



2011 Annual Conference Slated for New Orleans September 21-23

NAJIS is holding its 29th annual conference September 21-23 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme of the conference is “The New Normal” and focuses on how to develop and manage information technology projects in an era of expanding technological capabilities.

Complicating the challenges and opportunities presented by the “new normal” is the fact that we’re all experiencing a dramatic decrease in resources. Many state and local governments are experiencing unprecedent-

ed decreases in revenues as a result of the poor state of the economy. This means the we all have to do more with less.

The NAJIS conference will focus on these topics and provide justice and public safety practitioners the opportunity to learn about new approaches and solutions to these challenges.

The conference agenda as well as hotel and conference registration information are provided on Page 4 of this newsletter. For the latest information, go to www.najis.org.

Take the National Justice Information Sharing Survey!

NAJIS launched the *National Justice Information Sharing Survey* this past March in an effort to assess the progress and success of information sharing efforts across the country. Information sharing within the criminal justice and public safety communities has long been a high priority, but no comprehensive evaluation of information sharing capabilities has been performed.

The survey was developed by NAJIS with the assistance and support of the IJIS Institute and SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics. The survey has been endorsed by the Global Advisory Committee (Global), a federal advisory committee that represents state, local and tribal law enforcement and public safety groups.

The survey is an attempt to comprehensively quantify the level of information

sharing that is currently underway across the country. In order to get a complete and accurate picture of information sharing activities, the survey is very detailed and asks respondents to identify what information is shared, who they share it with, and how it is shared. The survey asks respondents to identify what technologies they use to share data and whether they follow national standards and best practices, such as the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM).

Because of this level of detail, the survey is lengthy and can take some time to complete. Do not be dissuaded! Please complete the survey and encourage others to do so. Now is the time to see how successful our efforts have been — as well as how far we may still need to go.

To take the survey, go to najis.org or <http://NAJISSurvey2011.questionpro.com>

The New Normal

By Paul Wormeli,
Executive Director Emeritus
IJIS Institute

Life and business in the form of how things were just three years ago are now gone, perhaps forever, and we, as consumers, citizens, in our companies and acting collectively as governments, have to get used to the idea that radical change has taken place and what once was is likely never to be again. We have to recognize the arrival of The New Normal. It is not likely that the old normal will ever return again, so now is the time to figure out what it means and how to accommodate this new reality.

There have been many articles written and speeches made since 2008 describing the period between then and now as The Perfect Storm. The combination of the Great Recession, the consequent melt-down in tax revenues for state and local governments, the explosion in new technological approaches attracting consumers at rates never before seen, and the hunt for new management paradigms have all contributed to the image of The Perfect Storm.

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The New Normal

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Peering through the storm to find the rainbow has been a preoccupation of many people. We seek to identify the changes that have been made and are now being made in the fields of public safety, justice and homeland security, and to find ways to accommodate these changes by understanding what will become the new normal.

With due respect for the rate of change we have been confronting, there are several key areas in technology as it applies to the public safety and justice market that can be described best as having become viral. In this sense, I mean viral to indicate the spread of the technology in a way that resembles the spread of a virus that grows exponentially throughout a population—in this case, technology users. I will try to address four key such viral activities: social networking, broadband communications, video applications, and smartphones/tablets.

Social Networking

In the past two years, there has been an explosion in the number of justice and public safety sites using social networking for various purposes. The International Association of Chiefs of Police has even created a [Center for Social Media](http://www.iacpsocialmedia.org/) (www.iacpsocialmedia.org/) to provide resources for its members in the use of social media and networking tools. In a survey on this site, IACP reported that 81% of police agencies use social media in some form — the most popular being crime investigation.

Historically, public safety and justice agencies have used the Internet to provide information to the public through the use of static web sites that provide information about crime locations, policies, how to do things, etc. More recently, law enforcement agencies have begun to use social media to support a more interactive dialog with the public. According to the Center, about 67% of police agencies use Facebook, which now serves over 500 million users.

Geographic information systems (GIS) have become widely used to display crime and other data as a part of or separately in

association with social media sites. Agencies are using mash-ups to combine maps with crime or other data and then allowing the user to display the distribution of events in selected portions of the city.

