Message From the Chair

It has been an honor to serve as the Chair of the RISS National Policy Group. FY2012 was a challenging year, not only for RISS but for law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. RISS’s FY2012 appropriation was severely decreased, from $45 million to $27 million, or 40 percent. We recognize that your agencies are also experiencing reductions in funding and resources. RISS’s services are intended to augment your efforts. RISS’s reduction in funding serves to exacerbate an already critical situation.

During the year, RISS streamlined operations, prioritized services, and identified areas to reduce or eliminate. RISS worked diligently to maintain its core services, such as the RISS Secure Cloud (RISSNET); its intelligence databases; connectivity to local, state, and federal resources; analytical services; and other critical programs.

Although FY2012 was a struggle, RISS continued to experience demand for its services. More agencies became members of RISS, and more inquiries were made to RISS resources. RISS further advanced information sharing, provided critical investigative support services to law enforcement, and expanded its officer safety deconfliction system, known as RISSafe. It is comforting to know that our services and resources directly aid your efforts to resolve cases and stay safe.

This annual report provides information on RISS’s structure, operations, services, accomplishments, and future goals. I encourage you to visit a new portion of RISS’s website (www.riss.net/Impact), which showcases shared successes and RISS’s impact to law enforcement operations.

On behalf of the RISS Directors, I would like to thank you for your continued support. We appreciate the trusted relationship we have built with the agencies we serve. We also pledge to do all we can to represent you, provide quality services, and serve as the local and state voice at the national level.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Kennedy, Jr.
Chair, RISS National Policy Group
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Any users who have difficulty accessing this document because of a disability should contact the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program at portalfeedback@risstech.riss.net for assistance in receiving an alternative format.
Introduction

The Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) is a proven, innovative, evidence-based, and cost-effective program that is used and trusted by hundreds of thousands of officers and criminal justice professionals in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, Australia, Canada, England, and New Zealand. RISS provides critical services to thousands of local, state, federal, and tribal law enforcement and public safety agencies in every state, across jurisdictions. These agencies turn to and rely on RISS for—

- Secure Information and Intelligence Sharing Capabilities
- Officer Safety Deconfliction Services, Resources, and Training
- Critical and diverse investigative support services

RISS works regionally and on a global scale to respond to the unique crime problems of each region while strengthening the country’s information sharing environment and supporting the nation’s public safety mission. RISS is a congressionally funded program but is managed and governed locally by its policy boards. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), administers the RISS Program.

RISS consists of six regional centers and the RISS Technology Support Center. This structure, as well as the strong relationship between RISS and its policy board members and law enforcement, public safety, and private sector partners, has enabled RISS to be proactive and responsive, seize opportunities, and expand and enhance programs and services.

The six RISS Centers and the areas they serve are as follows:

- Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network° (MAGLOCLEN) serving Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, as well as Australia, Canada, and England

- Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center° (MOCIC) serving Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, as well as Canada

“RISS has proven to be an extremely important asset in our ability to conduct day-to-day law enforcement activities.”

—Fort Huachuca, Arizona Criminal Investigations Command U.S. Army
RISS supports efforts against organized and violent crime, gang activity, drug activity, terrorism, human trafficking, identity theft, and other regional priorities. There is no other program in existence through which law enforcement officers can receive the level of support that RISS provides. RISS’s services and programs directly impact law enforcement’s ability to successfully resolve investigations and prosecute criminals while providing the critical resources and officer safety deconfliction necessary to safeguard law enforcement officers and citizens.
“RISS—The most important working tool for law enforcement to combat criminal activity and terrorism.”
—Raleigh County Sheriff’s Office, Beckley, West Virginia

“My experience . . . has sold me on the cutting edge, efficiency, and expertise of the RISS organization.”
—Homeland Security Investigations, Department of Homeland Security
Phoenix, Arizona

“RISS is a tremendous asset to the law enforcement community, and the services are invaluable.”
—Lower Swatara Township, Pennsylvania, Police Department

“RISS has always come through for us and is truly a partner in making our community a safer place.”
—Marlborough, Massachusetts, Police Department

“RISS is like an extra officer in our department.”
—Arma, Kansas, Police Department

“We are grateful to be able to have a partnership with an organization that serves as such a reliable resource.”
—South San Francisco, California, Police Department

“RISS is keeping law enforcement connected to the rest of the world through information sharing.”
—Penobscot County, Maine, Sheriff’s Office
The following groups and individuals facilitate RISS’s operations, policy development, and implementation.

**RISS Center Policy Boards**

Each RISS Center has a policy board composed of representatives from member agencies in the center’s multistate region and the Director of the in-region RISS Center. The policy board serves as the governing authority for the center and may provide direction affecting center policy, operation, and administration. The Director is responsible for implementing policies and directives of the center’s policy board and administers and manages center activities. There are more than 100 policy board members nationwide.

**RISS National Policy Group (RNPG)**

The RNPG is composed of the six RISS Center Directors, who are the voting members of the RNPG, as well as the chair of each center’s policy board or his or her designee. The RNPG is responsible for strategic planning, resolution of operational issues, advancement of information sharing, and decision making affecting the six RISS Centers, the nationwide organization, service delivery, member agencies, and related partner organizations.

“The resources provided by RISS are essential to the successful arrest and prosecution of individuals involved in criminal activity.”

—Pascagoula, Mississippi, Police Department

RISS Directors (left to right): Michael Snively (MOCIC), John Vinson (RMIN), Patty Borrelli (MAGLOCLEN), Karen Aumond (WSIN), Donna Williams (ROCIC), Donald Kennedy (NESPIN)
RISS maintains a well-qualified, highly experienced, and knowledgeable team of professionals. These men and women are integral to the successful implementation and management of the RISS Program. The RISS Centers employ staff members with expertise in management, criminal justice, law enforcement, intelligence, investigative techniques, analytical processes, training and publications development, field support, and information technology to assist agencies with their investigations and prosecutorial efforts. RISS staff members are prohibited from direct involvement in law enforcement operations.

“From investigative support, intelligence information, and collaboration with staff and the network of agencies that our membership affords, the services of RISS have been invaluable. This organization has proven to be an extremely reliable and valuable service. Without our access and the existence of the RISS Centers, law enforcement would be set back decades in our ability to coordinate, share information, and receive unequaled levels of support and cooperation.”

—Kearney, Nebraska, Police Department

RISS CENTER STAFF

RISS CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER (CIO)

The RISS CIO serves as a policy representative and a technology advocate for the RISS Program. The CIO provides policy guidance, vision, and leadership; serves as the liaison and national point of contact for RISS-related technology initiatives and programs; and offers strategic policy direction and solutions.

