THE INFOSHARE™ MUNICIPAL PORTAL:
A BETTER WAY FOR YOUR TOWN TO DO BUSINESS!

Whether you are a large, metropolitan city or a small, suburban town, CSI Technology Group’s secure, cloud-based public portal will simplify transactions between your municipal government and your citizens, while allowing you to provide excellent customer service with reduced resources.

CSI’s InfoShare™ Municipal Portal provides secure processing and accurate accounting for all municipal transactions. Taxes and other collections, as well as the processing of permits and licenses, are initiated by citizens through the portal and automatically routed from the portal to the appropriate departmental inbox for swift processing.

RECORD CUSTODIANS, BEWARE!

The New Jersey Open Public Records Act (OPRA) continues to strike fear into the hearts of records custodians statewide. While the $600,000.00 plus award of attorney’s fees in an OPRA case out of a central New Jersey municipality sets a standard that will be hard to surpass, awards of attorney’s fees over the last couple years have steadily increased, even while the courts have expanded the scope of information available to the public under OPRA. In Monmouth County, a municipality was ordered to pay in excess of $21,000.00 in attorney’s fees, calculated at the rate of $315.00 per hour of attorney time. A state-level law enforcement agency was ordered to pay in excess of $57,000.00 at the rate of $300.00 per hour of attorney time. And a county-level agency was ordered to pay in excess of $45,000.00 in attorney’s fees at the rate of $350.00 per hour of attorney time. There has even been an award of $10,000.00 in fees in a case where there were no records to turn over. In addition, rumor has it that there have been other very substantial awards, in the six figure range...

(Continued On page 4)
CSI Technology Group is proud to announce the release of the InfoShare™ Personnel Module, a robust, total solution for your agency’s HR management needs. A powerful system with submodules for scheduling and policy compliance, the InfoShare™ Personnel Module has been designed to allow your agency to effectively manage and document your scheduling, training, and policy and procedure activities. Employee time, training requests, document tracking (with electronic signatures, if needed) and other HR functions are all handled. All components are user-friendly and can be configured to your needs with our built-in support file management system. No matter the size of your organization, this new total HR solution will meet your requirements and allow you to move to a paperless environment.

Equipment and inventory can be administratively managed in the InfoShare™ Personnel Module, providing for inventory intake and the recordation of equipment assigned. A convenient equipment and inventory tool allows you to set alerts for equipment such as police vests and ammunition, which have expiration dates assigned to them, and will prompt the Quarter Master to place a new order.

The ability to document, manage, and schedule training is very important to most organizations and often laden with details and many levels of approval. The training component within the InfoShare™ Personnel module, configured to your agency’s workflow and requirements, facilitates this entire process. It allows for administrative batch training entry or individual requests and tracks the request through your agency’s approval chain. Once a training request is administratively assigned or approved, the requestor receives a training email and inbox notification. Training is tracked all the way to the final approval and is reflected in the agency’s scheduling calendar.

InfoScheduler is the optional scheduling submodule that ties into the other modules. It provides the ability to not only keep organized work schedules for any of your agency’s shifts, but also has layers which cover overtime, comp time, vacation and training assignments and posts assignments which need to be tracked on a daily, weekly monthly and yearly basis. InfoScheduler allows users to easily submit leave, overtime, comp-time and training requests, while your department’s approval workflow is configured and maintained electronically.

InfoP&P is the HR module’s optional document management submodule. InfoP&P allows your department to create, approve and disseminate documents, as well as verify and review compliance, all electronically. All active policies and procedure remain in the user’s active inbox for easy access. If a policy or procedure is updated, the old version is archived for later review when necessary. It supports police department national and state accreditation, providing the means to create and maintain all required policies and procedures, integrates with the police department’s RMS and electronically files all mandatory proof documents. “The integration with the RMS affords the accreditation manager the ability to locate proof reports within the RMS application and electronically attach them to the appropriate proof folder,” explains CSI Account Manager Matt Edwards. “This saves your accreditation managers an incredible amount of time because they don’t need to track down the required proofs. This is a very powerful tool which is changing how the very important accreditation process is being managed.”

