

Information Technology Systems Implementation and Replacement

FY2009 Request: \$1,750,000
Reference No: 45247

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 05/01/2008 - 06/30/2009

Project Type: Information Systems
Contact: Sharleen Griffin
Contact Phone: (907)465-3339

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will provide funding to fully implement and upgrade the Offender Tracking and Information System (OTIS), which includes an Electronic Medical Records Module; the replacement of the WinPho Imaging Management System; and the replacement of the department's antiquated servers. Each one of these systems is failing and require equipment no longer commercially available. Replacement of these systems is necessary for department staff to continue daily operations.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Gen Fund	\$1,750,000						\$1,750,000
Total:	\$1,750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,750,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Project Description/Justification:

OTIS Replacement: The Offender Tracking Information System (OTIS) is a 7-year-old "MIS" for managing all aspects of offender involvement with the Department of Corrections. The existing system was never fully debugged or tested, and was deployed with missing and non-functional elements. This system was also deployed with little or no training for the users, therefore the system is not used as intended and information is missing. OTIS replacement will replace the "presentation services" layer of the application with a web-based, Java front end, fix the non-functional elements, redo the booking module with one more user friendly and add support for medical information tracking.

A presentation services web interface has been developed by Idaho, as a project within the National Consortium of Offender Management System (NCOMS). All member states of NCOMS, including Alaska, are using variants of the same basic application structure, in varying degrees of modification and enhancement. Idaho is using the same data base architecture as Alaska, but has replaced the front end presentation services with web-based Java code. The department's plan for OTIS Enhancement is to take this new front end, and adapt it to Alaska's system.

The development of the Idaho system was performed by a software services company. The base code all exists, the company is completely familiar and knowledgeable with Alaska's implementation, and can efficiently and effectively perform this conversion for the department.

As part of this conversion, the contractors will also implement a new booking interface designed by the department and include support for medical information management.

Besides fixing the problems with the existing implementation, this approach will provide several other benefits. With web implementation, OTIS information and services can be available from any internet connection, and bandwidth requirements can be reduced, providing better performance and functionality in low bandwidth areas. By providing a better human factors design, the department's objective of accurate department-wide information and reporting should be achieved.

WINPHO Replacement: WINPHO is an image capture, storage and retrieval system for the management of offender images. It is a proprietary application using several-year-old cameras and capture stations, employing external video capture cards. There have been numerous failures of the system, including a problem fixed in early December 2007 which prevented the uploading and distribution of mug shots since April 2007. Because these are proprietary capture stations, the department cannot readily upgrade or replace aging and failing components. Some of the parts are simply no longer available.

WINPHO replacement will perform an evaluation of various existing image storage and retrieval systems and components. A key requirement for any replacement system is to be able to perform an "image lineup", i.e., retrieve and display a group of other pictures based on the characteristics of a suspect for a lineup. Ideally the replacement system will be an integration of standard components, so that as the technology evolves and improves, selected elements can be replaced or upgraded. Standard interfaces must be used.

Another requirement of a WINPHO replacement is that it be a web-based interface. Besides allowing access from any internet connection, this will also allow the department to package these video services so that they appear as an extension to the OTIS data base. The objective is to be to link to the image data base from OTIS functions, if the images are stored in an independent data storage.

Server Replacement: The department data processing is running on a collection of aging servers and network components. The maintenance strategy has been to replace servers only when they demonstrate ongoing instability and lack of reliability. This approach results in gradually and sometimes dramatic loss of service and functionality. The majority of the department's server inventory is five or more years old.

This project will review the existing infrastructure and replace the critical components in a proactive approach to improved service. In some cases this will also involve server consolidate of smaller, desktop-grade devices with enterprise capable devices in more controlled environments. It will also bring the department in compliance with the current standards for servers.