RISS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT CENTER (RTSC)

The RTSC Manager oversees the operations of the RTSC, which consists of the Applications Development Group and the Intranet Operations Group. The RTSC staff supports technical programs and projects that span the RISS enterprise and support the RISS Centers, including the infrastructure and security of RISSNET™ and database applications development.
**Working Groups and Committees**

The RISS Directors may establish working groups or committees to research, review, and provide recommendations on issue-driven items. The RISS Directors approve recommendations prior to implementation and may create and dissolve working groups and committees as needed. Multiple groups or committees may be working simultaneously on different topics. A working group or committee may continue for a longer period of time and address multiple issues/topics. Examples include:

- **RISSApps Users’ Group (RUG)**—Evaluates and recommends enhancements to RISS applications, including the RISS Criminal Intelligence Databases (RISSIntel™) and the RISS Gang Program (RISSGang™).
- **RISS Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System (RISSafe™) Program Advisory Group (RPAG)**—Reviews and makes recommendations regarding the RISSafe program, including enhancements, training, and policy development.
- **RISS Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC)**—Reviews and recommends technical policies, standards, and processes.
- **RISS STatistical Assessment Team (RSTAT)**—Reviews and evaluates RISS performance measures and statistics and recommends revisions to the quarterly reporting process.
- **RISS Outreach Committee (ROC)**—Identifies outreach and educational priorities, develops and designs outreach materials, and offers strategies for maximizing distribution of materials.

**Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR)**

RISS also partners with IIR, a Florida-based nonprofit research and training organization specializing in law enforcement, juvenile justice, and criminal justice issues. IIR serves as a technical service provider for training, research, program planning, policy development, performance measurement and evaluation, information systems support, and analysis services to RISS through the support of grant awards received from BJA. IIR has provided technical assistance support services to RISS for more than 30 years.
FY2012 Overview of Accomplishments

During FY2012, demand for RISS services continued to increase; however, because of the funding reduction, RISS was unable to provide the same level of service as in previous years. Throughout FY2012, RISS diligently worked to maintain its core services, including the operation of RISSNET, RISSIntel, RISSafe, and its analytical services; however, a number of reductions and the elimination of some programs and services occurred.

Examples of RISS’s accomplishments in FY2012 include the following:

- RISS member agencies increased to 8,952.
- Authorized RISSNET users increased to 112,830.
- Developed 32,516 analytical products.
- Loaned more than 4,587 pieces of specialized equipment.
- Responded to 184,553 requests for intelligence research support.
- Sponsored or cosponsored 908 training opportunities and helped train 53,382 individuals.
- Watch Center personnel and authorized remote users entered 164,094 law enforcement-related events into RISSafe, resulting in 57,500 identified conflicts.
- Supported 23 RISSafe Watch Centers.
- Deployed the RISSafe Mobile application.
- The number of critical infrastructure and public safety professionals accessing the RISS Automated Trusted Information Exchange™ (ATIX) increased to 121,443.
- Supported agency systems connected to RISSNET.
- Created Secure Hosted Websites accessible via RISSNET.
- Continued to support RISSGang. Completed the connection of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives’ (ATF) GangNet and the Arizona GangNet.
- Continued to participate in the Assured Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) Interoperability Initiative under the auspices of the White House and the Office of the Program Manager, Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE).
- Continued to support other programs such as the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) and the National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS).
- Continued work to expand the RISS Pawnshop Database nationwide. More than 3.4 million records are available in the database.

In addition, RISS streamlined operations, prioritized critical programs and resources, and strived to provide high-quality services and support to law enforcement and public safety partners.
Utilizing surveillance equipment supplied by MAGLOCLEN, the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Police Department Intensive Drug Investigative Squad, along with U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) groups in New York City, New York, and Philadelphia, initiated an investigation connected to a Title III offense. The investigation led to the execution of five federal search warrants and the arrests of eight individuals for federal narcotics violations. The surveillance equipment enabled investigators to safely record the daily activities of the suspects. With the recorded information, the investigators executed the search warrants. During the execution, investigators seized 76 kilograms of cocaine, valued at $2,280,000; 146.8 grams of crack cocaine, valued at $1,468; two handguns, valued at $500; five vehicles, valued at $15,000; and $13,000 in U.S. currency.

At the request of the Cass County, Michigan, Prosecutor’s Office, the MAGLOCLEN analytical staff created several crime scene diagrams for use in a pending homicide trial. The MAGLOCLEN staff utilized aerial imagery and field sketches to prepare high-quality exhibits that illustrated all relevant aspects of the crime scene. The prosecuting attorney commented, “With these maps, we were able to provide the jury with knowledge of the area and the crime scene. We do believe strongly that these maps made a huge impact and assisted in getting a first-degree murder conviction and guilty charges on all seven counts of additional crimes that were committed by the defendant. He will serve the rest of his life in prison without the possibility of parole.”

Surveillance equipment and confidential funds provided by MAGLOCLEN contributed to the success of an investigation involving the Spring Valley, New York, Police Department; the Ramapo, New York, Police Department; the Rockland County, New York, District Attorney’s Office; the ATF; and the DEA. The investigation, dubbed “Operation Lifeline,” was initiated in response to citizen complaints of narcotics violations, robbery, and weapons violations. The confidential funds enabled the investigators to conduct undercover buys. The surveillance equipment recorded and documented the suspects. As a result, 225 investigations were initiated, 140 suspects were arrested, and 16 search warrants were executed for weapons, narcotics, counterfeiting, prostitution, gambling, sex offenses, and fraud. Items confiscated included $100,000 in U.S. currency; 14 vehicles; 16 firearms; 2.5 pounds of cocaine, valued at $40,000; 2,500 decks of heroin, valued at $50,000; 700 pounds of marijuana, valued at $2,800,000; and 1,100 prescription pills, valued at $27,500.
Secure Information and Intelligence Sharing Capabilities

In 1997, RISS developed RISSNET, a secure infrastructure for law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to share information across jurisdictions. **RISSNET is the only nationwide SBU law enforcement information sharing cloud provider governed by its users.**

RISSNET houses millions of pieces of data, offers bidirectional sharing of information, and connects disparate state, local, and federal systems. Agencies can easily connect to RISSNET, share information and intelligence in a secure environment, and query multiple systems simultaneously. Our nation’s public safety mission requires an interoperable information sharing environment to proactively solve crimes. RISSNET is a major component in meeting this need.