CSI is leading the way in providing complete solutions that streamline the process of electronic document management for every aspect of law enforcement and other government services. Besides the extended features it provides, it can also integrate with the InfoShare™ Internal Affairs module and our optional Time Keeping Kiosk. Find out more about the cutting edge capabilities of our InfoShare™ Personnel Module, by contacting Mike Trahey at Mtrahey@csitech.com.
Over the past few months, CSI has had the pleasure of working with New Jersey’s Victim Witness Coordinators and their staffs to put the finishing touches on our enhanced Victim Witness (VW) suite. This specialized suite of software and services was designed to aid victim witness units, statewide, with their heavy workload, leaving them to focus more of their attention on other areas of victim support. Throughout this effort, many at CSI have formed a very direct, personal connection to these units and have grown to appreciate the depth of the victim services provided by these hard-working and dedicated teams within each county and at the NJ Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ). So, the development and launch of this product line has special meaning for CSI.

Here is a brief look at some of the features you can expect with the Victim Witness Suite:

- **Automated / Customizable Victim Letters** – A very time-consuming task for the Victim Witness Units is the amount of letters that need to be generated for victims of cases, based on many courts events and their outcomes. This includes letters for victims in the adult, juvenile, investigations, and domestic violence modules. This feature now automates the letters based on the court events, whether the event is generated by the courts' computer systems or if they are manually entered court case events. “We have been working with each county, customizing their letters along with the triggers that should generate the letters. Once the letters generate and are reviewed, the letters will automatically populate to their cases, saving staff time because the documents do not have to be uploaded to the InfoShare™ case,” explains CSI Account Manager Kim Petty, who was heavily involved in this project.

- **Victim Services tab (in eProsecution Module)** – This area of the suite helps the coordinators track each of the services they deliver to their clients who are victims of crimes or victim survivors. These services need to be categorized and tracked to properly produce their state and federal reports. This, too, has long been an extremely time consuming task for every coordinator. Now, with a click of a button, the coordinators will be able to produce this report in an effective, timely manner. The report is based on data they entered throughout the year. The Victim Services tab was specifically designed in accordance with state and federal guidelines.

- **Stat-Tracker** – This feature works in conjunction with the Victim Services Tab to track, compute, and report on the statistics that are required for federal and state reporting. These statistics support grants, financial aid packages and directly fund some of the Victim Support staff for a number of NJ counties.

- **The Portal** – The portal is one of the hottest new technologies. Victims can register online for the portal with the information provided in their initial contact letter. Once registered to use the portal, victims then can electronically correspond and communicate with the victim witness staff through the portal and all letters and notifications can be received and managed electronically. All correspondence is secure and forms, images and documents can be submitted through the portal, making the interaction confidential and streamlined.

Those working on this project agree that it has been a great pleasure working with all of the coordinators and their staff. “They are by far some of the most caring, dedicated, and efficient staff we have worked with!” states Petty.
The InfoShare™ Municipal Portal: A Better Way for Your Town to do Business!

Residents or those doing business with the town can create their own account with secure login credentials, fill out required electronic forms and, when necessary, pay online with a credit card, without ever leaving the comfort of their home or office. No fighting traffic, no circling the block multiple times to find parking, no waiting in long lines. Whether it is applying for a dog license or a business permit, whether paying taxes or obtaining a parking permit, a trip to city hall is eliminated with the InfoShare™ Municipal Portal. Citizens can log onto the portal anytime, from anywhere they have an internet connection, and access the portal link right through their municipality’s homepage!

For government staff, the portal helps them perform their jobs more effectively and efficiently. The InfoShare™ Municipal Portal, configured to support your town’s workflow, will enhance administrative operations with increased accountability and customer service, reduced redundancy, and most importantly, reduced costs.

Think of how applying for and receiving services might be improved for your staff and your citizens if transactions such as, but not limited to, the following were handled via the portal:

- Dumpster, garage sale, and block party permits
- Construction permits and fees, based on your requirements and fee schedule
- Requests for large bulk item trash pickup
- Fire inspections
- Dog and cat licenses
- Mercantile licenses
- Parking permits, including overnight parking, metered permits, lot permits, and the ability to handle special needs and exemptions
- Alarm permits
- Vacant house checks.

