State-by-State Summaries for FY 2017 NICS Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP)

Commonly used acronyms:

AFIS — Automated Fingerprint Identification System
CCH — Computerized Criminal History
CHRI — Criminal History Record Information
GJXDM — Global Justice Exchange Data Model
IAFIS — Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System
III — Interstate Identification Index
NCIC — National Crime Information Center
NFF — National Fingerprint File
NGI — Next Generation Identification
NIBRS — National Incident-Based Reporting System
NIEM — National Information Exchange Model
NIST — National Institute of Standards and Technology
NICS — National Instant Criminal Background Check System
NSOR — National Sex Offender Registry
XML — Extensible Markup Language

The following provides a description of activities under NARIP grants for each of the states receiving funds in alphabetical order.

Delaware ($86,625) The Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security will use funds to match the records by names in the G4 file (mental health prohibitor file) against records in the court's database. If the court's record matches the information in the G4 file, then Delaware will flag the record as a match. Records of a deceased mental health patient will be flagged. DELJIS (Delaware Criminal Justice Information System) will also manually check court files to see if a person had an involuntary commitment to a mental facility. DELJIS will then flag all the records that have an involuntary commitment and update the database with this information. The major goal of this project will be to correct historical records that are incorrectly flagged as "mental patients" and are merely a medical transport. A secondary goal will be to reduce the number of appeals submitted as a result of the "denied" responses when the mental health prohibitor is not met.

Florida ($406,035) The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) will pass funds through to the FDLE's Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to pay personnel and fringe benefits for Other Personnel Services (OPS) staff in the Firearm Eligibility Bureau (FEB) call center to respond to background check requests from firearm dealers, process electronic requests submitted to the Firearms Eligibility System (FES), and perform data entry to submit to senior members for final review prior to issuing final eligibility or approval determination. FDLE CJIS will also pay overtime for career service personnel, who function as senior members and are fully trained in state and national databases to work in conjunction with the OPS staff. Overtime will be used to conduct eligibility reviews for final approval or non-approval determinations by OPS and other FEB staff. Additionally, FDLE CJIS will use grant funds to pay personnel and fringe benefits for OPS staff in Crime Information Bureau (CIB) to identify, retrieve, and enter criminal processes starting with the arrest into the criminal history file, and to make necessary corrections to arrest records on file. Members working on this project will track and report the number of arrests updated in CCH that result from processing hard copy arrest cards extracted from counties; court dispositions that have been submitted to FDLE (through LOGAN system) but do not have a matching arrest

event; the Image Retrieval Response (IRR) cards where arrest events are already in CCH; and old Florida arrest cards from the FBI archives for arrest events not currently in CCH or BIS.

Kentucky ($68,898) The Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet will transfer funds to the Kentucky State Police (KSP) to improve the data quality of criminal history records and the reporting of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence records to NICS. KSP has no automated process in place to receive misdemeanor disposition data from the courts; therefore, the entire process is 100% manual. Staff must manually add and update disposition data in Kentucky's CCH, as well as search for additional documentation such as the citation or crime report. KSP will use funds for overtime hours for staff to review data, update disposition information within the CCH repository and enter information into the NICS Index. The proposed project will result in increased MCDV records between the state's records management system, NICS, and KSP's CCH repository. The project will improve and increase the amount of criminal history information and NICS entries that is shared between Kentucky and national systems.

Louisiana ($823,477) The Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement (LCLE) will transfer funds to the Louisiana Supreme Court (Case Management Information System Division) to improve the data quality of criminal history records and the reporting of mental health records to NICS by implementing an electronic data exchange for the automated, nightly transmission of mental health records from the Department of Health and Hospitals. The project will eliminate manual data entry errors, and reduce the time it takes to make these records available to the databases accessed by NICS; as well as implementing five modern case management systems in Louisiana City and parish courts to automate manual disposition reporting tasks performed by the minute clerks for the transmission of misdemeanor conviction information to NICS. In addition, LCLE will use funds to support a NICS program manager and a section manager to assist in coordinating and administering the activities of Louisiana's NICS Program.