RISSNET also serves as the secure communications infrastructure for a number of critical resources and investigative tools. Currently, **84 systems are connected or pending connection** to RISSNET. There are more than **350 RISS and partner resources available via RISSNET** to authorized users; the owners of these resources rely on RISSNET for its secure infrastructure.

By connecting agencies and systems to RISSNET, rather than funding the build-out of new stand-alone information systems, hundreds of millions of dollars are saved and millions of data records are easily and quickly accessible by law enforcement.

“As our criminals are traveling the East Coast to commit crime, RISSNET is the BEST law enforcement resource to share and receive information to solve crime.”

—Lawrence Township, New Jersey, Police Department
RISS Criminal Intelligence Databases (RISSIntel)

The RISSIntel databases are electronically connected via RISSNET and comply with 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 23. Criminal intelligence databases electronically connected to RISSNET that are available for member agency access must also comply with 28 CFR Part 23. RISS provides member agencies with training and on-site technical assistance to ensure compliance with the regulation.

The RISSIntel user interface provides for real-time, online federated search of 34 RISS and partner intelligence databases, including state systems, the California gang intelligence system (CalGang), and systems connected via NVPS, and does not require the RISSNET user to have a separate user account with the respective partner systems. This simplified sign-on (SSO) approach enables officers to save time and quickly retrieve critical information. In addition to electronic queries, member agency personnel may contact center intelligence research staff directly, via telephone or e-mail, for assistance. Member agencies are able to submit large volumes of data for inclusion in the databases through software applications implemented by RISS.

As the nation’s information sharing environment continues to grow, the concept of a system of systems, instead of stand-alone systems, has become the focus for efficient and seamless communications and information sharing. By leveraging the RISSIntel application, agencies can utilize existing technology through an instance of RISSIntel known as RISS7. Offering this service provides agencies an autonomous criminal intelligence database to aid in their investigative efforts while being a part of the broader RISSNET community.

In FY2012, RISSIntel contained almost 2.8 million intelligence records (not including the multitude of records available through connected partner systems) and users made more than 4.7 million inquiries in RISSIntel. These records include individuals, organizations, and associates suspected of involvement in criminal activity, as well as locations, vehicles, weapons, and telephone numbers.
The RISSGang Program

RISSGang is the only comprehensive gang resource that offers a criminal intelligence database, informational resources, and a secure bulletin board. The RISSGang criminal intelligence database provides law enforcement agencies with access to gang information, including suspects, organizations, weapons, photographs, and graffiti. RISS has connected and continues to connect gang systems.

RISS completed a system-to-system interface between RISSIntel/RISSGang and CalGang, enabling authorized users to initiate a federated search. In FY2012, RISS completed the connection of ATF’s GangNet.

Users visited the RISSGang Website **16,269 times** during FY2012 and posted thousands of messages and informational items on the RISSGang Bulletin Board.

RISS Automated Trusted Information Exchange (ATIX)

RISS ATIX™ is a secure, real-time communications and information sharing capability that enables law enforcement, public safety, and private sector communities to share disaster, terrorism, and homeland security information. RISS ATIX supports more than **40** community groups, such as emergency management services, law enforcement, government, water and power utilities, transportation, banking and finance, agriculture, chemical manufacturing, private security, environmental protection, and hospitality industries.

The **RISS ATIX Web pages** contain general and community-specific information, links to restricted and public websites, and other terrorism and disaster-related information. The **Discussion Forum** provides secure conferences to collaborate and post public safety and law enforcement information. RISS ATIX also offers a **Document Library** and **secure e-mail**.
RISSLeads Investigative Website™ (or RISSLeads™)

RISSLeads enables authorized law enforcement officers to post information regarding cases or other law enforcement issues. Authorized users are able to view and respond to posts, ultimately working together by exchanging information on similar or related cases, and generate investigative leads. RISS recently transitioned to a new technology platform, which provides users more capabilities and features.

RISS Secure Hosted Websites

RISS also develops secure hosted websites for partners to share information, post materials, and communicate. There are 34 sites currently housed on RISSNET. Examples of these sites include:

- Assured SBU Network Interoperability Working Group
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation
- Medicaid Fraud Control Units (MFCUs)
- Medicaid Integrity Institute
- Sacramento Criminal Recycler Apprehension Program
- Vehicle TheftInvestigators
- White House Technology and Trafficking Workshop Team
- Colorado Information Analysis Center on Terrorism
- Metro Vice, Narcotics, and Intelligence Strategic Information Center
- National Interagency Fire Center
- New Jersey Office of Homeland Security & Preparedness
- New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center
- Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center
- Seattle U.S. Marshals Service
- Alabama Gang Investigators Association
- Midwest Gang Investigators Association (Kentucky Chapter)

RISSLinks™

With the volume of information available, it is often difficult to see how information links together. Through RISSLinks, a data-visualization tool, users can create link-analysis charts when viewing records in RISSIntel. When RISSLinks is employed, visual data from a variety of associated records is displayed that enables users to view associations and make new connections. RISSLinks enables users to visualize connections and produce charts and visual representations to aid in the investigative and prosecutorial process.

RISS Center Websites

Each RISS Center maintains a website to provide users with easy access to RISSIntel and other resources, such as the Cold Case Database, the Forensic Accounting Database, and the Pseudoephedrine Violator Tracking System. In addition, because of demand from agencies and officers, RISS is in the process of
expanding its **Pawnshop Database** nationwide. The number of investigative records available through these different systems exceeds **28.8 million**.

**Secure E-Mail**
RISS provides secure electronic communications for RISS members to exchange sensitive information. There were more than **32 million** e-mail transactions in FY2012.

**RISS Public Website**
RISS also maintains a public website (www.riss.net) where visitors can obtain general information about RISS’s resources, programs, and technology initiatives. In addition, outreach and educational materials and contact information for each RISS Center are also provided. During FY2012, more than **730,000 visits** were made to the public website.

RISS recently announced its new Facebook page. To learn more, find RISS at [facebook.com/TheRISSProgram](http://facebook.com/TheRISSProgram). **Make sure to “like” the page to get updates and information about RISS.**
MOCIC Shared Successes

The Urbandale, Iowa, Police Department contacted the MOCIC analytical staff to assist in an embezzlement case. The authorities were investigating a complaint from a local business that suspected an employee of embezzling substantial amounts of money. A subpoena for the suspect’s bank records produced an overwhelming volume of information contained in thousands of pages of records. The MOCIC staff analyzed the information and produced a spreadsheet that clearly showed how much money had been taken and where and when it was spent. The investigation revealed that the suspect took more than $500,000 over a period of two years. The suspect ultimately pled guilty to four counts, each carrying a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison.

