

LInX Talking Points

5-8-2014

- NCIS launched the Law Enforcement Information Exchange (LInX) initiative in 2003 in the Seattle metropolitan region as a result of the attack on the USS Cole. LInX was designed to enhance information sharing among state, local and federal law enforcement surrounding Navy bases of strategic importance.
- **Problem:** Local-state-federal sharing of LE data was inadequate, often informal and not automated. This created an environment where agencies often lacked the proper context by which to view suspicious events of interest. Unfortunately, this often resulted in their inability to connect the dots.
- **Solution:** Build LInX regional data warehouses that would provide automated sharing of between local/state/federal data. The LInX solution would give participating agencies the ability to search, link, and analyze all data. The system would be strictly limited to law enforcement data consisting of records management and CAD data.
- LInX is a regional approach to the sharing of law enforcement data among participating agencies to reduce crime. It provides all participants with secure, daily access to cross-jurisdictional law enforcement data. LInX acts as a force multiplier by reducing the time investigators must spend in order to generate investigative leads. LInX increases agent/officer situational awareness and safety and identifies previously unknown relationships/associates.

The LInX warehouse contains the following types of LE data; Incident Structured Data, Incident Narratives/Supplemental Reports, Investigative Reports, Field Interviews / Suspicious Incidents, Arrests/Bookings, Mug Shots (includes SMT), CAD Data/Traffic Stops, Stolen/Recovered Property, Pawn Shop Records/Pawn Tickets, Traffic Crash/Accident Reports, Traffic Summons Data, Offender Registries, and Warrants. Currently the system holds over 450 million event records, including over 45 million mug shots.

- One key factor in the overwhelming acceptance of LInX by sheriffs and police chiefs across the country is local control of the data and operational rules and procedures held by each regions Board of Governance. The Board of Governance is made up of every sheriff and chief of police, state LE director and federal agency CEO in the region. Every member of the Board has just one vote when deciding the issues they

face. The Board of Governance oversees and controls who has access to the LInX data, including federal agencies. In setting the operating rules as well as the policy and procedures, the Board totally controls the software and the security of their individual agency's data.

- LInX started in NC in 2007 with 20 Charter Agencies that represented 12.5% of NC's Population. Currently, there are 71 NC agencies that participate in LInX and represent 65% of NC's Population. To date, the cost to provide LInX to NC is \$113,000. NCIS through funding provided by the Department of the Navy has provided the lion's share of the cost of implementation and the continuing cost of operation.
- In 2012 LInX integrated the records management system Incident reports for 390 South Carolina Agencies that share approximately 26 Million records. SC has a statewide LE data sharing system (SCIEX) that they abandoned in favor of the much more effective and easier to use LInX. Although SCIEX is still in place users now access SC and LInX system LE data through their LInX accounts.
- In 2013 and 2014, the following agencies have signed MOU's and are using LInX; Guilford County Sheriff's Office, UNCG Police Department, Edgecombe County Sheriff's Office, Apex Police Department, Duplin County Sheriff's Office, Newport Police Department, Trent Woods Police Department, Morrisville Police Department and the Wilson Police Department. Funding is needed to map and deliver their data and the data of the remaining NC law enforcement agencies to the LInX system.
- Nationwide, LInX has more than 1450 agencies contributing more than 450 million records including nearly 46 million mug shots. The LInX system has 11 Regions; Department of Defense Information Exchange (NCIS, Air Force OSI, Army CID), LInX Northeast (Connecticut), LInX National Capitol Region (Northern Virginia & Maryland), LInX Virginia (Central & Southern Virginia), LInX Carolinas (North Carolina & South Carolina), LInX Southeast (Northern Florida & Georgia), LInX Gulf Coast (Texas), LInX Rio Grande (New Mexico), LInX Southern California, LInX Northwest (Washington, Idaho, Oregon), LInX Hawaii (Hawaii, Oahu, Maui, Kauai)
- LInX has N-DEx Export Capability that sends data to N-DEx on behalf of participating LInX agencies and N-DEx Portal Launch that allows authorized LInX users to launch the N-DEx application directly from LInX. All LInX Regions have these capabilities except LInX Northeast and North Carolina. South Carolina provides their users N-Dex access. NC is waiting for approval of the State Chief Security Officer to make the N-Dex.

- **The LInX system is continually updated and enhanced. Improvements are often based on suggestions from the LE personnel who use the system every day. Application Enhancement Deployments for the Spring 2013 included; Multiple Enhancements to the Mobile Interface, Ability to Print LInX Regions Maps to PDF, Ability to view Query return “snippets” upon mouse over. Future enhancements include but are not limited to Advanced Analytics, Facial Recognition, Mobile AFIS, License Plate Reader, Mobile platforms and more.**
- **It is important to recognize that LInX is not a concept or Beta software that needs to be developed, tested and deployed. LInX is not a standalone system that will require various interfaces in order to communicate with other systems outside of NC. LInX is an incident based, searchable LE data only warehouse. LInX currently provides access to over 450 million LE records. LInX is a real time crime fighting tool that is solving crimes in NC and across the country right now. LInX is a NO RISK solution to NC’s Statewide LE information sharing needs. LInX has been operational for 10 Years without incident. LInX currently covers 65% of NC’s population at a cost to NC taxpayer’s of only \$113,000. And finally, LInX enjoys the support of the NC CJIN Board and Police Chiefs and Sheriffs across NC, including those in the NC State University System, who are waiting in line for funding to become LInX partners.**