Maryland ($332,302) The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (MD DPSCS) will use funds to support two projects; 1) Equipment for Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Support project and 2) Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) Automated Data Reporting System project. 1) For the CJIS Equipment Upgrade project, the MD DPSCS will use funds to purchase necessary equipment to continue improving the accuracy, completeness, and ultimately the timely dissemination of CHRI maintained by DPSCS. The new equipment will significantly increase productivity, allow for the comprehensive research and evaluation of records, ensure customer satisfaction in response to customer need, and efficiently meet workload requirements. 2) For the DHMH Automated Data Reporting System project, the MD DPSCS will use funds to continue support of the transmission of information to NICS for persons prohibited from possessing firearms — for mental health reasons. DHMH previously developed a database to automatically and securely report mental health data to NICS. This database, Hospital Management Information System (HMIS), has been used to collect information on individuals who have been committed to a state mental institution for a period of more than thirty days. The database now includes records from private hospitals, as well as individuals who have been committed by the State Office of Administrative Hearings. As a result, all information maintained in DHMH's database is transmitted to NICS. While HMIS maintains and transmits all available information to NICS, MD DPSCS will maintain, enhance, and ensure improved reliability of the infrastructure needed to securely transmit pertinent information to NICS - pertaining to individuals who have been involuntarily committed to a state or private facility

Missouri ($621,935) The Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) will administer and monitor the following four (4) projects in collaboration with their partner agencies. 1) Complete Development of the Show-Me Courts System Project. The Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) will continue to develop the new Show-Me Courts case management system. Funds will be used to hire two Senior IT Programmers who will work with the Show-Me Courts project team to complete the programming for the system that is necessary for associate and circuit level

criminal case processing. The development includes: felony conviction reporting; warrant processing; drug and alcohol cases; and criminal level adult abuse actions, including misdemeanor convictions. 2) Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS) Case Management Development Project. MOPS is currently working on the design and development of a new statewide case management system. The development of this system is being funded with FY15/16 NARIP funds. MOPS will use FY17 NARIP funds to develop new user installs, new server migration costs, and integration of an e-discovery module to facilitate case filings (and the sharing of those filings with State and FBI systems). 3) MSHP Equipment for Researching Missing Dispositions Project. The MSHP will use funds to purchase electronic equipment to help with the researching of missing disposition information which includes: tablets, monitors, and a document scanner. 4) MOPS Resource Prosecutors. Funds will be used to hire one (1) technology automation and one (1) part time sex offender and firearm resource prosecutor. The technology automation resource prosecutor will coordinate and liaison with OSCA and MSHP in statewide automation interface efforts, development and improvement of charge code creations, project and contract management, and other related legal issues which ultimately would result in improved data entry, data transfer and accuracy in NICS criminal history and disposition reporting. The sex offender and firearm resource prosecutor will work to ensure that Sex Offender, Protection Order, Warrant, Mental Health, and other records that would disqualify an individual from purchasing a firearm are being correctly reported and are available for FBI NICS.

Nebraska ($180,668) The Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) will use funds for three projects to 1) Improve Efforts of the NICS Task Force, 2) Increase Mental Health Reporting, and 3) Develop upgrades to the Protection Order Portal. 1) For the NICS Task Force project, NSP will hire a program manager to coordinate efforts among agencies and develop a plan that will measure progress and results. Furthermore, the Program Manager will engage in outreach to areas of tribal law enforcement, prosecuting attorneys, state correctional facilities, and parole agencies, targeting well-established groups and representatives. 2) For the Mental Health Reporting project, the NSP, using the Mental Health Portal, automated the reporting of 29,224 mental health records to the NICS Index. Currently, three types of mental health designations, Relief of Disability, Not Responsible by Reason of Insanity (NRRI) and Court-ordered Guardianships, remain outside the Patrol's current reporting capability. Through this project NSP will enhance the Electronic Commitment Reporting Application (ECRA) portal to address Relief of Disability. Specifically, this project will provide electronic solutions within the ECRA to issue Relief of Disability notifications, issue an advisory for the need for removal to the Mental Health Board, and verify remaining paper records to expedite search features. 3) For the Protection Order Portal Upgrade project, NSP will continue to develop and enhance the capabilities of the Protection Order Portal that was implemented with FY 16 funding. NSP will use FY 17 funds to continually support the legislative and administrative requirement that enhance changes necessary to address the system evolving needs.

Nevada ($565,870) The Nevada Department of Public Safety (NDPS) Records Bureau will use funds to continue efforts to address missing dispositions in Nevada's criminal history record repository. After a statewide review of all court records including mental health adjudications, the Nevada Supreme Court discovered that there were over 900,000 court dispositions that had not been submitted to the Nevada Criminal History Repository in over 20 years. The NDPS will use funding to hire 20 Full-Time-Equivalent (FTE) temporary positions to assist Repository staff with data entering missing dispositions into the Nevada CCH as well as through the III. This effort will ensure that final case outcomes will be available in both state and national systems accessed by the FBI's NICS. Additionally, this team will help correct inaccurate criminal history conversion data and backfill missing electronic disposition information already in the state's CCH into the III system.