The Greenwood County, Kansas, Sheriff’s Office used MOCIC specialized surveillance equipment to assist in a narcotics investigation. As a result of the investigation, three marijuana grows, valued at approximately $10 million, were seized and two individuals were arrested.

The MOCIC analytical staff and digital forensics staff assisted the Altoona, Iowa, Police Department with a theft and vehicular manslaughter case. The suspect had stolen a vehicle in Iowa. As he drove the stolen car through Altoona, the suspect hit another car and killed a victim. The MOCIC staff extracted a forensic copy of the track data from a Global Positioning System (GPS) vehicle tracker that corroborated witness statements regarding the location and excessive speed of the vehicle. In addition, the MOCIC staff prepared a PowerPoint presentation for the investigators that featured date- and time-stamped screenshots recorded by the device of the suspect’s trip from the theft to the crash. This product was used to corroborate the information in the police report. The suspect ultimately accepted a plea agreement. The investigating officer said that the MOCIC’s work was instrumental in obtaining the plea.

“Having MOCIC staff and resources available when I am on scene has often been crucial to my role in the investigation.”

—Senior Criminal Analyst
South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation
Officer Safety Through Deconfliction Services, Resources, and Training

Officer safety is of paramount importance to the law enforcement community and the citizens they serve. The RISS policy boards recognized this critical need and voiced the need for a nationwide deconfliction system.

**RISS Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System (RISSafe)**

RISSafe is an essential component in helping ensure officer safety. RISSafe stores and maintains data on planned law enforcement events and identifies and alerts affected agencies and officers of potential conflicts impacting law enforcement efforts. Since RISSafe’s inception in 2008, more than **725,000 operations** have been entered, resulting in more than **252,000 identified conflicts**.

Currently, **22 RISSafe Watch Centers** are operational, 16 of which are operated by organizations other than RISS, such as state agencies, fusion centers, and High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). These organizations have invested resources to support this critical nationwide officer safety program. Some law enforcement agencies have adopted internal policies mandating the use of RISSafe for their operations, and some states have taken this further. For example, in August 2012, the Rhode Island Chiefs of Police voted unanimously to implement RISSafe statewide, for all law enforcement agencies. The Rhode Island State Police must enter information into RISSafe before a trooper can receive an authorization to conduct his or her operation.

RISSafe is not an intelligence database; there is no criminal predicate required to post an operation. However, when entering an event into RISSafe, officers may include additional information, such as subject, vehicles, and gang data. After data is entered into RISSafe, appropriate information is sent to a queue in RISSIntel for review by RISS Center intelligence staff or is sent to another criminal intelligence system available via RISSNET. After review, only data from RISS member agencies that meets 28 CFR Part 23 guidelines is submitted to RISSIntel. The interaction between RISSafe and RISSIntel provides comprehensive officer safety event and subject deconfliction services.

RISSafe is accessible and monitored on a 24/7/365 basis and available at no cost to all law enforcement agencies regardless of RISS membership.
RISSafe continues to proliferate throughout the country, with demand for its use increasing each day. It is impossible to put a cost to the number of officers RISSafe has already prevented from harm or, worse, death.

“Having been involved in law enforcement for many years in different parts of the country, I have working experience with several deconfliction systems. Without reservation, I support RISSafe and appreciate the efforts of RISS.”

—Pocatello, Idaho, Police Department
In FY2012, RISS introduced **RISSafe Mobile**, which enables officers to access RISSafe from their smartphones and other mobile devices. RISSafe Mobile supports the following mobile operating system platforms: iPhone® OS (including the iPad®), Windows Mobile®, Android™ devices, and BlackBerry®.

The first RISSafe Mobile operation was entered in the MOCIC region in April 2012 in connection with a narcotics investigation. This entry generated two conflicts with two operations in the same location. All involved officers received the information necessary to coordinate their operations.

Systems such as RISSafe—as well as the HIDTA Initiative’s Case Explorer and SAFETNet systems—work to mitigate the potential for blue-on-blue assaults. A need exists to interconnect these systems so that conflicts can be identified between systems and officers involved can be notified of potential dangers. RISS and the HIDTAs using Case Explorer began working toward interfacing the two systems in 2012. Early in FY2013, RISSafe and an instance of Case Explorer (Washington/Baltimore HIDTA) were connected in the MAGLOCLEN region. Additional work is under way to refine and expand this initiative and to discuss interconnectivity with additional deconfliction partners.
RISS Officer Safety Website
There are many websites containing officer safety-related information; however, in some cases, the information is outdated, inaccurate, or actually intended to harm officers. RISS’s member agencies expressed an interest in accessing one location to obtain reliable and accurate officer safety information.

RISS launched the RISS Officer Safety Website, which serves as a nationwide repository for issues related to officer safety, such as concealments, armed and dangerous threats, officer safety videos, special reports, and training. The website was visited more than 18,000 times in FY2012.

Registered users of the VALOR Web Portal who are sworn law enforcement are also able to access the RISS Officer Safety Website.

“RISS gives me the ability to access current gang intelligence in a secure, real-time setting. RISS provides me with current officer safety issues that arise from other jurisdictions. RISS also allows me to not only share with the South Carolina law enforcement community but draw from agencies across the nation. With RISS, I can pass on information and use other officers and departments in criminal intelligence analysis. The RISSNET system is a law enforcement officer’s proven one-stop resource.”

—South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy
Columbia, South Carolina
NESPIN Shared Successes

The Stamford, Connecticut, Police Department contacted the NESPIN analytical staff to request a telephone record analysis. The NESPIN staff also testified at the trial of a suspect who was arrested in 2008 for the stabbing death of a former coworker. The suspect was convicted of the murder and sentenced to 50 years in jail. The NESPIN staff had prepared 44 charts/graphs and 75 analytical reports in support of the investigation. It is estimated that NESPIN saved the department more than $11,000 in analytical costs.

A South Hadley, Massachusetts, police detective contacted NESPIN to request assistance with a financial crime that involved wire and bank fraud. Several boxes of bank records and financial statements were analyzed by the NESPIN analytical staff. When the analysis report was completed and returned to the detective, he contacted both the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation. Over the course of five years, three subjects were arrested, and all pled guilty in U.S. federal court. All three subjects received lengthy prison terms of up to nine years and were ordered to pay restitution in excess of $15 million. During the course of this investigation, a sophisticated and widespread wire fraud and bank fraud scheme was uncovered, resulting in the seizure of more than 40 luxury homes in Florida and Massachusetts, valued at $145 million. Additionally, numerous luxury automobiles—such as Jaguars, BMWs, and Porsches—were seized, valued at $5 million. The lead investigator stated, “Without NESPIN’s assistance at the ground floor of this investigation, we never would have been able to follow the monetary transactions from person to person. The work that NESPIN did paved the way for us and made sense of a very complicated investigation.”

