Teams is one of the options, that is available as part of the O365 upgrade, which was vital in keeping remote communication effective. Teams allows the creation of different teams which can create documents, share files, hold meetings virtually and schedule items to the group calendar. The screen-share option helps immensely with demonstrating something to a group or working with remote users to look at any issue they may be experiencing. Teams continues to upgrade their functionality, thereby continuing to provide a viable solution for remote communication, meetings, and collaboration.

Virtual Private Network (VPN) is widely used as a method to communicate remotely to network devices. Naturally, the use of this tool expanded immensely over the past year. While in such heavy use, a new version was released. At first, this caused quite a few problems which were amplified by the fact that the previous version was retired. The newer version is in place and does seem to have a much more stable connection.

PROJECTIONS

As JIS states its projections for Fiscal Year 2022, it is important to note that the work that JIS performs in the way of application development is at the request of the JIS agencies. Furthermore, this work is reviewed, prioritized, and approved by the JIS Steering Committee which is comprised of agency representatives across the JIS community. At the time this annual report is written, the projections are made up of upcoming work that has already been approved, as well as requests that have not yet been approved. However, all are goals set forth by individual agencies to be accomplished in Fiscal Year 2022. In addition, this report does not account for project goals that will be met in Fiscal Year 2022 that have not yet been requested.

Adult Probation (ADPB)

Drug Recovery Program/Intensive Out-patient Program

The staff that oversees the Drug Recovery and Intensive Out-patient Program has requested that all orientation forms be available online. This will allow ease of access to the forms for submission to the respective coordinators. Currently, clients must come into the office to provide the information necessary to complete the forms. Placing the forms online will reduce the number of visits required and streamline the process.

Notifications

The ADPB Notifications project will provide the functionality to send email notifications to specific individuals based on pre-defined system activities. These email notifications will allow the recipient to take appropriate action in a timely and more efficient manner. The probation team will have the ability to configure the recipients and the content of all notifications as needed. For example, when a specific event type is created for a probationer, an email can be sent to the probation officer immediately, allowing them to take any necessary actions. In addition, the Notification module will allow emails and texts to be sent to defendants, notifying them of upcoming court dates or actions they are required to complete during their probationary period. These notifications to clients can be automated to assist in reducing the workload of the probation officer.

PROJECTIONS

Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS)

Cost Automation for Criminal Cases

JIS will work with the Criminal Court Clerk's office to automate court costs for criminal cases. Currently, the clerk has to manually figure cost for every criminal case which is a time intensive task. Automating the court costs upon disposition of the case will reduce the possibility of data entry errors and aid in streamlining the process.

Collections Interface

The Criminal Court Clerk's office has partnered with Municipal Services Bureau (MSB) for court costs collections. JIS will work with MSB to develop an interface that will allow for live, day-to-day, peer-to-peer communication for the transfer of collections cases and payments of court costs. Data will be automatically transferred to MSB when a case has been turned over to collections for non-payment. When a payment is made to MSB, the payment information will be transferred back and automatically imported into CJIS eliminating the need to manual entry by the clerk.

Add Barcode to Credit Card Receipts

At the request of the Criminal Court Clerk's office, JIS will add functionality which will allow the user to scan the barcode from the credit card receipt. Once the barcode has been scanned, the payment information will be updated in CJIS for that specific case, alleviating the need for manual entry.

General Sessions AOC Data Repository

JIS will work in partnership with the Criminal Court Clerk's office and the Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) to develop a system which will transmit data on all General Sessions Court cases to the AOC. This integration will further enhance the accurate and timely reporting of case information to the AOC.

PROJECTIONS

District Attorney Victim Witness (DAVW)

Enhancements

The District Attorney's Victim Witness application will receive additional enhancements in the coming year. These will include functionality and reporting changes as well as data storage improvements.

Juvenile Case Management System (JCM)

JIS will work on a new release for Juvenile Court to provide functionality that will enhance the user experience through the creation and modification of case notes types in the application. The enhancement will provide a more streamlined process allowing the user to use a copy or associate function instead of manually creating each case note type.

Juvenile Information Management System (JIMS)

Electronic Filing and Document Management

JIS will continue to work with the Juvenile Court Clerk's office and Tybera to implement a web-based interface for electronic filing and document management system. When this system is implemented, filers will be able to electronically upload documents to be submitted to the court. The filer interface will also interact with a payment gateway to collect filing fees. The filer will receive status updates showing the condition of the filing, which includes when it was received by the court and when it was accepted or rejected by the clerk.

Complete integration between the e-filing system and JIMS application has been developed by JIS as a part of this project which will allow the documents that are electronically filed and accepted by the clerk to be immediately accessible in the JIMS application.

Enhancement Release

The Juvenile Court Clerk has requested several enhancements to the JIMS applications. JIS will develop new functionality to streamline data entry, enhance event entries and make improvements for the assignment of Foster Care Review board members.

