Benefits of a Regional or Local AFIS

Presented by: Gemalto Cogent & West Chester PD
Thank you for Joining Us

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- Regional AFIS Administrator

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Gemalto: Continuous Improvement & Relevance

**Building Our Brand**
- Biometric Identity Management Systems
- End-to-end ID solutions
- National eGovernment infrastructure
- Secure eDocuments
- Mobile ID

**Products and Services for All**

**Customer Engagement at all levels**
Bigger Isn't Always Better
Meet West Chester Township!
Largest Township in OH w/ 61,000 residents in 36 sq mi.
Jumping In: 2003 “Pre-AFIS” Issues

- Abundant use of alias’
- No method to verify identities provided
- Many subjects with “alternate identities” and multiple warrants
- No Identification Unit
  - Proficient Investigators
  - Proficient Evidence technicians
  - No means of using the collected impressions

The Need:
Find a method of verifying identities & consolidating warrant files
Enter: 2004 AFIS Purchase

West Chester PD Story:

Our System consisted of:
- CAFIS 5.1
- 1 Livescan installed in our jail
- 1 Quick ID module in our jail
- 1 Forensic workstation
- 1 Server to house our own local DB
- Expandability for other agencies to input into our DB
- Ability to connect with the OH State AFIS
- Introduction of mobile ID units.

After researching many AFIS vendors, our agency chose Cogent Systems
In 2016, We Upgraded

It was Easy at the Local Level

- Speedy decision making
- Efficient budget planning
- Easy access to vendor for tech reviews and planning
- From planning to implementation in 8 months

Get the upgrades you need when you need them. You have the voice.
Doesn’t have to be “Go Big or Go Home”

- Flexible system architectures
  - Servers
  - Cloud Environments
  - Local Client Storage
- Databases with “millions” on numerous servers OR solutions on a USB Drive

Technology Advances to Meet the Needs of All
Continuing Education @ Cogent User Group Meetings

Wisdom From Ed German

✧ 2017 User Group Lecture, Ed German

✧ 1. There are three main goals of an AFIS
   ✧ Accuracy
   ✧ Thoroughness
   ✧ Timely Support

✧ 2. You can be successful if you can address two of the three goals.

Key Take-Away: Adjusting thoroughness is not an issue w/ local AFIS due to size! I only have to focus on accuracy and support!
Benefit of a Regional/Local AFIS

Improve your Feedback Loop to:

1. Officers collecting booking impressions at the time of arrest
   - Ensure quality impressions for a clean database
   - Identify officers who need training

2. Crime Scene personnel
   - Determine successful processing techniques
   - Provide targeted and efficient training

Junk in, junk out. You own the system and can control the quality from start to finish
Benefit of a Regional/Local AFIS

Tailored Solution to Fit your agencies specific needs

- Allowed us to solve our specific issues (Warrants vs. multiple identities)
- Link cases through the “ownership” of unsolved latent databases
- Monitor and control the quality of stored & searched impressions
- Eliminated our backlog
- Simplified case prioritization
- Eased the burden on examiners
- Simplified record management for court proceedings
- No more driving 2 hours to BCI in order to request an AFIS search!!
Benefit of a Regional/Local AFIS

Have Control over your System Architecture

- Maintain a local Unsolved Latent Database (ULDB) and Unsolved Latent Palm Database (ULPD)
  - Example: The palm functionality was not available from the State system until recently. Our DB allowed the State to populate their database.
- Choose your own retention policy
- Don’t wait for the State:
  - Vendors have Facial Recognition, Iris, etc. that can add value to the identity process

Add the modalities that will benefit your agency the most...when you need to. It may just help to populate the state system down the line.
Recidivism & Distance From Home

Criminals commit crimes near their home

- 68% arrested w/in 3 yrs
- 76% arrested w/in 5 yrs

Why search the State system when you can search a local system and more than likely find your perpetrator?

A State ABIS can have millions of records while a local ABIS at the county or city level may only have several hundred thousand records to compare against, thus improving results and transaction times.

Commit a Crime → Jail/Prison → Released
Cooperation and Networking w/ Neighbors

- Become a force multiplier w/ a “Regional” database
- Provides participating agencies with another method of linking crimes to suspects
- Gain access to Federal Grant funds and training opportunities when applying as a regional group.
Making your Local AFIS Procurement Happen
Requires Commitment on Several Levels

1. Personnel → Staff needs to be trained and be able to maintain a level of proficiency

2. Financial → Budget for care, maintenance, and possible future upgrades from the get-go

Tips to Lock in Funding:
- Clear inclusion of maintenance into operational budget
- Seek State & Federal Funding/Grants
- One throat to choke w/ one full service vendor

Education….and it’s “Ripple Effect”

- A trained latent/AFIS staff can effectively provide training and improve skills of Crime Scene Officers, Evidence Technicians, Evidence Photographers, or any other unit tasked with locating fingerprint impression evidence.

Our agency has conducted an effectiveness/validation study of our system. Sharing this information helps to ensure good quality collection and documentation techniques by Crime Scene Officers. This has created a clearer understanding of impression evidence and has increased the processing officer’s confidence level.

Once your system is operational, efficiencies will flow through the rest of your agency.
Small Agency Input Improves Technology for Entire Industry

- Direct feedback to the vendor
- Less expensive for a vendor to pilot with us vs larger agencies. We see new technology before anyone else
- Consulted on user manuals for improved usefulness
- Share your successes and challenges to others in the market for an AFIS similar in scope
- Free PR for your agency when participating in use cases and white papers

It’s truly a Win-Win Situation
Thank You!

✔️ Learn More about Gemalto & Regional AFIS Benefits @ https://www.gemalto.com/govt/biometrics

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