Transactions processed through the portal will generate the forms required by your municipality. For example, parking permit applications will require all needed information, such as the applicant’s name and address, the vehicle description and registration. When payment is required for the permit, the portal user clicks on the Pay Online tab and can make payment with a credit card. The municipality will be able to maintain detailed and organized records for each transaction, while residents will receive their permit and receipt of payment.

The portal was designed with input from several NJ municipal officials. Contact CSI today to see how the InfoShare™ Municipal Portal can save costs and bring efficiency to every department in your town’s administration, while engaging citizens and increasing their satisfaction with how you support their needs.

RECORD CUSTODIANS, BEWARE!
OPRA Requests Can Turn Costly

of fees that have been sealed by agreement of the parties upon settlement of the dispute.

These are substantial numbers, both in terms of the fees awarded and the rate at which the attorney’s time is calculated. The lesson is that where OPRA is concerned, the failure to engage and respond in a timely and substantive manner, can be very expensive.

At the same time, records custodians are faced with an expansion of the scope of the definition of a “government record” under OPRA. In June of 2017, the New Jersey Supreme Court overturned an Appellate Court decision that limited the definition of government record under OPRA to what we normally think of as a record, including those kept in electronic form. Since the publication of Paff v. Galloway Township, (A-88-15) (077692) published on June 20, 2017, it is now clear that “government record” as the term is used in the OPRA statutes, includes all the electronically stored information related to government activity, whether or not it is related to a more traditional “record” of government activity. The decision does not describe this data other than to say it is “information stored or maintained electronically” by the govern-
ment. Specifically, the case involved an OPRA request for email header information including sender, recipient, date and time and subject field data between specific municipal employees for a specific period of time. The request did not include the substance of the related emails.

The township’s initial response was to deny the request as it did not request existing “records” under the commonly accepted OPRA definition. The township did admit that it had the technical capability to provide the information with little effort, and that they had, under different circumstances, provided similar information in response to a different OPRA request but had discontinued the practice after deciding that they were not required to. These answers, apparently, did not impress the court. Take-aways from the case include:

1. Case-related emails are clearly government records, including any related meta data or other data included in the substance of the communication;
2. If the government agency can produce the data with minimal technical effort, they must, but if more involved technical assistance is needed, OPRA leaves open the possibility that the requestor may have to pay;
3. The case does not address in any way or limit the legitimate reasons an agency may have for redacting the data prior to responding to the request, and leaves that issue unaddressed.

This decision poses a serious dilemma for record custodians who are already faced with very restrictive time limits and harsh penalties for being wrong. Many record custodians may not even know of the existence of data associated with the government records they handle, much less how to extract it and package it for delivery.

But fear not! CSI Technology Group is working on an OPRA module designed to enhance a record custodian’s ability to search across cases and modules to collect, package, redact and document responses to OPRA requests in a timely manner. The module includes tracking features that allow the custodian to track the timing of OPRA requests and assist in making timely seven day responses and final responses. It also includes redaction features that are similar to CSI’s eDiscovery redaction tools but allow for the documentation of the reasons for each redaction and the automated production of a Vaughn Index, if necessary. We at CSI are here for you, and want to help your agency avoid the substantial awards being handed out in cases such as those mentioned above.

Video Clip Tagging is a Snap with InfoShare™’s Axon Video Interface!

In our effort to provide new and time-saving features for our customers, CSI Technology Group has developed an interface with Axon, makers of Taser Body-Worn Cameras (BWC’s), and their cloud-hosted video storage platform, Evidence.com. This new interface allows an officer to tag their BWC video clips, entering information directly from their InfoShare™ RMS case to the clip. That is, while composing their report in the InfoShare™ RMS, the officer updates Evidence.com without the need to log onto another website to sync their video categories!

While in the RMS case, the officer proceeds to a new “Video Interface” tab through an access button provided to the officer while assigned to the case. The officer is then presented with a Video Interface screen to enter the related video information:

The agency manages the categories from which the officer may select through an Admin screen, which is easily adaptable to accommodate changes, as business needs require.

