

State of Hawaii
Department of the Attorney General
HAWAII CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA CENTER
THAP Award Number 15-60-98042

Formal Project Evaluation

The Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center (HCJDC), a division of the Department of the Attorney General, is responsible for Hawaii's statewide adult criminal history repository and works with all criminal justice agencies statewide, which had identified a pressing need for a statewide temporary restraining order (TRO)/protection order (PO) database. This project, funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Telecommunications Information Infrastructure Assistance Program, was to design and implement a statewide TRO/PO database, including document imaging.

The success of this project depended on the successful implementation of this statewide database in terms of connecting all affected agencies, providing the functionality that all users need, and the ability to provide information to those who have to address the needs of the victims. To this end, the project has been very successful.

During this grant period, the HCJDC was also in the midst of an effort to redesign the statewide adult criminal history repository, which was known as the Offender-Based Transaction Statistics/Computerized Criminal History (OBTS/CCH) system. A Transitional OBTS/CCH system was implemented in 1999, using more state-of-the-art technology with a commitment to open systems architecture. The Transitional OBTS/CCH system resided on an RS/6000 and utilized the AIX operating system, DB2 Universal Database for the relational database, and applications developed using the UNIFACE application development tool.

The first phase of this project was to design and implement the statewide TRO/PO database on this Transitional OBTS/CCH system. In November 1999, all TRO/PO data entry users came to Honolulu to view a demonstration of the application. User feedback was obtained and incorporated into the final development of the application. The statewide TRO/PO database and related applications were successfully implemented on the Transitional OBTS/CCH system on April 19, 2000. At that time, all Neighbor Island data entry users were brought into Honolulu for training and HCJDC personnel went out to train the inquiry users.

In concert with this redesign effort, a statewide network infrastructure was implemented. This network implementation included a migration from the network configuration in existence at the time to an infrastructure that blends the various protocols and system designs that are in operation in order to facilitate the sharing of time-critical information and images in the TRO/PO database. This network infrastructure allows all criminal justice agencies statewide access to the information and images in the statewide criminal history repository as well as the TRO/PO database.

The planned automated interface with the Honolulu Police Department's systems, which currently capture TRO/PO information was never realized. The integration of data from systems on different technological platforms proved to be too costly to achieve. We instead approached the courts in Honolulu to ask them to participate in the scanning and entry of the front-end data into the system. Meetings were held with them to demonstrate the process, address any issues that they may have had, and to work these processes into their operational procedures. This is the same approach that was used with the Neighbor Islands. The Honolulu users were brought on-board to the system on May 6, 2002.

The second phase of this project went hand-in-hand with the overall redesign of the statewide criminal history system. It was to implement the statewide TRO/PO database and applications on the fully redesigned OBTS/CCH system. This new system, now known as CJIS-Hawaii, went live on November 18, 2002. It utilizes a three-tiered system architecture. The first tier is the users' client PCs that run maintenance applications developed using PowerBuilder and browser-based inquiry applications. The second tier is the application server residing on a Windows 2000 server utilizing Sybase's Enterprise Application Server software. The third tier is the database server residing on an RS/6000 using the AIX operating system and DB2 Universal Database for the relational database. Since its implementation, the TRO/PO data is available statewide via CJIS-Hawaii.

The ultimate goal of systems such as the statewide TRO/PO database and the criminal history repository is to address public safety. While we anticipate these systems to have an impact in curbing crime, we feel it is still too early to measure any impact that the statewide TRO/PO database may have in decreasing domestic violence or increasing the reporting of domestic violence in Hawaii. However, statistics are being captured and can be used in the future to evaluate the impact the system has in these areas.

As shown in Table 1, the number of arrests for Abuse of Family and Household Member (Section 709-906, Hawaii Revised Statutes) has decreased from 3,974 in 1998 to 3,945 in 2001. However, the number of arrests for Violations of Family TROs has increased from 1,470 in 1998 to 2,368 in 2001 (Table 2). The number of reports for Abuse of Family and Household Member has increased from 8,964 in 1998 to 10,010 in 2001 (Table 3). Although these numbers could be interpreted to mean that there is a decrease in domestic violence arrests and an increase in reporting, we feel at this point, it is too premature to really measure the impact that this project may have in these areas. The statewide TRO/PO database has been operational since April 2000, with only the Neighbor Islands participating. Honolulu County began its participation in May 2002, and statistics for 2002 will not be available until later this year.

Despite this situation, agencies involved in working with domestic abuse cases and assisting the victims of domestic abuse feel that the implementation of the statewide TRO/PO database is a step in the right direction. Initiatives such as this go a long way in addressing this serious problem and help to enforce the effectiveness of TROs/POs, thereby, keeping victims safe from further violence.

Table 1

ARRESTS FOR ABUSE OF FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBER – SECTION 709-906, HRS							
Location	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
City and County of Honolulu	2,750	2,735	3,007	2,569	2,365	2,333	2,276
County of Maui	640	614	644	624	610	654	704
County of Hawaii	565	485	544	564	600	666	691
County of Kauai	166	124	135	217	184	177	274
Total	4,121	3,958	4,330	3,974	3,759	3,830	3,945

Source: County Police Departments(1995); HCJDC (1996-2001)

Table 2

FAMILY COURT TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER (TRO) ARRESTS						
County	1996	1997	1998	1999	2002	2001
Honolulu	716	941	911	825	1075	1305
Maui	228	239	241	216	445	543
Hawaii	224	212	228	174	320	415
Kauai	37	42	90	46	34	105
Statewide	1,205	1,434	1,470	1,261	1,874	2,368

Source: Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center

Table 3

REPORTS FOR ABUSE OF FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBER* - SECTION 709-906, HRS							
LOCATION	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
City and County of Honolulu	4,665	5,966	4,873	4,107	3,211	3,586	3,508
County of Maui	3,147	3,004	3,258	3,431	3,447	4,116	4,786
County of Hawaii	985	1,116	1,091	1,105	1,028	1,256	1,196
County of Kauai	368	261	245	321	327	484 ¹	520
Total	9,165	10,347	9,467	8,964	8,013	9,442	10,010

Source: County Police Departments

*includes juveniles

¹ Missing July-September 2000

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List of Project Expenditures

	Estimated Expenditures			Actual Expenditures		
	Federal	Non-Federal	Total	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Personnel	\$	\$ 59,035.00	\$ 59,035.00	\$	\$ 59,035.00	\$ 59,035.00
Fringe Benefits		21,825.00	21,825.00		21,825.00	21,825.00
Travel	6,750.00		6,750.00	6,483.26		6,483.26
Equipment	120,050.00		120,050.00	120,134.39		120,134.49
Supplies						
Contractual	220,300.00	269,160.00	489,460.00	220,049.96	269,160.00	489,209.96
Construction						
Other	2,900.00		2,900.00	3,332.39		3,332.39
TOTAL	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,020.00	\$ 700,020.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 350,020.00	\$ 700,020.00