There appears to be a growing pressure among practitioners in the criminal justice world to find ways to integrate social media as a part of an enterprise architecture. Being able to post information to Facebook from applications or to allow on-line input of forms and payments are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to integrating social media into the enterprise. Using Twitter to send out notices directly from CAD systems to alert the community about emergency events such as flooding, fires or tornados or more routine events like road closures or traffic congestion conjures up a whole list of potential uses once this integration is made possible.

Broadband communications

Ubiquitous broadband data communication is about to be the objective of what more closely resembles a revolution rather than an evolution—to the extent that a revolution invokes an image of upsetting the current order to replace it with a substantially different and presumably better order in a relatively short period of time.

The Obama administration has called for the dedication of a significant portion of the 700MHz spectrum to public safety in a band wide enough to carry significantly higher loads. The President has proposed that \$10.7 billion be set aside from revenues received from the sale of spectrum to cover the initial costs of creating the foundation for this service.

There are 6,500 communications centers in the nation that will need to migrate to Next Generation 911 in order to take call information from smartphones and other devices that are proliferating throughout the country. They will need new, IP-based, systems to take in video, photographs, GPS and other data as well as to share all of this with other agencies and jurisdictions. California and a few other states have already issued RFP's to create state-wide IP based communications networks connecting dispatch centers.

The IJIS Institute and the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) are working together to create a new set of functional specifications for computer aided dispatching systems that

take all of this future potential for IP based networks into account. With grant funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, IJIS and APCO will combine the requirements for police with fire and EMS agencies into new functional standards that will meet the requirements of all three services. Companies that build CAD systems for multi-service implementations will want to track these specifications closely.

Video technology hits the sweet spot

One of the best examples of a technological innovation and revolution that will emerge even more powerfully from the reconstruction of emergency communications networks can be found in the many expanded or new applications of video in the justice, public safety and homeland security markets. In the deployment of broadband IP networks that will support video transmissions, law enforcement sees an opportunity to provide video in police vehicles to inform the responding officer about conditions at the scene of a crime or emergency. There is already a large market for putting video cameras in police cars to protect officers from charges of brutality or to collect evidence on offender behavior. Courts are also rapidly expanding the use of video for arraignments and other hearings. The cost savings in not having to deliver inmates to the court for these appearances easily shows a real dollar savings that can justify the investment in video, particularly as broadband resources become more ubiquitous and cheaper.

Video surveillance is likely to expand as law enforcement faces reductions in personnel due to budget constraints while communities continue to face crime and public safety concerns. As police move more toward place-based policing, where resources are focused on so-called “hot spots” instead of roving beats, it will become very normal to deploy video surveillance to help the police monitor activities when they are short on people to do so. Similar applications of video surveillance could be considered for high-risk offenders under community supervision as more offenders are released to lower incarceration rates and costs.

Finally, the application of high definition video with high definition audio and audio steering technology in [telepresence systems](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telepresence) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telepresence) is redefining and transforming the tradition-

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al video conferencing world. The high cost of travel alone is going to drive agencies to invest in the latest technology of telepresence, which allows participants to actually feel like they are present in a virtual meeting. The work of companies such as Cisco, Hewlett-Packard and others to create these environments will continue to expand as costs come down and more and more justice, public safety and homeland security agencies see the return on investment from deploying telepresence technologies.

Eventually, the entire infrastructure of video cameras and networks now in place will be replaced with high definition devices which give so much more clarity for identifying subjects and taking advantage of video analytics. This substantial market will require significant system integration services to make video systems part of enterprise solutions.

The App Generation

The explosive and certainly viral adoption of smart phones and tablets is unquestionably a

distinct and disruptive technology that has suddenly been adopted by almost everyone. The major consequence of the broad acceptance of these devices is most likely due to the innovative and much improved user interface that these devices employ, but the longer term consequences of using these tools is to introduce us to the world of apps. With over 350,000 separate applications built for the iPhone, and 70,000 iPad tailored applications, there is little question that we are going to learn a new way of using computer technology. Small, efficient and narrowly focused applications that can fit on and operate well on small portable devices will define the user interface of the future. Even larger systems are moving toward application appliances as opposed to general purpose computers for which software is written.

