

# A vendor's view into standards and its implementation



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# Key Standards

- GJXDM
- NIEM
- LEXS
- N-DEx

# Standards and their Evolution

- GJXDM

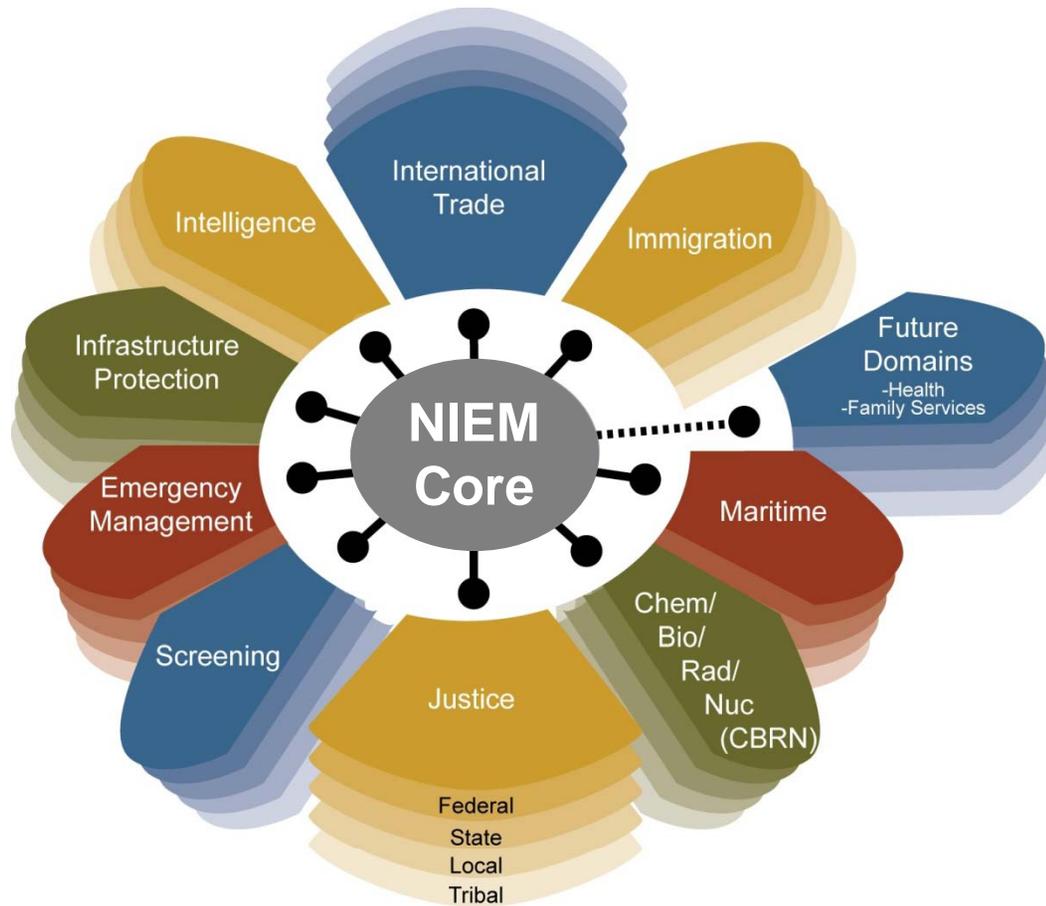
- DOJ, OJP attempt to define reference data model, data dictionary, schema for public safety agencies
- Initial draft April 2003
- Second draft September 2005
- Not an active standard currently

# Standards and their evolution

- NIEM

- 9/11 impact, founded February 2005
- Define standard to effectively and efficiently share critical information at key decision points throughout the whole of the justice, public safety, emergency and disaster management, intelligence, and homeland security enterprise
- NIEM 1.0 – 2006
- NIEM and GJXDM converged with NIEM 2.0
- Current NIEM version is 2.1