PROJECTIONS

Traffic Violations Bureau Information System (TVIS)

Online Payments

The Traffic Violations Bureau has requested that JIS develop an application for real-time online payment processing. Currently, the Bureau staff manually enters all online credit card transactions into the TVIS application utilizing a nightly settlement report.

When the new application is in production, an online payment that has been approved by the credit card processing vendor will immediately update the TVIS application to reflect the transaction. In addition to the payment portal, a defendant will be able to request a court date and submit documentation for nullification for applicable offenses online.

Scanning

This project will move all scanning functionality from a legacy application to the TVIS application. All document scanning will be done in TVIS which will consolidate the data and documentation into one application providing more efficient storage and quicker access, and better manageability. Some highlights and features of the scanning module include:

- Multiple page scanning
- Image state management
- Import
- Export
- Media size limiter
- Robust printing capabilities
- Zooming and lossless media compression

The imaging component will allow an image to be scanned and attached to a person, an event, the case, or any of the dockets. Examples of images include a citation, an order, a motion – just about anything that would assist in providing more information on a case. The image will then be available for viewing by anyone with appropriate access to TVIS.

PROJECTIONS

Traffic Violations Bureau Information System (TVIS)

Add End Date to TCA Offense Description

Due to a recent legislative change which renumbered a section of TCA codes, the TVB team has requested an enhancement to properly reflect the legislative changes within the TVIS application. By adding an end date to the TCA Description table, an invalid or out of date TCA code will be prevented from being selected upon case creation.

Automatic Adjudication Phase Two

JIS will provide additional functionality that will allow for automatic adjudication for various scenarios in the TVIS application. Once the project is completed, the TVIS application will recognize applicable preconditions and automatically create a disposition and sentence in the system.

Data Analytics

Over the next year, JIS will work to implement an analytics platform. The multiple agencies that are supported by JIS have 20 plus years of valuable data that can be used in various ways to help them make crucial business decisions. JIS will work with a tool to help transform the data so it can be used to help solve problems and look at trends which can lead to new and better services.

PowerBuilder Upgrade

The plan to upgrade PowerBuilder was consciously delayed due the unexpected events of 2020. Therefore, in the coming year JIS will upgrade the CJIS Suite development environment to PowerBuilder 2019. Appeon continues to improve PowerBuilder and has added many new features which can be leveraged by developers to enhance the user experience. Appeon, which owns PowerBuilder, continues to utilize and incorporate modern .NET capabilities.

Appeon is seeking to make the application interface more modern in appearance, keeping with a newer Windows 10 look and feel. PowerBuilder now provides the capability to easily modernize the application user interface by creating customized themes, or simply selecting prebuilt ones. The new Ribbon Bar control provides application users with a modern and widely accepted navigation mechanism. The Ribbon Bar is the menu and tab navigation used in Windows 10 and Microsoft Office 2013 and above.

PROJECTIONS

Traffic Violations Bureau Information System (TVIS)

PowerBuilder 2019 provides an efficient and powerful method of incorporating third-party and custom .NET assemblies into the application. While this was previously possible, it was complicated, cumbersome, and difficult to deploy. The .NET assemblies which are currently being used are the Crystal Reports component and the new Cedar imaging component. With the new .NET DLL Importer, modern, pre-built, third party functionality can be much more easily embedded within the PowerBuilder applications. Many third-party add-ins are only offered with the newer .NET application interface. JIS can also build custom .NET assemblies, where necessary using C# code created in Visual Studio, which is being used in the current web applications.

Websites

Circuit Court Clerk

JIS will be working with the team at the Circuit Court Clerk's office to develop a new website. The site will be developed using the same platform that all JIS supported sites are using for continuity and ease of support. During the process, all menus, tabs, links and content will be reviewed and evaluated. The new website will be launched in conjunction with the Traffic Violations Bureau Online Payments.

Drug Court

The staff at the Davidson County Drug Court has contacted Justice Integration Services about giving their current website a new look and feel. JIS will meet with their team to come up with a new design to accommodate their needs.

Revolving Fund Returns

The revolving fund had been suspended for some time due to several issues. This has led to over 500 units within the JIS community that now needs to be revolved. But now the long wait is over, and the revolving fund has been fully reactivated. The JIS helpdesk will be working hard in the coming months to identify, order, setup and replace all units that fall into this category.

DISCLAIMER



The Justice Integration Services agency does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, sex, color, national origin, religion, or disability in admission to, access to, or operations of its programs, services, or activities. The Justice Integration Services agency does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices. The following person has been designated to handle questions, concerns, complaints, requests for accommodation, or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act: Brandi Kyle, 404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 2020, Nashville, TN, 37219, (615) 862-6195. Inquiries concerning non-discrimination policies other than ADA compliance should be forwarded to: Department of Human Resources, 404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 1000, 37219, (615) 862-6640.