The data the officer enters is then posted to the clip, providing a straightforward way to review all the videos associated to the case. The InfoShare™ interface software runs at an agency-determined interval, pushing five (5) required fields to Evidence.com via their Application Programming Interface (API). The five data fields that are transmitted and synced with the video data are:

- EVENT-ID
- CATEGORY
- OFC-BADGE#
- DISPATCH Date/Time
- OFC CLEARED Date/Time

Ask your account manager about this time-saving feature if you are using or contemplating the selection of Taser and Evidence.com for your BWC or Dash-cam needs.
CSI Technology Group, a recognized developer in innovative software technologies in the justice community for over 25 years, is pleased to announce we are also serving the public safety community with completely integrated solutions. Our Total Solution for the Fire Service, a complete custom package, is called InfoFire, and we would like to bring some of its robust features to your attention!

"One of the first things that CSI saw when we ventured into the FireRMS arena was that the computer systems utilized by the fire service were very compartmentalized. Inspections, for example, were done in one system, incident reporting and NFIRS compliance were done in another and training/run statistics for volunteer and paid firefighters was done in another. It became evident that full integration was needed," observes CSI Executive Vice President Rich Norcross.

CSI’s Total Fire Solution!

The InfoFire package includes –

- Seamless CAD to FireRMS integration
- Inspections are completed within the FireRMS and the data is shared with the CAD/MDT
- Full NFIRS Reporting
- Equipment Logging
- Training Tracking
- Vehicle checks
- And much more ....

In the InfoShare™ FireRMS there is a Master Location concept. The Master Location allows for the fire department to add alarm information and, where applicable, track false alarm billing as well as annual alarm registrations. The department can also add their response pre-plans, images of the facility, floor plans and warning flags, including HazMat information. Additionally, from this same Master Location File, the fire inspectors enter all of their inspection information and can also issue their violations from InfoShare™.

During the process of completing run reports, the responding firefighters are added to the application. Obtaining from the CAD time and staff data, and the incident type, InfoShare™ will calculate the amount of time firefighters are engaged in their duties as well as the total incident/event count. You can use the FireRMS for drills as well as fire calls. This one spot data entry allows for automated records keeping and removes the duplicate entry of data for time keeping purposes.
CSI has historically been a provider of highly-evolved records management systems. As a result, the completion of the run reports and NFIRS reports is quite intuitive and can be easily mastered by the casual user as well as the “power” users in the agency. Additionally, while InfoShare™ is designed to be a paperless system, there are times when paper is needed. The FireRMS allows the users to complete their run reports and NFIRS reports in electronic documents and then print those documents out, with a very professional result.

In addition to the incident reporting, the InfoShare™ FireRMS gives the agency the ability to maintain an inventory of equipment to include what gear is on what apparatus, which firefighter has which equipment, etc. The system also has expiration dates built in with alerts so that when the end-of-life of certain equipment comes about, the application alerts the proper members of the staff in advance of the expirations. For far too long, this information has been managed, in best case, on a spreadsheet, and, in worse case, by walking around the station opening every compartment and looking at what is there. If this method sounds familiar, InfoShare™ is here to help!

“A lot of thought and planning has gone into the development of this module for the Fire Service. When the FireRMS is incorporated with the CAD/MDT, the amount of information at your fingertips is astounding,” states Norcross.

The InfoShare™ CAD has been designed to be lightweight in design as well as fully functional. It can be easily deployed in a command vehicle for significant fires and mass casualty events. This is not a ‘stripped down’ version of the InfoShare™ CAD but a fully functioning application.

We at CSI Technology Group welcome the opportunity to work with the Fire Service. Please contact your local CSI Technology Group representative or Rich Norcross at rnorcross@csitech.com for more information.
CSI Developing Three New Products to Handle Large Volume Files

In the past several years, those of you involved with the criminal justice process have probably noticed that there has been a dramatic increase in the number of video artifacts, audio files, and high definition forensic photographs that must be kept for evidence, prosecution and discovery needs. All those PDF, text, and Word files that InfoShare™ currently manages, using seamless integration with each case’s data, are only a part of the full set of artifacts for a case’s evidence, prosecution, and discovery needs.

“CSI realizes that every prosecutor’s office has physical limits and constraints that must be dealt with to store all these forms of evidence that are not contained in the case and document management system,” explains CSI VP and CIO Chris Rein. “This includes physical or virtual storage as well as network bandwidth. Microsoft Azure, Amazon Web Services, CJIS Solutions and the AXON Evidence.com are some of the providers our customers work with today. The emergence of cloud utilization is happening quickly, but will not solve all issues.”