# NIEM Technical Architecture



**NIEM Core** consists of data elements that are commonly understood across domains

**NIEM Domains** include mission specific data that is managed through independent stewards

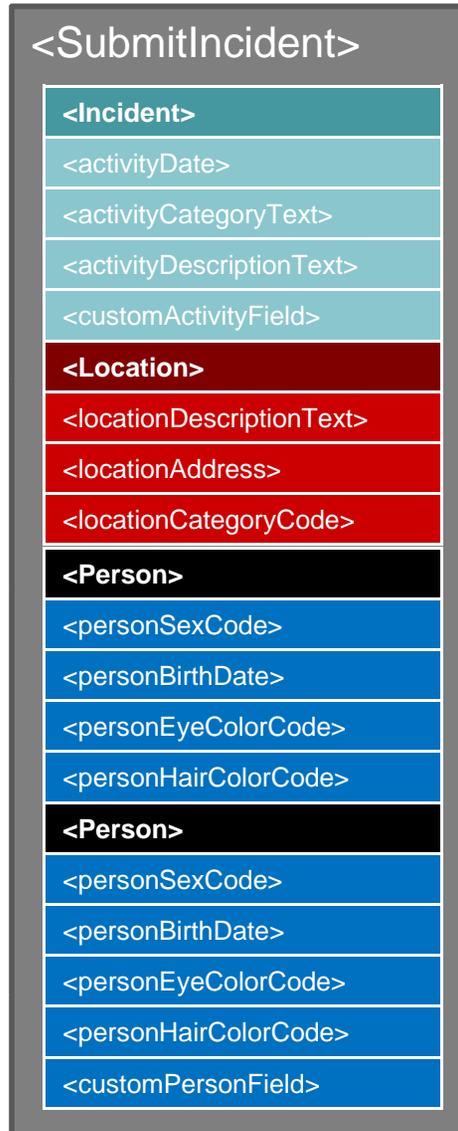
**Future Domains** are added to NIEM as necessary based on an established need

# Standards and their evolution

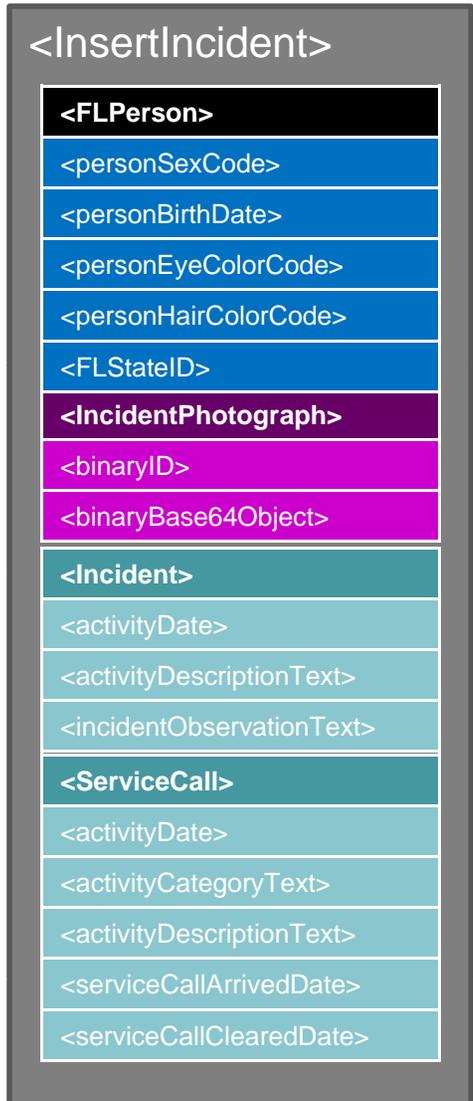
- **NIEM Key Points**

- NIEM defines data elements, schema not the structure
- NIEM does not provide a API for data exchange
- NIEM is very flexible in extending data schema making data sharing difficult

IEPD #1



IEPD #2



- **Freedom to create your own IEPDs has its benefits and drawbacks**
  - If everyone can customize, is it really a standard?
- **How does reuse work?**
  - IEPD Clearinghouse
  - Some IEPD scoped for local use, others for more broad use
- **Compare two(2) IEPDs for Incident Submission**
  - Both IEPDs NIEM-compliant
  - Root elements different
  - Element ordering different
  - CAD event not supported in #1
  - Person element differences
  - Photo required for #2

