

MONTAGUE COUNTY DATA REPORTING IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to Chapter 60, Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 60.10, Montague County Local Data Advisory Board adopts this as their Data Reporting Improvement Plan. The Montague County Commissioner's Court having previously established this board, therefore establishes this Data Reporting Improvement Plan as follows:

- (1) describe the manner in which the county intends 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 statute;
- (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 statute.

Our local board includes, Paul Cunningham, Montague County Sheriff; Jack A. McGaughey, 97th District Attorney; Ronald Walker, Montague County Attorney; Tammy Brown, District Clerk's designee; Glynis Russell, County Clerk's designee; and David Scruggs, Bowie Chief of Police. This board will be meeting on a quarterly basis.

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 statutes be included in CCH. The statute identifies many of the actual data elements. In addition, although not required by statute, CCH has traditionally included limited supervision data reported to DPS by TDCJ. CCH creates an Incident Tracking Number (TRN) and Incident Tracking Number Suffix (TRS) as the way to link charges from arrest through disposition. Using the TRN and TRS ensure that the outcome of each arrest charge can be tracked through the system, but establishing this capability requires each reporting entity to be careful in its management of cases to include and pass along the TRN and TRS.

Local Reporting Responsibilities: In order to have a successful CCH reporting from each county, Chapter 60, DDP establishes the flow of information at the local level. The statute 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 statute is required by Chapter 60, CCP to report that event to DPS within SEVEN days. The report, if on paper, must be on the Criminal History Reporting Form (CR-43) created by DPS. The report must include the arrested person's fingerprints, the TRN and other data required by statute. 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 to 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 arresting agencies, prosecutors may report on paper or electronically, including the TRN as received from the arresting agency.

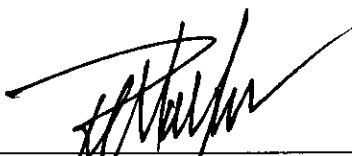
District and County Clerks: Chapter 60, CCP requires the District and County Clerks whose courts try Class B Misdemeanor or greater violations of Texas statutes must report the disposition of the case to DPS. The clerks are dependant upon receiving the TRN and TRS from the prosecutor. The reports may 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.

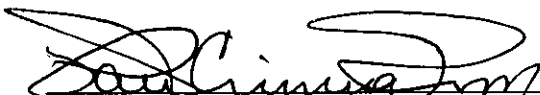
Signed this the 8th day of April, 2010.



Jack A. McGaughey, District Attorney



Ron Walker, County Attorney



Paul Cunningham, County Sheriff



Tammy Brown, Designee for District Clerk



David Scruggs, Bowie Police Chief



Glynis Russell, Designee for County Clerk