California Department of Justice CALIFORNIA JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION Joe Dominic, Director



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Subject:

National Incident-Based Reporting System

No

Date:

17-04-CJIS

08/07/17

Contact for information:

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TO: All CHIEFS OF POLICE, SHERIFFS, AND RECORD SUPERVISORS

On June 10, 2016, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program informed all states that the FBI will transition to a National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)-only data collection by January 1, 2021, and will evaluate the probability of achieving that goal annually. Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies unable to meet the five-year transition that have committed to transitioning to NIBRS will collaborate with the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division to develop a transition plan and timeline for conversion.

What Is NIBRS?

The NIBRS is a more comprehensive crime data collection system that captures specific details about crimes and offenders through incident-based reporting. The NIBRS expands UCR crime data from summary counts of eight crime categories to specific incident-level data for 49 different crimes. The details captured in the NIBRS include the date, time, location, and circumstance of the incident as well as characteristics of the victim and offender such as age, sex, race, and ethnicity. In total, there are 58 data elements that are potentially reported for a NIBRS incident.

Existing UCR Reporting

Currently, the California Department of Justice (DOJ) maintains a Summary Reporting System (SRS), and local reporting agencies provide monthly summarized reports on eight Part I offenses known to law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and reports on persons arrested. The Part I offenses include the following: Murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny-theft, and arson. Crime reports also provide information about law enforcement officers killed and assaulted, and hate crimes.

Next Steps?

Acting as the FBI's CJIS Systems Agency for California, the DOJ is the administrator of the UCR Program and systems in California and is obliged to meet the new reporting requirements and provide a mechanism for local LEAs to report data to the FBI through a state system. The DOJ currently maintains 16 disparate systems, nine of which will be impacted by the NIBRS implementation. However, it is the DOJ's intention to include as many of the remaining statistical collection systems in the NIBRS development to ensure that electronic reporting is available to all LEAs.

Additionally, since the transition to NIBRS will affect data elements collected and reported to the DOJ, it is the DOJ's intention to remain aligned with the FBI for incident-based reporting standards and promulgate regulations covering all of our systems (e.g., Monthly Arrest and Citation Register, Crimes and Clearances, etc.). It is anticipated that regulations for NIBRS reporting requirements for these systems will take 24 months to complete.

NIBRS Impacted Systems	 Anti-Reproductive-Rights Crimes (ARRC) Arrests (Monthly Arrest and Citation Register [MACR]) Arson Crimes and Clearances Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance Hate Crimes Homicide Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted Violent Crimes Committed Against Senior Citizens
Systems Not Impacted by NIBRS Implementation	 Adult Probation Citizens' Complaints Against Peace Officers Death in Custody Hate Crime Prosecution Survey Juvenile Court and Probation Law Enforcement Personnel and Criminal Justice Personnel Survey Use of Force

Accordingly, the DOJ will need to assess its readiness to implement a statewide Incident-Based Reporting (IBR) system and is currently seeking assistance in its efforts to investigate the feasibility and costs associated with implementing a statewide IBR system to become compliant with the FBI's NIBRS mandate. This project will engage the DOJ, the National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X) Implementation Team, and 42 NCS-X identified sample agencies from California. The DOJ will engage with a consultant to determine California's feasibility and readiness to design, develop, implement, and maintain a NIBRS compliant system and the costs associated with implementing a statewide IBR system. Ultimately, the DOJ will develop a strategic implementation plan including a realistic timeline and the costs to agencies. California plans to implement the new IBR system in two phases: first, establish the DOJ state repository and the 42 NCS-X Identified Agencies being provided funding by the NCS-X project; second, implement IBR for the remaining California reporting agencies.

For California reporting agencies that are not part of the 42 NCS-X identified agencies, the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) recognizes that there are significant pressures on state and local criminal justice systems. It is important to make local Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program recipients aware of several areas of priority that may be of help in maximizing the effectiveness of JAG funding at the state and local level. NIBRS represents a key area of this focus and BJA encourages local JAG grantees to use JAG funds to expedite the transition to NIBRS in their jurisdictions.

Lastly, on August 1-3 2017, the DOJ will be attending the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division NIBRS Training Session in Phoenix, Arizona. The training sessions are designed to help state agencies and agencies participating in the BJS NCS-X Initiative to gain a better understanding of the NIBRS and to assist them in a successful implementation by 2021. It is at this meeting, the DOJ will be meeting/collaborating separately with the 42 NCS-X California Identified Agencies regarding the California specific standards, which will need to be met in addition to the NIBRS standards.

Sincerely,

JOE DOMINIC, Director

California Justice Information Services Division

For XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General