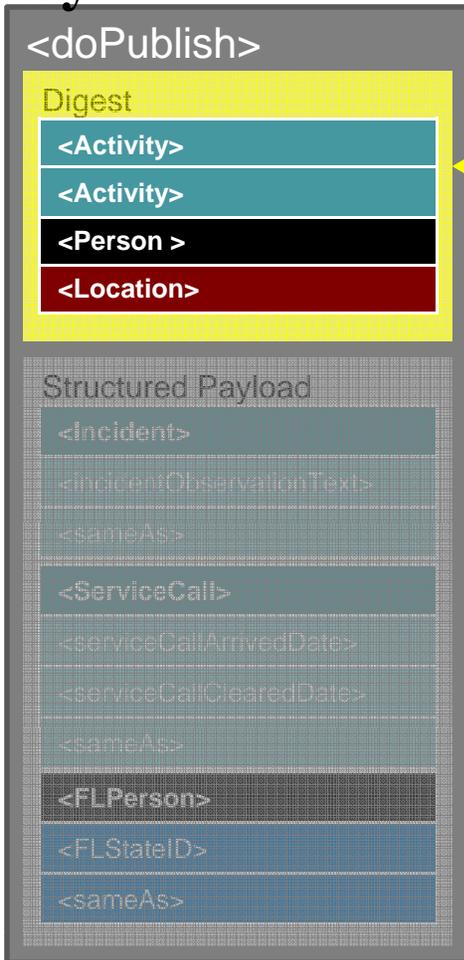
## Standards and their evolution

- LEXS (Logical Entity eXchange Specification)
  - DOJ, OJP funded GTRI to evolve GJXDM and converge NIEM and GJXDM
  - Provide implementation specific context for law enforcement
  - Provide API and tools to define, build and validate exchanges
  - LEXS current version is 3.1
  - “Special” IEPD created by US DOJ

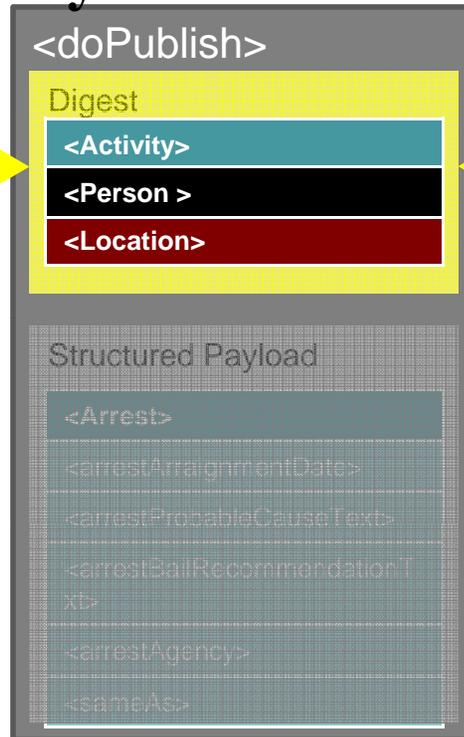
# Standards and their evolution

- LEXS (Logical Entity eXchange Specification)
  - Describes a general framework for laying out NIEM elements for maximum reusability
    - Concept of lowest common denominator
    - Identifies **common** fields and how they should be laid out
    - **Custom** elements/fields are supported and placed in a single, consistent location
  - Provides specific, standard constructs for message handling
    - Submit
    - Query
    - Subscribe/Notify(upcoming)