New York ($1,655,375) The NYS, Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), will administer two projects: 1) the Office of Court Administration (OCA) and State Repository Criminal History Record Improvement project, and 2) Improving Data Quality and Reporting Compliance for

Mental Health Record Submission to NICS. 1) For the OCA and State Repository Record Improvement project the DCJS and the OCA will use funds to expand the Exception Tracking System (ETS) to handle Fatal Errors, which are dispositions received by the court systems that are rejected, but never get applied to criminal histories. Currently, the ETS system only handles "exceptions" that occur when updates are applied to criminal history records and these updates require some type of review by the DCJS's Office of Criminal Justice Operations (OCJO). Fatal errors are sent back to OCA for subsequent analysis and remediation. This project will enhance ETS so that both OCJO and OCA will be able to review and track fatal errors in an automated manner. The DCJS will use funds to automate the reporting of certificates of relief and good conduct by developing a system enhancement between DCJS and the courts to bypass the paper form and mailing process and enable the agencies to update the records immediately with less possibility of errors. OCA will also use funding to update software enhancements to improve automated reporting and error reconciliation of dispositions from the Justice Courts to OCA. 2) For the Data Quality and Reporting for Mental Health Record Submission to NICS project, DCJS will administer funds through the Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of Mental Health (OMH) to focus on the analysis of data errors related to patient identification numbers (ARI) and merges that have been done to historical records that were sent to the NICS Index. Analysis and reconciliation files will be generated and remediation steps will be taken to clean up historical records. Two types of errors that will be focused on are errors in manual data entry of patient records and errors in which duplicate ARI numbers have been reported. A data analyst position will be hired to work with the facilities to clean up the errors in addition to determine how the errors were made in order to reduce the possibility of these types of errors going forward. In addition to improving the data quality and reporting of mental health information, DOH will move an additional five hospitals to automated reporting to the NICS Index. Currently, the five identified hospitals are reporting information to the NICS manually.

North Dakota ($257,273) The North Dakota Office of Attorney General (ND OAG) will pass through funds to ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Division to automate the transmission of disposition records from the Courts to the State's Attorney Records System (STARS), enabling further automation of the disposition data from STARS to BCI which will allow for more complete and timely submission to the FBI. Additionally, BCI will use funds to complete three projects: 1) Continue to develop the common offense codes and a corresponding code list used to automate the transmission of the offense portion of disposition data from STARS to BCI. The Common Statute Table (CST) provides common offense definitions shared across STARS, the Courts' system, the criminal history system, and other criminal justice systems. 2) BCI will use funds to conduct a Re-write of the North Dakota criminal history system. The current system has several limitations and without the re-write the integration between STARS and the ND criminal history system would cost substantially more and involve a greater risk of using contractor resources. 3) BCI will also use funds to develop an "e-charging" system that allows paperless submission of charging information from STARS to the Courts. The common statute table offenses will be included in this automation. Additionally, the interface will save unique system values associated with the offense so that the disposition offenses can be matched accurately.

Oklahoma ($1,000,000) The Oklahoma District Attorneys Council (DAC) will transfer funds to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) to convert all manual or other non-automated records to electronic records, including fingerprint cards, mug shots, palm prints, court documents and any other pertinent information. This would allow the OSBI to prevent prolonged degradation of these documents and further it's Disaster Recovery Plan.

Oregon ($865,614) The Oregon State Police (OSP) will conduct two projects: 1) NICS Reconciliation Team to research missing data on qualifying records; and, 2) Firearms Instant Check System (FICS) research team to obtain missing record information for persons in "pended" status for a firearm license. 1) For the NICS Reconciliation Team project, the OSP will use funds to continue the project from previously funded years with a 2017 team consisting of nine positions. The goal of the team is to ensure that all target records are made available to