The Marlborough, Massachusetts, Police Department requested and received $5,000 in NESPIN confidential funds for the investigation of multijurisdictional narcotics trafficking in the city of Marlborough and the surrounding area. At the conclusion of this undercover investigation, detectives developed probable cause and effected the arrests of 45 individuals for illegal narcotics offenses, while developing reasonable suspicion on 15 more. With the assistance of the Hudson, Massachusetts, Police Department, a warrant sweep was conducted. Seizures included 78 grams of marijuana, valued at $1,000; 70 grams of cocaine, valued at $7,000; 3 grams of heroin, valued at $300; 64 oxycodone tablets, valued at $1,900; 5 automobiles; 40 cellular phones; and $2,100 in U.S. currency. The lead detective stated, “Without the assistance of NESPIN, we would not have been able to begin this important operation and almost four dozen drug dealers would still be on the streets of our city.”
Critical and Diverse Investigative Support

Many law enforcement agencies still do not have the support, resources, and/or funding to obtain analytical services, purchase investigative and surveillance equipment, send officers and personnel to training, research volumes of data, and develop intelligence briefings and other law enforcement-sensitive documents. RISS member agencies rely on RISS for these and many other investigative support services. RISS offers a full range of services, from the beginning of an investigation to the ultimate prosecution and conviction of criminals. A North Carolina sheriff said, “RISS represents a ‘one-stop shop’ of resources for today’s law enforcement agencies—whether the need is for criminal intelligence, technical support, or training resources. RISS offers a fantastic solution to the budgetary dilemma facing local agencies.”

Using RISS’s resources and services enables officers to:

- Simultaneously query connected intelligence databases via RISSNET.
- Retrieve information from specialized and investigative databases and resources.
- Use analytical products such as crime scene diagrams, link-analysis charts, digital forensics, and audio/video services to aid in arresting and prosecuting offenders.
- Request assistance from research staff to help sift through information, conduct research, and help identify the missing piece of the puzzle.
- Borrow specialized surveillance and investigative equipment, such as GPSs, customized cameras, and recording devices.
- Obtain confidential funds to purchase items of an evidentiary nature or to support investigative expenses.
- Obtain training on new and emerging topics, such as social media, domestic terrorism organizations, and border security.
- Access critical publications and law enforcement-sensitive briefings, including topics such as sovereign citizens, gun violence, narcotics, and human trafficking.

RISS is an excellent return on investment for our nation.

Over the last 10 years, law enforcement officers leveraging RISS’s services arrested more than 48,000 offenders. These officers also seized more than $662.3 million in narcotics, property, and currency. As a cost-effective program, RISS benefits thousands of agencies and officers and helps fill their needs and provide vital resources so they can continue to keep their communities safe.

Every day, officers use RISS to help solve cases and stay safe.
Investigative Support and Research

Often, law enforcement officers do not have access to investigative databases. The RISS intelligence research staff has access to dozens of research sources, specialized databases, public record information, and criminal justice information. Research staff search, retrieve, compile, and provide a comprehensive report of their findings to officers. This assists officers in need of quick, accurate, and complete information. RISS member agency access officers may contact center staff by telephone, fax, or e-mail for assistance. In FY2012, the RISS intelligence research staff responded to 184,553 requests for investigative support assistance.

Analytical Services and Products

In FY2012, the RISS analysts developed 32,516 highly complex and specialized flowcharts, link-analysis charts, crime scene diagrams, and telephone toll analysis, as well as financial analysis reports, digital forensics analysis, and audio/video enhancement services. Analysts also prepare crime surveys; activity assessment reports, such as terrorism assessments; and national-scope products for distribution. RISS analysts also provide their expertise during court preparation and serve as expert witnesses at trial, as requested.

Each RISS Center staff has access to a number of specialized resources, such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) Intelligence Portal. This portal provides a platform to enable partners to share threat-related information generated by the federal government, as well as locally generated products and information. It also enables intelligence analysts from the homeland security, intelligence, and law enforcement communities at all levels of government to collaborate and share information, products, and analyses.
Digital forensics pertains to the analysis and retrieval of information from computers and digital storage media. Digital forensic analysts uncover deleted files; locate evidence; evaluate the structure of computerized files; analyze other computer and cellular phone activity within hard drives, CD-ROMs, and JPEG images; and analyze e-mail seized during investigations. In FY2012, RISS received 127 requests for digital forensics assistance. This service is not available at all RISS Centers and in some areas, the service has been limited due to reduced funding.

Audio and video enhancements have become extremely common inside the courtroom and assist law enforcement and prosecutors in convicting criminals. Audio enhancements are useful for undercover operations because analysts have the ability to remove background and frequency noise, enabling investigators to more clearly identify sounds and voices. Analysts have the ability to enhance video footage in order to present a clear picture, which is extremely useful in robbery and burglary cases. In FY2012, RISS provided support for 620 requests for audio/video enhancement services.

**Specialized Investigative Equipment**

In many cases, member agencies cannot afford to purchase and maintain highly specialized investigative and surveillance equipment. The 4,587 pieces of equipment loaned by RISS in FY2012 made a substantial difference in the ability to build cases and to investigate and apprehend criminals. Examples of equipment include body-wire receivers, GPSs, cameras, video recorders, and specialized lenses. The RISS Center equipment staff members consult with and train member agencies on the use of equipment and provide expertise in developing specialized equipment.

Member agencies that request a loan of investigative equipment must do so in writing and adhere to equipment loan procedures. The centers have developed inventory controls and procedures regarding the proper use of loaned equipment, and each requires its member agencies to report on the use of equipment and the results achieved from support of their investigative activity. These reports provide investigative information on criminal suspects for submission to the RISSIntel databases.
Confidential Funds
RISS provides funds to member agencies to purchase information, contraband, stolen property, and other items of an evidentiary nature or to provide for other investigative expenses. RISS provided $193,719 in confidential funds in FY2012. These funds have been instrumental in apprehending narcotics dealers and gang members.

The availability and use of confidential funds are controlled by federal guidelines, as well as RISS policies and procedures. The requesting member agency must demonstrate that funds are not available from other sources. The RISS Centers require member agencies to report on the use of the confidential funds and the benefits resulting from support of the member agency investigative activity.