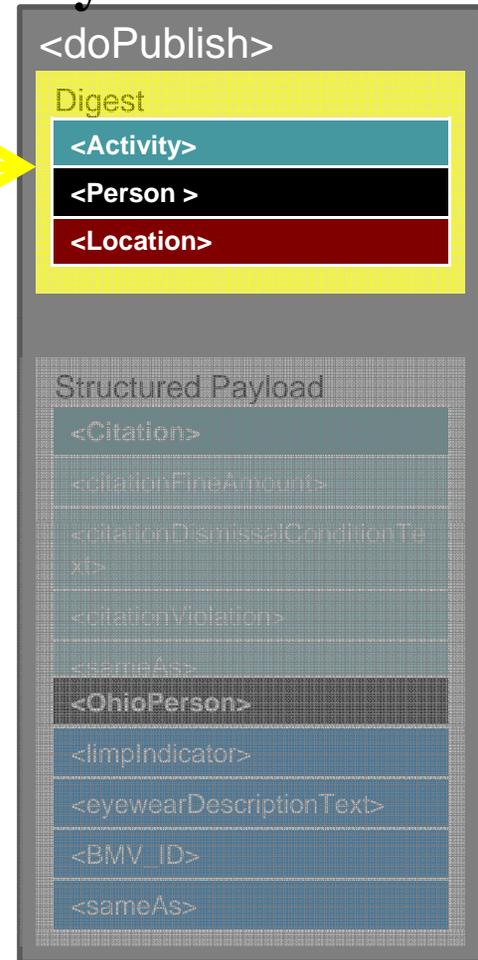
### System A



### System B



### System C



- Systems can understand consistent Digest structure
- Can ignore Structured Payload
- Can exchange base-level of understanding