As a harbinger of things to come, IBM's Watson computer system was really an appliance designed to do one thing quite well—compete at the game of Jeopardy. The underlying technology that was developed to allow Watson to win so convincingly is well suited to tailoring for medical diagnostics and intelligence analysis and we are likely to see variants of Watson for such purposes. Massive data centers with strong virtualization capabilities and support for cloud computing are likely to take the place of the traditional use of locally developed and hosted solutions.

Because of the sudden and successful adoption of smart phones and tablets, the traditional approaches to mobile computing are going to shift toward the kinds of apps that lend themselves to field use and the efficiencies in processing shared with centralized computing services. There are new approaches yet to be defined that will link mobile computing applications to cloud computing and radically improve data capture and use. This whole notion of an application-centric world in concert with service oriented architectures and remote computing as provided by private clouds is likely to result in major overhauls of the technology used by justice and public safety. I encourage you to step out and into this brave new world.

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Subscriptions are free.

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What Is NAJIS?

The National Association for Justice Information Systems (NAJIS) is an organization of individuals responsible for the acquisition, operation and management of local, state, tribal and federal criminal justice information systems.

All practitioners in prosecutor's offices, the courts, law enforcement, probation, corrections and allied agencies who design, improve, implement or supervise automated information systems can benefit from participating in NAJIS. Individuals who are investigating, evaluating and purchasing automated systems—both hardware and software—for criminal justice purposes are encouraged to join and participate in NAJIS activities.

NAJIS began in 1981 as the PROMIS (Prosecutors Management Information System) User Group and has grown to encompass the interests of all criminal justice agencies. The promotion of integrated criminal justice and new technologies is the focus of NAJIS.

NAJIS conducts an annual educational conference, publishes a newsletter and website with the goal of improving the criminal justice system through the practical application of technology.

2011 NAJIS Annual Conference—Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

Early Registration and Welcome Reception—5:00—7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

Plenary Sessions

Keynote Address—The New Normal

Roundtable—Attendees share justice IT projects and problems.

Breakout Sessions—Business Focus

Funding Your Projects and Other Impossible Tasks

Using Computerized Information to Improve Public Safety

Adding Open Source Options to Your Application Portfolio

Breakout Sessions—Technology Solutions

Cloud Computing—Does It Have a Place in Justice IT?

eCitations Solutions-Panel Discussion of Different Implementations

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Plenary Sessions

OPISIS: Starting Over

State of Justice Information Sharing: National Justice Information Sharing Survey Results

Thursday, September 22, 2011 (continued)

Breakout Sessions—Business Focus

Evidence Storage and Standards

Protective Orders and Domestic Violence Registries

Removing Barriers to Data Exchanges: Using Common Statute Tables

Social Networking: Heaven or Hell

Breakout Sessions—Technology Solutions

Implementing NIEM and the GRA

Bridging the Gaps with N-DEx

Implementation of Biometric and Other Identification Technologies

GFIPM and NIEF—Securely Federating Justice Information

Friday, September 23, 2011

Plenary Sessions

Emerging Technologies that will Change the Justice Landscape

Unified Communications—What is it and How Does it Work

Disaster Recovery in Orleans Parish: Is It Really So Important?

NAJIS Annual Meeting—Adjourn at Noon

Conference and Hotel Registration

This year's conference will be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, on September 21-23, 2011. Make your hotel room reservation by calling 1-800-445-8667. Use the group code "NAJIS Annual Meeting" to secure the Federal per diem room rate — \$104/night plus taxes. Rates are valid 3 days prior to and 3 days after the conference dates based on availability. The conference hotel room rate is available until August 26, 2011.

Conference Registration Fee

Before August 5—\$395 per person

On or After August 5—\$495 per person

Registration includes all programs, events and two luncheons

For Vendor Information

Contact David Naisby at 717-214-7461 or dnaisby@state.pa.us

French Quarter—New Orleans, Louisiana



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