CSI is excited to announce that our company is about to launch a new set of features and modules that will address the requirements and the constraints that the increased use of these types of files present. CSI’s design and engineering teams have begun work on InfoVideo, InfoShare Media Server, and InfoDownload. These three new products, along with the enhanced eProsecution and eDiscovery modules, comprise our solution.

Have a look at the high level description of these three new components that will serve your needs:

- **InfoShare™ Media Server**
  - InfoShare Media server will be a Windows server residing either on a customer’s network DMZ or in a cloud provider’s domain. It will store video files and can be accessed from internal and external users.
  - Standard Windows server with 10TB disk space, with more storage available upon request
  - Storage is configured as RAID 5
  - Token-based authentication and authorization that is verified with token issuer, eProsecution or eDiscovery Portal
  - Audit trail system to record file upload, download, update, and delete
  - Supports partial upload/download and resuming upload/download
  - Web user interface (UI) for file management, system management, and video preview (video preview page can be embedded in eProsecution)

- **InfoVideo**
  InfoVideo will be a Windows application that can be installed on a user’s computer. Features include:
  - Converts known video file formats to a standard video format MP4 and uploads into Media server
  - Uploads unknown video file formats into server directly without conversion
  - Bundling capability where a group of video artifacts are placed into a zip package and uploaded to the media server
  - Automatically determines the upload strategy (e.g. immediate or scheduled), based on file size (configurable).
  - Duplication prevention; a file will only be uploaded once.
  - Scheduling file uploads into media server at the off-peak time, which conserves your agency’s resources.
  - Automatic priority adjustment based on file access frequency.
  - Manual priority adjustment override.
  - Supports partial uploads and pause/resume.
  - Associates video file urls with cases.
  - Auto application software upgrade

- **InfoDownload**
  InfoDownload is a Windows application that can be downloaded and installed by external users from our eDiscovery Portal. It will have following features:
  - Supports partial download and pause/resume functions
  - Supports overnight downloads
  - Auto application software upgrade.

Note: InfoDownload is optional. Depending on the user’s needs and the network resource constraints at play, many video files can be played directly via browser.

Stay tuned! Current plans call for having live deployment by the time we publish the next issue of InfoShare, and we look forward to sharing this experience with you. CSI has become recognized throughout New Jersey as an innovative developer of criminal justice case management software. InfoShare™ is now used by all 21 New Jersey county prosecutors’ offices, as well as the New Jersey State Office of the Attorney General. We take this responsibility very seriously!
It’s been almost 130 years since Arthur Conan Doyle introduced the world to the British detective, Sherlock Holmes. Today, one of modern times’ leading detectives is partnering with CSI Technology Group to bring criminal investigations into the future.

Dr. Henry Lee, internationally renowned forensic scientist and founder of the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science at the University of New Haven (UNH), has signed a cooperative agreement with CSI Technology Group and Taipei Technical Institute to establish a joint Research and Development (R&D) Center. One of the first goals of the Center will be to develop a robotic detective they will name Rolmes, a moniker paying tribute to that pipe-smoking gumshoe and meaning “Robotic Holmes.”

A veteran of over 8000 cases, including the OJ Simpson case and the Phil Spector case, Dr. Lee joined UNH’s Forensic Science program nearly four decades ago and helped build it into one of the top forensic studies programs in the United States. For the past thirty-five years, law enforcement officials and students of criminal justice from around the globe have come to UNH to study forensics at the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science.

Dr. Lee has also been a consultant with CSI Technology Group since we first started developing applications to support criminal investigations and prosecution, almost twenty years ago. He has also served as a member of CSI’s Board of Directors.

Taipei Technical Institute is one of Taiwan’s oldest technological universities, and was ranked first among all the other technological universities in the country. The university specializes in three fields: technology, design and management.

The strengths of these three partners imbue the joint R&D center with a solid core of competency and expertise in the fields of technology, public safety and forensic science. The joint R&D center will focus on developing advanced software technology to secure a bright future for generations of smart city and smart government initiatives.