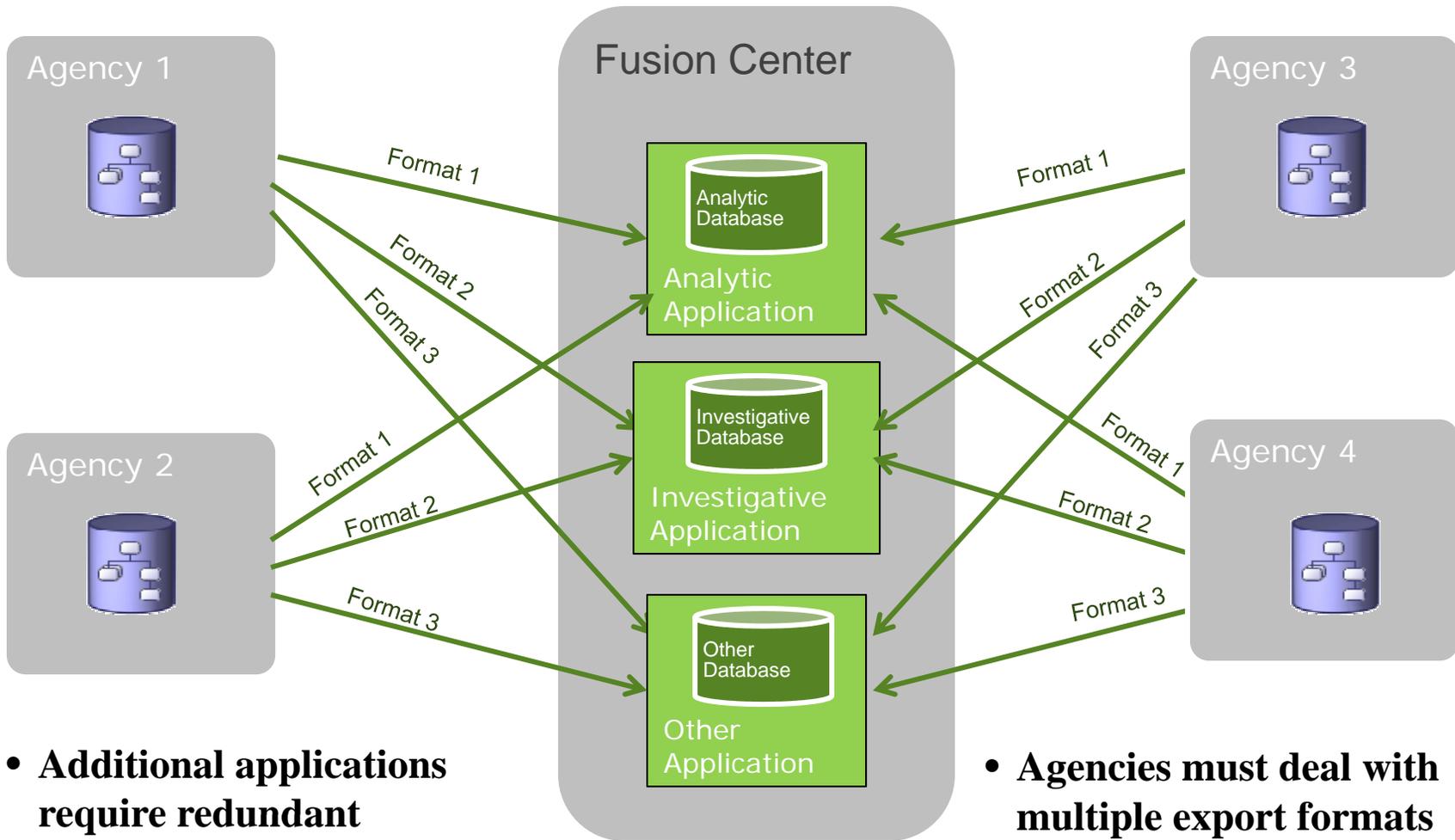
# Implementations of LEXS Standard

- **FBI's National Data Exchange (NDEX)**
  - LEXS-PD -> Allows agencies/states to push incident, arrest, booking data to NDEX
  - LEXS-SR -> search interface
- **OneDOJ**
  - Interconnects US DOJ systems (DEA, BOP, USMS, ATF)
  - LEXS-SR -> Allows state/locals to perform US DOJ searches
- **Suspicious Activity Report (SAR)**
  - LEXS-PD -> Transmit terrorism-related activities to fusion centers
  - LEXS-SR -> Facilitates queries to regional SAR nodes (ISE shared space)

- **DHS**
  - Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) data
  - LEXS-SR -> search interface
- **US Department of Defense**
  - DOD agencies uses a standard called UCore
  - Interoperability with Ucore is being done via LEXS
- **Regional/state/vendor initiatives**
  - NCIS LiNX
  - Texas TDEX
  - LEXS support being added/has been added to these initiatives