Specialized Training, Conferences, and Meetings
RISS Centers sponsor or cosponsor training classes, conferences, and meetings at the local, county, regional, state, and tribal levels across the country, providing a forum to exchange information on regional crime problems and criminal activity. In FY2012, 908 training opportunities were made available and 53,382 criminal justice professionals received training on methods to combat terrorism activity and gang and violent crime; computer, financial, and economic crime; and emerging crime problems. Subject areas also included use of specialized equipment, investigative techniques, analytical techniques, surveillance techniques, and officer safety. RISS officials and staff regularly attend regional and national law enforcement association conferences held throughout the country to provide information on RISS successes, services, and resources.
Publications, Bulletins, and Educational Materials

Each center researches, develops, and distributes numerous publications, bulletins, flyers, special reports, and other criminal intelligence publications highlighting local, regional, and nationwide issues. Publications, training calendars, and various information on RISS services are also posted on RISS Center secure websites, available via RISSNET. Member agencies can also search for information on criminal activity and crime patterns contained in the posted publications at each center’s website.

Field Services Support and Technical Assistance

Field services are a unique component of the RISS Program. Field staff members from each center regularly contact law enforcement and public safety agencies to ensure that RISS is meeting their needs. The RISS field staff conducted 22,719 on-site visits to provide on-site technical assistance to member agencies, as well as potential member agencies, to facilitate delivery of RISS services. This may include explanation and guidance regarding how to request services and various training activities, as well as installation and use of RISSNET.

In addition, the field staff conducted 3,755 28 CFR Part 23 compliance audits. The field staff also educated public safety agencies on the benefits and use of RISS ATIX and other services, as appropriate. The field staff personnel have law enforcement backgrounds and provide tailored training and consultation, as requested, to agencies. This one-on-one support has resulted in trusted relationships and a program prized among its members.

“As always, [my Law Enforcement Coordinator] was professional and knowledgeable and rendered valuable assistance to my unit. MAGLOCLEN is one of our best and greatest allies in our ongoing initiative to disrupt and dismember organized criminal enterprises.”

—Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Police Department
RISS Equals Results

Statistics are only one way to measure the value of RISS. The benefit and direct impact of RISS’s services and programs are illustrated in the numerous shared success stories that are submitted on a regular basis by agencies and officers.

RISS’s Impact Website (www.riss.net/Impact) provides additional information on how RISS equals results through success stories from agencies and officers. The site also provides statistics, usage information, quotes, and information for each state and includes examples of how RISS supports federal initiatives.

The RISS public website (www.riss.net) contains information, educational materials, and videos that provide an overview of RISS, RISSafe, RISSafe Mobile, and the RISS Officer Safety Website, as well as other RISS programs and resources.
RMIN Shared Successes

The RMIN RISSafe Watch Center staff entered a search warrant operation into RISSafe for the Gilbert, Arizona, Police Department. A conflict was returned with the Gila County, Arizona, Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force, which had submitted an event at the same location. Upon contacting the Gila County Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force, the Watch Center staff learned that the task force was also planning to execute a search warrant at the same location in Gilbert that afternoon. It was determined that the location called in by each agency was in fact the same address, even though one was listed as an avenue and the other as a drive. Thanks to the RISSafe feature that checks for conflicts based on the latitude and longitude of the location, the Watch Center staff resolved this conflict before the agencies attempted to serve their warrants at the same time. Officers with both counties were pleased that the system worked for them and stated that they would contact one another to see whether they could offer assistance.

RMIN provided analytical services to the 13th Judicial District Attorney’s Office in New Mexico and the Grants, New Mexico, Police Department regarding a high-visibility homicide case of child abuse that resulted in a death. The RMIN analytical staff provided prosecutors with a PowerPoint presentation, including timelines and a chronological bullet listing of relevant/critical events and facts that proved essential to its successful prosecution. As a result, the jury deliberated one day and found the defendant guilty of the felony crime charge.

The Prescott, Arizona, Police Department requested assistance from the RMIN analytical staff regarding a case of sexual exploitation of a minor. The suspect had returned a laptop to a rental company after downloading child pornography to its hard drive. The RMIN staff completed an analysis of the computer, which resulted in numerous images being linked to the suspect. The suspect was charged with six counts of sexual exploitation of a minor, three counts of attempted sexual exploitation of a minor, and one count of indecent exposure. The defendant pled guilty and was sentenced to 25 years in prison.
Nationwide Impact

RISS leadership recognizes that efficient and effective sharing of information between and among criminal justice agencies and partner organizations is at the heart of today’s efforts across the nation to protect public safety. In the current fiscal environment of reduced resources at all levels of government, the ability to share information remains one of the most important factors that enable communities to address their most pressing criminal justice problems in cost-effective ways.

The RISS commitment to providing critical information sharing solutions is not limited to state, local, and tribal entities. RISS has always been a key player in federal information sharing initiatives. Through these partnerships, RISS offers cost-effective and time-saving solutions while further strengthening information sharing and public and officer safety. RISS currently supports 1,056 federal member agencies. Examples of RISS’s partnerships with federal agencies and programs include the following:

- ATF’s GangNet System
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) National Gang Intelligence Center
- Office of the Program Manager, Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE)
- United States Attorneys’ Offices
- U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Offices
- United States Secret Service’s (USSS) Targeted Violence Information Sharing System (TAVISS)
- United States Postal Inspection Service
- National Network of Fusion Centers
- National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)
- National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS)
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)

Assured Interoperability Initiative

RISS is the only nonfederal entity participating in the Assured SBU Interoperability Initiative under the auspices of the White House and the PM-ISE. This initiative seeks to expand federated access to resources and to provide SSO capabilities for officers to access multiple systems simultaneously. RISS is
at the forefront in providing simplified, federated access. More than **15,000 users** from trusted partner systems are using Federated Identity to access RISSNET resources, including the FBI’s Law Enforcement Online (LEO), the Chicago Police Department, and the Pennsylvania Justice Network.

In FY2012, working with PM-ISE and SBU partners, RISS led the development of an Information Exchange Package Documentation (IEPD), which will facilitate the sharing of information through a security-trimmed federated search among justice-related systems. RISS is also working with fellow SBU partners, such as Intelink, LEO, and HSIN, to develop SSO and search capabilities. Through RISSNET and RISS’s partnerships, an unprecedented level of information has been shared, resulting in the arrest and prosecution of thousands of criminals and the seizure of millions of dollars in narcotics, property, and currency.

**White House Technology and Trafficking Initiative**

In addition, RISS was asked to serve on Team 1 and Team 2 of the White House Technology and Trafficking Initiative. Team 1 is focused on information sharing resources and technology. Team 2 is focused on human trafficking-related training. In August 2012, RISS established a Secure Hosted Website on RISSNET for Team 1 members to provide a secure information sharing platform.

**Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI)**

The **NSI** is a collaborative effort led by USDOJ, BJA, in partnership with DHS, the FBI, and state, local, tribal, and territorial partners. An integral component of the NSI is a technology solution that enables participating agencies to share and view SAR information from various NSI Shared Spaces that have been created under the auspices of the ISE and installed locally at participating agencies. The NSI Federated Search Tool was created to enable authorized users to search data from all of the participating local ISE-SAR Shared Spaces. Access to the tool is provided by RISS to its users directly from the RISSNET Portal and in a federated manner to authorized law enforcement personnel via the FBI’s LEO Enterprise Portal. In addition, some agencies are leveraging RISSNET by hosting their shared space servers within the RTSC.

**National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS)**

In 2004, the NVPS was developed in cooperation with the DEA, HIDTA, RISS, and Nlets—The International Justice and Public Safety Network. NVPS is a target/subject deconfliction system that
accomplishes automated federated inquiries from one participating NVPS system to other participating systems when data is entered into one of the participating systems and the appropriate criteria are met to initiate an automated query. RISS built and hosts the NVPS Message Hub to provide access to the NVPS participant agencies and to RISS member agencies that submit records to the RISSIntel databases via RISSNET. There are 10 databases connected through NVPS.

**Support for Fusion Centers**

According to the 2012 National Network of Fusion Centers Final Report, RISS Centers have actively engaged with fusion centers in a variety of ways, including collocating efforts, participating as formal members of fusion center governance bodies, and using HSIN. In addition, almost all fusion centers (97.4 percent) have access to RISSNET, thus further fostering the collaboration between RISS Centers and fusion centers.

RISS intelligence analysts interact daily with staff at various fusion centers, and in some instances, RISS Center staff members are assigned to a fusion center. Fusion center and RISS staffs benefit from daily interactions that enable them to capitalize on each other’s knowledge and experience.

RISS provides technical on-site assistance to fusion centers to integrate RISS services and resources into their daily operations and coordinates the delivery of RISS services with fusion center personnel. RISS also provides the fusion center staff with on-site training, research, and topical publications. Through RISS’s sponsored and cosponsored training opportunities, courses such as anti-terrorism, analytical techniques, and 28 CFR Part 23 are made available. RISS researches, drafts, and disseminates publications related to fusion centers and information sharing strategies to thousands of criminal justice professionals.

RISS also participates as an advisory member on the Fusion Center Subcommittee of the Information Sharing and Access Interagency Policy Committee (ISA IPC). The ISA IPC focuses on coordinating federal support to fusion centers and their field-based information sharing partners by providing the guidance and standards necessary to support interconnectivity to help ensure information sharing between all levels of government. The subcommittee is chaired by DHS and the FBI. Through this subcommittee, DHS has facilitated opportunities for collaboration and coordination between field-based information sharing partners in a variety of ways, including analytic exchanges, collaboration on joint products, analytic training, leadership training, and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.
RISS Center Directors also participate in the DHS-sponsored Fusion Center Leaders Program (FCLP), which provides a platform for fusion center leaders to examine key questions and issues regarding homeland security, public safety, and the ISE. DHS also provides invitations to RISS Center analysts to attend various analytic training efforts, such as the Specialized Analytic Seminar Series, Risk Analysis Training, SAR Analysis Training, and other joint meetings and workshops.

**Examples of Other Partnerships**

RISS continuously seeks and is sought out by others to enable new information sharing partnerships that leverage its secure SBU information sharing capabilities. For example, in FY2012, RISS deployed and provided users with access to the FLETC Electronic Learning Portal. In addition, several state MFCUs are using RISSNET to securely share information, lessons learned, and other information to help in their detection and prosecution efforts. Through support from the PM-ISE, RISS is working to expand and enhance support for Medicaid and Medicare fraud investigators and stakeholders.

The Targeted Violence Information Sharing System (TAVISS) is a federal government system administered and maintained by the USSS. TAVISS is the first centralized database containing a repository of names of subjects with a known or suspected, adverse or unusual direction of interest towards local, state, and/or federal public officials. Member agencies are required to share data from their protective intelligence databases to be active participants. Law enforcement accesses TAVISS via the RISSNET Portal.

The National Railroad Trespasser Database is a national database that was funded by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), accessible to railroad police departments and local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, to accumulate and analyze information pertaining to unauthorized persons found on railroad property. The National Railroad Trespasser Database is an instance of RISSIntel specifically customized to accommodate the needs of railroad police departments. The National Railroad Trespasser Database is available to authorized users via the RISSNET Portal.

BJA, in partnership with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), created the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) Law Enforcement Access Tool to provide law enforcement officers with the information necessary to investigate crimes associated with motor vehicles. This is a law enforcement-sensitive site that is separate from the publicly available NMVTIS Website. NMVTIS is an asset to law enforcement agencies across the country, as investigations
have shown that criminals involved in domestic auto theft enterprises often perpetrate violent crimes, such as homicide, drug and human trafficking, and domestic terrorism. Law enforcement can access the NMVTIS Law Enforcement Access Tool via the RISSNET Portal or via federation to the RISSNET Portal from the LEO Enterprise Portal. Another law enforcement resource initiated by BJA and hosted on the RISSNET Portal is a private, secure Vehicle Theft Investigators’ collaboration site where investigators can conduct secure online information sharing discussions and can post and share documents about their investigations, such as best practices and procedures, criminal methods, and subjects of interest.

The **National Identity Crimes Law Enforcement Network (NICLE)** is an application that collects and organizes identity crime-related information concerning victims, suspects, and investigators. Available to law enforcement, NICLE provides a link that crosses jurisdictional boundaries, allowing investigative efforts to be more efficient and more effective, resulting in more cohesive prosecutions and more appropriate penalties for criminals. Law enforcement can access the NICLE Dashboard via the RISSNET Portal.

RISS was mentioned in the **National Strategy for Information Sharing and Safeguarding**, released by the White House in December 2012. The report included RISS among the entities that have made significant strides in leveraging partnerships and technology to enhance the information sharing environment.