The first step in Rolmes’ development was to construct its standard operating procedures (S.O.P.), based on the experience and expertise of Dr. Lee and his team of forensic scientists. This will set the foundation for the design that will support crime scene investigators with fully integrated software and hardware to facilitate the investigation process. Conducting an investigation with the assistance of Rolmes and the embedded S.O.P.’s will eliminate problems resulting from inadmissible evidence or the failure to gather evidence, often incurred with manual evidence collection process without a good step by step guide. Rholmes will support a shorter training cycle for junior investigators, thus allowing experienced investigators to allocate more resources to evidence analysis in the laboratory.

Rolmes will synchronize the collected data with the cloud database, including photos, videos, and all of the environmental parameters collected from the crime scene. This will be done in real time, via 4G mobile telecommunication technology. The uploaded data/information in the cloud is sharable and available to authorized individuals. Access to the data is controlled through strict, yet configurable, permission settings built into Rolmes. Rolmes will construct a virtual crime scene, according to the collected environmental parameters, which forensic experts and senior detectives in other places can remotely access. They will then be able to give instructions and advice to the on-site investigators. In addition, the Rolmes Expert System (ES) powered by big data analysis will result in more precise and accurate directions for cracking a case more quickly. Rolmes will change the way detectives and investigators work.

Dr. Lee reveals that the secret of Rolmes is that its kernel algorithm is based on Lee’s decades of knowledge and experience. This includes using the key factors of the over 8,000 major criminal cases in over 46 countries that he has assisted in, as the inference rules in the database. “Investigating a crime with Rolmes will be like working alongside Henry Lee”, says Dr. Lee about his robotic investigator. “Ask Rolmes any question, just like you would ask me if I was there with you.” Lee hopes to see Rolmes and the intelligent technologies continue to evolve, allowing his expertise and experiences to pass from generation to generation.

“Robots will never replace human beings, but they will enhance our decision making and investigative capabilities,” Lee explains. While Dr. Lee and CSI Technology Group are on the cutting edge of crime scene technology with the development of Rolmes, someday the use of a robotic detective might be quite elementary, don’t you think?
CSI Technology Group is excited to announce that our new InfoShare™ Billing & Management Module is ready to support law enforcement agencies with the daunting task of managing assignments and contracts for jobs such as roadwork and special events. InfoShare™'s newest module is an add-on to our ever-growing list of offerings that comprise our Total Solution Product Line.

CSI developed the B&M Module to assist our law enforcement partners with the entire contractor process. The module is complete, starting with initially organizing and storing contractor/organization information and going on to handle assignments of staff, billing, notifications and alerts.

So, if your agency works with companies such as Verizon or PSE&G for traffic assistance during roadwork or the installation of power lines, or handles special events or security details for schools, churches or other organizations, you know the detail involved in tracking, making assignments and billing for this work. The InfoShare™ Contractor B & M Module will support you at every step of this process and provide a history of details at your fingertips whenever you need to reference it. The B & M Module sets up the job, notifies your staff of the availability of new jobs and keeps a history of staff assignments during the year for ease of management. It provides an email and texting notification feature for communication with staff on the assignment.

Once the lines are up or the event is complete, the module continues to work for your agency. The InfoShare™ B&M Module will manage the billing process by keeping an electronic history of the contracted job, storing any contracts associated with the job and create your agency billing forms for invoicing. The application will provide your agency with alerts during the billing process and statistical reporting, when needed.

This is powerful software for keeping sound accounting and notification records to efficiently manage this very important aspect of law enforcement agency management. Interested in seeing how it can help your agency? Call your CSI account manager or reach out to Matt Edwards at Medwards@csitech.com for more details.

The Effects of NJ Bail Reform: CSI’s ECDR Feed Supports Prosecutors in Meeting the New Requirements

New Jersey prosecutors’ offices are feeling the impact on the public of the radical reforms to New Jersey’s criminal justice system that have come to be known euphemistically as “Bail Reform.” To support our prosecutor customers and help them in this new environment, CSI continues to roll out the eCDR data feed to the county prosecutors’ offices, giving prosecutors immediate access to all new warrants and summonses being generated by their local police departments. This quick access to charging documents has helped prosecutors manage the dangerously short timeline they now have under bail reform to make detention motion decisions, and the necessary filings required to try to keep dangerous criminals off the street.

