Young County Data Reporting Improvement Plan

Pursuant to Article 60.10, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, the Young County Local Data Advisory Board adopts this as the Data Reporting Improvement Plan. By resolution dated October 26, 2009, the Young County Commissioner's Court established this board to meet and establish a data reporting and improvement place which would:

- 1. describe the manner in which the county tends to improve the county's disposition completeness percentage;
- 2. ensure that the county takes steps necessary for the county's average disposition completeness percentage to be equal to or greater than mandated by statue;
- 3. include a comprehensive strategy by which the county will permanently maintain the county's disposition completeness percentage at or above the percentage mandated by statue.

History: Chapter 60, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP) defines the Computerized Criminal History System (CCH) as the statewide repository of criminal history data reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) by local criminal justice agencies in Texas. CCH is one component of the Texas Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). The other component of CJIS is the Corrections Tracking System (CTS) managed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ).

Data to Include in CCH: Chapter 60, CCP requires that information on arrests, prosecutions and the disposition of the case for persons arrested for Class B misdemeanor or greater violation of Texas criminal statues be included in CCH. The Statue identifies many of the actual data elements. In addition, although not required by statue, CCH has traditionally included limited supervision data reported to DPS by TDCJ. Of special note is that Chapter 60, CCP creates an Incident Tracking Number (TRN) an Incident Tracking Number Suffix (TRS) as the keys for linking charges from arrest though adjudication. Use of the TRN and TRS ensures that the outcome of each arrest charge can be tracked through the system, but establishing this capability requires each reporting entity to be extremely careful in its management of cases to include and pass along the TRN and TRS.

Local Reporting Responsibilities: Chapter 60 CCP establishes a flow of information at the local level that is required for successful CCH reporting from each county. The statue places responsibility for reporting to CCH on specific local criminal justice agencies, as follows:

Arresting Agencies: The police department and sheriff's department that arrests a person for a Class B misdemeanor or higher violation of a Texas statue is required by Chapter 60, Code of Criminal Procedures to report that event to DPS within seven (7) days. The report, if on paper, must be on the Criminal History Reporting form (CR-43) created by DPS. The report must include the arrest person's fingerprints, the TRN and other data required by statue. If available, electronic transmission of the data is the preferred method. A critical component of successful reporting is cooperation within the county. A large part of that

cooperation is each reporting agency passing the TRN and TRS is the next level. The arresting agency needs to send the TRN and TRS to the prosecutor, as indicated below.

Prosecutor: Chapter 60, CCP requires that any County Attorney, District Attorney or other prosecutor receiving a class B misdemeanor or greater offense must report to DPS the decision to accept, reject, change or add to the charge for trial. As with the arresting agencies, prosecutors may report on paper or electronically, including the TRN as received from the arresting agency.

District and County Clerks: Chapter 60, CCP requires the District and County Clerks whose courts try class B misdemeanor or greater violations of Texas statues must report the disposition of this case to DPS. The clerks are dependent upon receiving the TRN and TRS from the prosecutor. The reports may be reported on paper or electronically.

The undersigned members of the advisory board pledge to cooperate in compiling the data required by law and forwarding the appropriate information to agencies in the county and to DPS. We also agree to communicate with one another any problems or discrepancies that occur in compiling the reports.

Dated this 29 th day of March 2010.

B.J. Cook, Jail Administrator

Young County Sheriff's Department

email: bj.cook@youngcounty.org

Ms. Deena Clark

Olney Police Department

email: clarksx4@hotmail.com

Carolyn Collins

Young County District Clerk

email: c.collins@youngcounty.org

Brent Bullock, Assistant Chief of Police

Graham Police Department

email: gpd128@grahampd.com

Ms. Brenda Gray

Young County District Attorney

email: districtattorney@youngcounty.org

Shirley Choate

Young County Clerk

email: s.kee@youngcounty.org

Mr. Louis Dayne Mille Young County Attorney

email: countyattorney@youngcounty.org

Ms. Vanice Hammond

Young County Automated Data Processing

email: j.hammond@youngcounty.org

Ms. Debbie Reynolds Net Data, Data Processing

email: debbie@netadatacorp.net

Juvenile Probation Department email: ycjpd90@sbcglobal.net

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