RISS is supported by many law enforcement organizations, including the **International Association of Chiefs of Police**, the **National Sheriffs’ Association**, the **National Narcotic Officers’ Associations’ Coalition**, and the **National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations**. RISS’s partnerships have resulted in an unprecedented level of information and intelligence sharing.
ROCIC Shared Successes

A Pelham, Alabama, police officer was shot in the face while conducting a routine traffic stop. The officer was killed instantly and was left on the side of the interstate. During the initial response, officers diligently collected numerous pieces of crucial evidence and worked tirelessly. One of the most important pieces of evidence recovered was the officer’s patrol camera from his vehicle. However, the quality of the recovered media, which included the shooting, was poor. Preparing for trial, this piece of evidence needed additional expertise and attention to convey the events accurately. The Office of the District Attorney, 18th Judicial Circuit, sent the video to the ROCIC audio/video staff to enhance the audio and was extremely satisfied with the results. The investigator stated, “The technician who worked with us was attentive to our needs and did so in an expeditious manner. Utilizing software not available to our agency, he enhanced the video to a level where we determined, without question, the conversation that the officer had with the offender moments before he was killed.” This conversation was important to the jury to understand the state of mind of the offender and in proving that the offender was alone and had sole possession of the murder weapon when the officer was killed. These details were critical to the case, the impending conviction, and the ultimate recommendation of death.

A defendant on trial for the shooting at a shopping mall in Muskogee, Oklahoma, was found guilty of first-degree murder and assault and battery with a deadly weapon. The shooter had killed one person and wounded four others. The guilty verdict by the jury can be attributed in part to the ROCIC analytical staff for developing and providing the prosecution with a timeline exhibit that graphically displayed the events of the shooting and subsequent developments all the way to the apprehension of the suspect. The Muskogee Police Department investigator stated, “This timeline made a positive impact in testimony and aided the jurors’ ability to place the defendant and events of that day in perspective. This asset from ROCIC, as well as others, is a wonderful tool that enhances an investigator’s ability to better perform our duties.”

The Vernon Parish Sheriff’s Office, in Leesville, Louisiana, contacted the ROCIC intelligence research staff to request assistance in producing phone toll records and maps for prosecutors to use at trial to convict a woman who had lured her husband into an ambush, during which her boyfriend shot the husband six times. The victim’s body was left in a shallow ditch. One possible motive was the husband’s $400,000 military life insurance policy. The wife, however, did not know that her husband—after they separated—had changed the policy’s beneficiary from her to his mother. The wife was sentenced to 55 years in prison, and her boyfriend was convicted of second-degree murder and is awaiting sentencing.
Future Initiatives and Projects

With available funding in FY2013, RISS will strive to maintain its critical services and resources, such as RISSNET, intelligence systems, and analytical services. Future initiatives and projects include the following:

- Continue to support, expand, and enhance RISSNET. Integrate advanced technologies and new hardware, upgrade disaster recovery capabilities, and enhance application features and functionality.
- Connect additional systems to RISSNET, including fusion center intelligence systems.
- Deploy additional RISSNET resources to be used on handheld devices.
- Expand RISSNET’s cloud capabilities.
- Continue to operate and enhance RISSIntel/RISSGang.
- Continue to operate and enhance RISSafe. Upgrade and enhance the RISSafe mapping capability. Support the 24/7/365 RISSafe Watch Center operations and operate and expand RISSafe Watch Center coverage. Launch a RISSafe online training program.
- Update and enhance the RISS Officer Safety Website.
- Support and facilitate interconnectivity with other officer safety deconfliction systems.
- Continue to operate and enhance RISS ATIX. Expand RISS ATIX usage and create additional private conferences and communications tools.
- Leverage proven programs to provide nationwide solutions, such as the RISS Pawnshop Database; utilize the database as a nationwide aggregator of pawn data to help investigators combat this growing criminal enterprise.
- Increase participation in nationwide programs, such as the Assured SBU Interoperability Initiative. Collaborate with program partners to identify, implement, and deploy SSO capabilities and expand federated search capabilities.
- Continue to partner with the MFCUs to use RISSNET to securely share information, strategies, best practices, and lessons learned to help in their detection and prosecution efforts. Expand support to Medicaid and Medicare investigators.

RISS is dedicated to providing quality services, fostering interagency cooperation, and creating strong partnerships. RISS is A Proven Resource for Law Enforcement. Its services increase the ability to detect, prevent, identify, solve, and prosecute crime while creating a safer working environment for our nation’s law enforcement.
The WSIN analytical staff provided assistance to the South San Francisco, California, Police Department in a triple homicide case in which the key suspect fled to Mexico. In addition to producing analytical products, such as association and flow analyses on gangs involved in the homicides, the analyst utilized the Southwest Border Anti-Money Laundering Alliance’s Digital Information Gateway database to uncover several wire transfers that ultimately led to the suspect’s capture and extradition back to California. As a result, 19 federal indictments were handed down.

The North Sacramento Office, California Highway Patrol, requested assistance from the WSIN analytical staff on two cases that culminated in successful prosecutions. The first was an assault with a deadly weapon case involving a subject who had stolen a van from the local airport and shot a gun into another van. The second was a felony hit-and-run and vehicular manslaughter case in which a motorcycle rider was struck by a vehicle whose driver had been distracted by using her phone, causing the motorcycle driver to be thrown into the road and killed by another vehicle. The cases involved the analysis and mapping of GPS and cell phone records, which were referred to by both juries as critical elements leading to the successful prosecution of both defendants.

The Alaska State Troopers began a major marijuana smuggling case with the assistance of WSIN specialized equipment. Pole cameras were used to establish probable cause for warrants and to establish the identities of the smugglers and their mode of transportation. The case went international when it was discovered that the source of the contraband was in British Columbia, Canada. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the DEA, the FBI, and local police, as well as the U.S. Attorney’s Office, participated in this investigation. Nineteen defendants were indicted for smuggling, and two were charged with murder of a coconspirator. A total of $8.9 million was seized as asset forfeiture. WSIN’s assistance was an essential tool in bringing down this major criminal organization.
A Proven Resource for Law Enforcement

Offers a trusted program, prized among law enforcement and public safety agencies, with a proven return-on-investment track record

- Addresses regional and nationwide needs of law enforcement and public safety
- Provides investigative tools and services to support law enforcement from the beginning of an investigation through the ultimate prosecution and conviction process
- Enables cost and resource savings for law enforcement and public safety agencies through innovative and evidence-based programs
- Serves as the secure nationwide communications infrastructure for all levels of law enforcement and public safety
- Provides access to millions of pieces of intelligence and other data to support both hometown security and the nation’s information sharing environment
- Connects disparate gang and intelligence systems and enables simultaneous searches of separate but connected databases
- Partners with federal agencies and supports numerous nationwide initiatives
- Serves as a leader in Federated Identity technologies, providing partner agency users with federated access and simplified sign-on

Learn the latest information about RISS at www.riss.net and at facebook.com/TheRISSProgram.

Disclaimer
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