(Continued On page 11)
The case law tells another side of the story. With the new rules regarding detention hearings going into effect, old arguments about fairness and disclosure of information have been dusted off and re-visited in a new context. There is some limited guidance from the courts. On May 10, 2017, the New Jersey Supreme Court released its decision in State v. Habeed Robinson, (A-40-16) (078900). This decision interprets Court Rule R. 3:4-2(c)(1)(B), setting out the general obligations of the State at a Probable Cause hearing. The Court provides a specific list of what the State is required to turn over to the defense in the event the State files for a detention hearing. These include:

- The complaint
- The Public Safety Assessment (PSA)
- The affidavit of probable cause
- Any available Preliminary Law Enforcement Investigation Report (PLEIR)
- All statements and reports relating to the affidavit of probable cause
- All statements or reports that relate to any additional evidence the State relies on to establish probable cause
- All exculpatory evidence
- Reports that are in the possession of the prosecutor, law enforcement officials, and other agents of the State

Note that:

- Statements and reports related to items that appear only in the PLEIR need not be disclosed
- Statements and reports relating to the risk of flight, danger, and obstruction, which the State advances at the hearing, should be disclosed

○ The phrase “statements and reports” refers to items that exist at the time of the hearing and does not encompass video and audio files, as a general rule.

This substantial list of mandatory disclosures at the detention hearing puts the State under tremendous pressure to obtain the relevant records from one or many local law enforcement agencies and provide them to the defense attorney in a form that complies with the law and they can track in the subsequent stages of the case.

CSI’s CIP/Case Screening module that handles the eCDR data also creates an open document pipeline between the local police department that generates the eCDR and the prosecutor’s office. This facilitates the uploading of the documents that prosecutors are now required to provide at the detention hearing. Further, once the eCDR has been merged into a Promis/Gavel case, all of the standard InfoShare™ discovery tools are at the prosecutor’s disposal to manage the redaction, Bates stamping and release of the relevant discovery documents. We at CSI are committed to continuing to update and revise our software applications to adjust to the new criminal justice environment.

FIRST STATISTICAL REPORT ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM IS PUBLISHED

Although statistics can often tell only part of the story, the first statistical analysis of the effects of Criminal Justice Reform in New Jersey has been released by the Administrative Office of the Courts. From January 1, 2017 through the end of May 2017, the statewide average for detained defendants, defendants charged on a warrant, was 13.1%. The counties with the highest rates of detention for defendants charged on warrants were Atlantic with a 25.8% detention rate, and Passaic with a 24.9% detention rate for defendants charged on warrants. By contrast, the detention rate in Camden County was 10.3%.

The snapshot jail population statistics reflect the same reality. In Bergen County, the pre-trial jail population on May 31, 2015 was 516. Two years later, on May 31, 2017, the jail population in Bergen County was down to 313, a 39.3% reduction. Similarly, in Camden County, the May 31, 2015 pre-trial jail population was 875, but on May 31, 2017 was down to 451, a 48.5% reduction.

An overall comparison of the state wide pre-trial jail population on May 31, 2015, to the pretrial jail population on May 31, 2017, shows that there has been a reduction of 35.7% in pretrial jail populations. The urbanized counties are seeing the largest percentage reductions over all, although some of the dense suburban counties are not far behind.
CSI is excited to announce that we have begun development of a new mobile application that will integrate with our InfoShare™ Victim-Witness case management software. Our prosecutor office customers are now experiencing the many benefits the VW module provides (see complete article on page 3 in this issue), such as notification letter generation, tracking of services provided to victims of crimes, statistical reports, and an outward-facing portal for Victim-Witness clients to get current case information, service locations, as well as alerts and notifications.

This new InfoShare™ mobile app is planned to allow even greater, more flexible access by crime victims to these resources. CSI will deliver versions for Android and iOS, and will provide it as a free download to the clients of each county’s Victim-Witness Advocacy group. Since it is fully integrated with the InfoShare™ VW module, clients will have the most current information on their case’s events, hearings, release notices, sentencing, etc., right on their smartphone or other mobile device. Please stay tuned for an announcement of the release of this exciting new product, or reach out to your Account Manager for more detailed information.