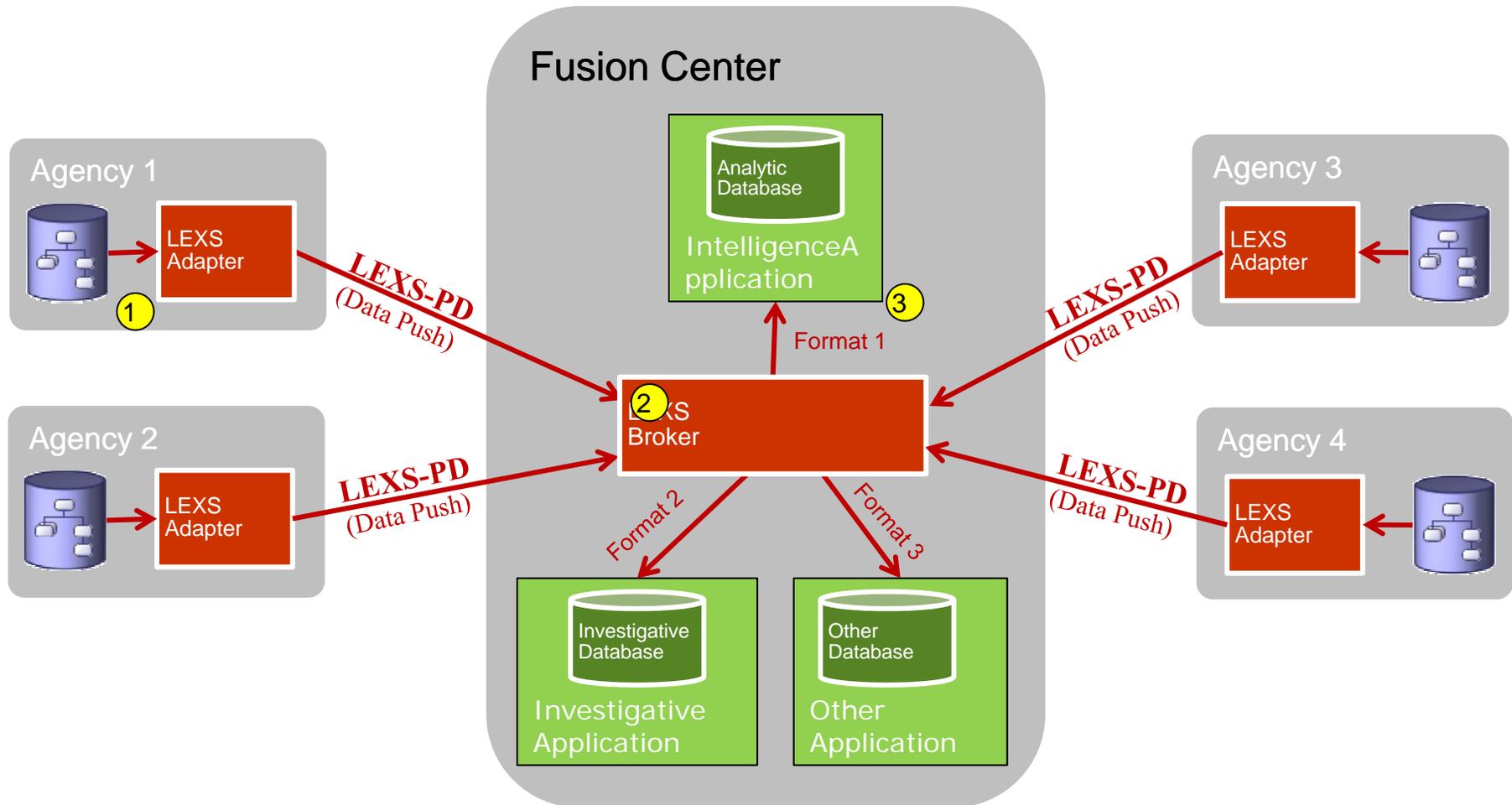
## LEXS Summary

- Rich information sources are exposing LEXS-based interfaces
  - Decoupling of application from data
  - Allows better interoperability
  - Broad adoption in Law Enforcement



