



October 17, 2017

The FBI's Criminal Justice Information Sharing (CJIS) Division wants to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in the FBI's National Data Exchange (N-DEX) Program. The N-DEX a national investigative information-sharing system which provides authorized local, state, tribal, and federal criminal justice users a mechanism to search, analyze, and share over 600 million criminal justice records from more than 6,000 agencies. Providing effective institutional and community correction services requires credible, reliable, and timely information sharing, and the N-DEX System can assist front-line practitioners with enhanced inmate management capabilities, the improved capacity to find and apprehend absconders and escapees, and the ability to continuously monitor the status of supervised populations.

Free to use, and easily accessible through most web-enabled devices, the N-DEX System has recently proven to be of tremendous value to community supervision efforts around the country. In March, staff from the New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD), using the system to identify the whereabouts of nearly 3,000 absconders, found a wanted subject through a report he filed as the victim of an assault and battery in Florence County, South Carolina. The NMCD advised the Florence County Sheriff's Department of this person's fugitive status, and officers assigned to the fugitive task force apprehended the absconder without incident. Similar success has recently been reported in Georgia, Tennessee, and Arizona, among other states.

Information-sharing resources such as the N-DEX System are only as effective as the agencies which participate; currently, nine Departments of Corrections contribute records, with several other states sharing local or county correctional data. As both a strong advocate of criminal justice information-sharing, and a long-time supporter of the N-DEX System, APPA recognizes the broader need for these services and encourages institutional and community corrections agencies across the country to reach out to the N-DEX Program Office for partnership opportunities. They can be reached at 304-625-0555 or [ndex@leo.gov](mailto:ndex@leo.gov).

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