NICS either through NCIC, III, or the NICS Index in a timely manner. This involves searching older records that were never reported to the repository. Activities for the team members include researching, reviewing, and updating missing and incomplete records. In addition, the team will continue to look for improvements that can be made to further enhance automated record exchanges with contributing agencies. The reconciliation team has maintained a set target of updating 3,000 records per month for older records that are incomplete or missing. Another initiative for the team is to work directly in the field with agencies to build on improvement projects that have been funded by previous NARIP awards. An updated method for agencies to report qualifying mental health records has been implemented and will enhance the real-time reporting from each of the contributing agencies as they make changes within their own record keeping processes. 2) For the FICS Pended Record Research Backlog project, OSP research staff will work toward eliminating the backlog of firearms transfer requests that have been pended due to missing or incomplete records. Due to the complex and varying nature of each transaction as well as a wide range of time involved in each case, the goal for each researcher is to complete as many of the process steps each day in order to reach closure of the transaction and update the Oregon record when applicable. The volume of background checks for 2016 was at an all-time record, and so far in 2017, volume continues to be high. The team continues to make strides in the pended workload while still able to contribute to long-term improvement processes. This project will result in more complete and accurate records available to the NICS.

South Carolina ($803,276) The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) will use funds for two projects: 1) NICS Reporting Unit project, and 2) the Automation of older NICS/CWP (Concealed Weapons Permit) Paper Files into the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) project. 1) For the NICS Reporting Unit project, SLED will use funds to continue to build off past efforts to develop a unit to review, research, verify, enter, and update the information received from the courts into NICS. In addition, they will query the concealed weapon permit database and armed security officer database for potential prohibited permit/registration holders for revocation and assist with the file automation preparation process. 2) For the Automation of older NICS/CWP Paper Files into the EDMS project, SLED will be able to have a single point-of-entry for NICS-related mental health court orders and electronically store all documentation received by state courts. Further, firewall hardware has been updated to meet the need to securely transfer critical information from the state courts to SLED. SLED will use funds to continue to automate and digitally store pre-existing CWP records into the EDMS for comparison of existing CWP records to orders received by state courts regarding entry into the NICS Index. SLED will maintain the EDMS, maintain existing equipment, purchase required supplies, and continue the CWP file automation process into the EDMS.

Virginia ($986,409) The Virginia State Police (VSP) will administer and monitor the following four projects in collaboration with their partner agencies: 1) For the JAVA Computerized History (JCCH) System project, the VSP will use funds to contract with two IT Specialists to assist in programming the 135 deferred critical functions in the replacement JCCH system and the 140 batch reports. The VSP is currently programming a replacement JCCH which was to mirror the current system; however, in the development of the replacement system approximately 135 features that exist in the current system were deferred in the replacement system. NARIP funding will help in filling in those 135 features to the replacement JCCH. These absent features impact many functions of the automated workflow, including researching and applying dispositions and other criminal history information. 2) For the POC VCheck System project, the VSP will use funds to contract with a business analyst and Java Developer to provide enhancements to the existing Firearms VCheck Java system. The VCheck system interfaces with the Virginia CCH, the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN), the Virginia Mental Health Database, NCIC, III and NICS. The system additions and modifications will assist the POC in providing improved product to the NICS and state counterparts, as well as assist in the development of long-range record improvement and strategy plans in the research, analysis, data quality auditing, and production that can set quantifiable improvement goals and monitor performance achievement. 3) For the Supreme Court of Virginia (SCV) Scan Mental Commitment

and Protective Orders to VSP project, the SCV will use funds to install image stations to 16 Juvenile and Domestic Relations (J&DR) courts to allow the courts to scan protective orders (POs) to VSP daily as they are issued. The current process includes making copies and mailing or faxing the POs to VSP. The SCV also will build a database to store the POs received from the general and J&DR courts. The secure database will provide a centralized place to store the images of the POs. SCV will provide the VSP access to PDF images of civil commitments and POs and to have the ability to view, download and print the orders. The project will help eliminate the purchase of firearms by personnel with mental (civil) commitment orders or POs by being able to provide the stored signed court orders available on the same day issued for VSP.

West Virginia ($2,540,923) The West Virginia Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will use funds to continue to improve the backlog of court dispositions and the reporting of individuals with mental health adjudications on their records. The backlog is directly related to staffing and resources available to process the incoming disposition forms being submitted by court clerks throughout the state. To build upon the efforts of previously funded projects, the AOC will continue to fund the staff and efforts to reduce the backlog of dispositions. The WV Offender Case Management System (WVOCMS) is the system that collects all demographic information, family and criminal history, assessment information, fees information, incarceration information, drug testing and other identifying information. The system has the capability to house scanned copies of the pre-sentence report, court orders and indictments and record missing dispositions for the pre-sentence and LS/CMI reports. The WVOCMS is the most accurate electronic system to pull indictment and submit case file data with a disposition and a required prohibitor to the WVSP Criminal Record Repository for inclusion in the criminal history file.