- **Additional applications require redundant integration work**

- **Agencies must deal with multiple export formats**

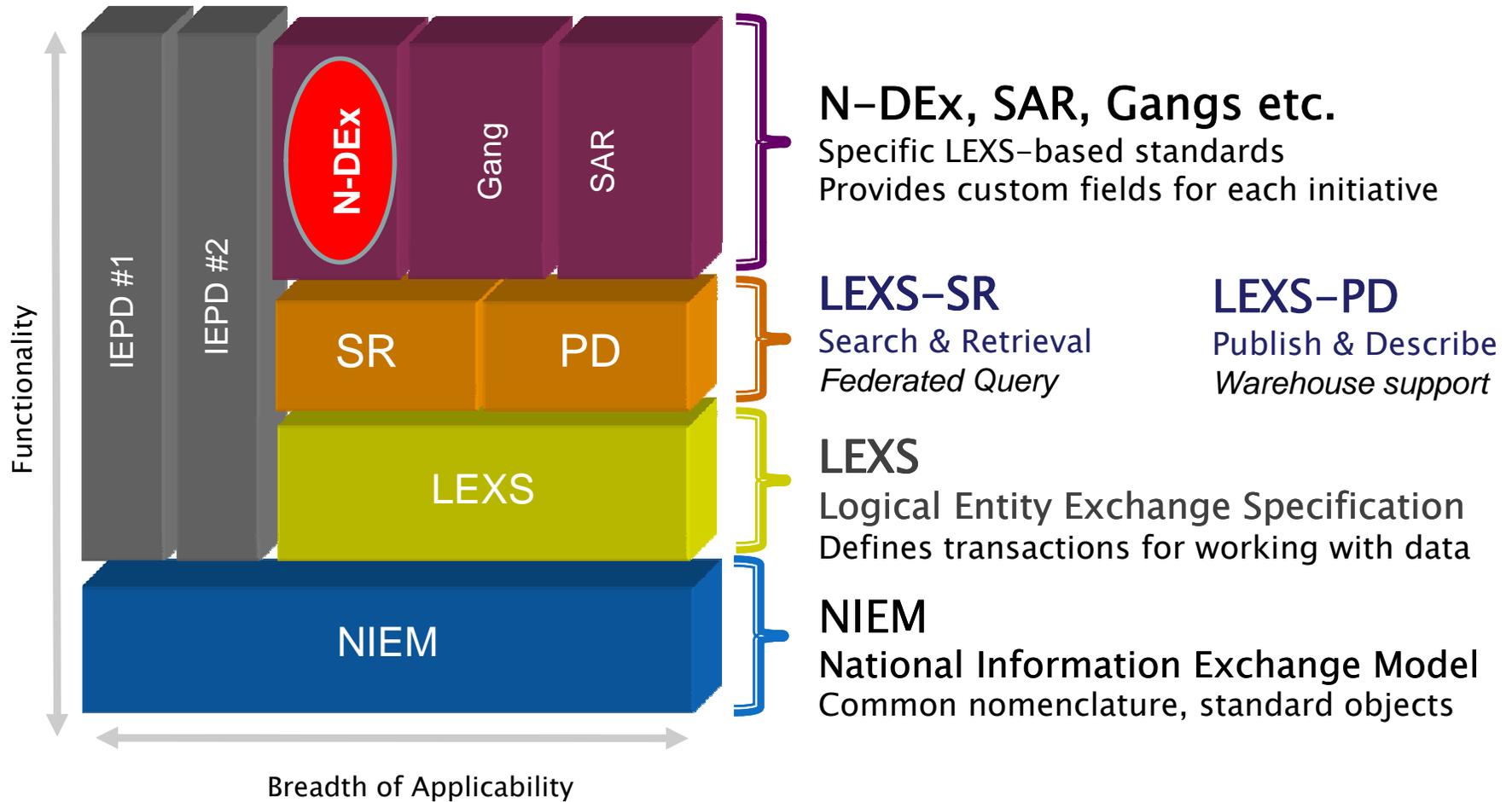


- ① Data is extracted and translated into LEXS-PD message
- ② LEXS-PD message is received and translated
- ③ Data is written into central warehouse(s)

# Standards and their evolution

- N-Dex

- Share complete, accurate, timely and useful information across jurisdictional boundaries and to provide new investigative tools that enhance the Nation's ability to fight crime and terrorism.
- FBI's adaptation of the LEXS standard for Incident, Arrest, Booking, Probation, Parole
- Currently NDex supports Incident and Arrest data import
- IEPD's for Booking, Probation, Parole are published



SOURCE: US Department of Justice

## Why Use N-DEx Standards

- Industry adoption because of the N-DEx system
- More standardized layout than just NIEM
- Pre-defined operations for working with data
- Customizability
- Run-time interoperability
- Base framework underlies other federal initiatives
  - OneDOJ
  - SAR
  - Gang Information Sharing



## Additional Data Sharing option

- LINX (Law Enforcement Information Exchange)
  - Northrop Grumman developed system for collecting information
  - Uses triggers on vendors systems and/or data extracts to gather information
  - Data is stored in a aggregated database usually at a state level
  - Initially built on proprietary standards, evolved to support of GJXDM and Ndex
  - Provides link analysis tools similar to N-DEx
  - Varied experiences in support and upgrade of Linx based systems
  - Data can be extracted without vendor participation

# Data sharing Landscape

- Ohio OLLEISN
  - GJDXM based own format
- Texas T-DEx
  - NIEM based, but limited data sharing
  - APPRISS vendor of choice
- Colorado CopLink
- Orange County CopLink
  - LEXS based limited data sharing
- Florida FLEX
  - SmartCop, CopLink, Finder, LINX, Metatomix
- Michigan Mi-Dex (Base Ndex format)

## Next Steps/Recommendations

- Clarify State Objectives
  - What data is to be shared? Why? How?
  - Should the state use LINX for data aggregation?
  - Should the state focus on building a state-wide data aggregation or allow data to be submitted to N-DEx directly
- Focus on adopting standards such as N-Dex or extend data sharing using LEXS

## Next Steps/Recommendations

- Evaluate other state initiatives to define strategy
- Use resources such as LEISP(US DOJ), IACP, IJIS
- Work with vendors such a SunGard and its implementation partners in building solutions to state needs.
- Example implementation vendors –
  - Sypherlink – defining state N-Dex, LEXS IEPD, building adapters and aggregation database
  - CopLink – solutions to analyze aggregated data

SunGard supports standards and is  
willing to contribute to the success  
of the state goals

Questions?