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Subject: Montana NIBRS Vision for 2020 and beyond

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 2:26:00 PM

Attachments: ZTVendor cost estimate to convert from CSV NIBRS to NIEM conformant XML.msg

Most of you were copied on the attached email requesting estimates from **vendors** for moving monthly MTIBRS/NIBRS CSV files submissions to more timely NIEM conformant XML submissions. I just want to clarify a few questions that have come up.

- **WHY are we doing this?** We have been a NIBRS reporter for 15 years and lead the nation in quality and quantity of data from Montana. THANK YOU! Now many of the other states are trying to move to NIBRS data collection before the 2021 deadline and summary reporting sunsets. Along with the NIBRS push, the FBI will be moving from CSV files to XML to provide more timely data that is easier to access and modify when needed.
- **NOW?** With all the states moving to be NIBRS compliant, federal funds have been released to help states move in that direction. Because we received funds to build an updated NIBRS repository to replace our end of life system, it is the perfect time to make sure we serve you well and take the focus off NIBRS. By doing this, we will actually collect more accurate and reliable NIBRS data.
- **Do I have to do anything for the estimates? NO!** The email was intended for vendors. I copied all of you to be transparent. This is being done to get an estimate from vendors about the cost to move from CSV to XML. When we know better what the costs are, we'll know better how to tackle this project. These estimates will not be available for your agencies. Actual estimates will be based on the specifics of your agency's current systems and future needs if funds are awarded to us.
- **How will I know if my agency gets funds?** We are applying for funds where ever we find a potential opportunity. **If** we are able to be funded, we will let folks know what costs we will cover and the details about what will be required from the agency (which will be kept to a minimum). In the meantime, keep applying for other grant opportunities such as COPS grants or Enhanced 911 grants.
- The **draft technical specifications** and offense table we sent to give a high-level picture of the anticipated changes for the XML exchanges. These specifications will not be made completely final until after our training sessions in July where we hope to show you how this will work with your RMS, but we will still have time to make sure any changes work for law enforcement to decrease your workload and improve your access to your data.

We do get there are a lot of moving parts right now with CJIN XML requirements, CJIN Security, courts upgrades, movement on Enhanced 911 and the death of our former NIBRS repository. We are working to lighten your load, not add to it. Please feel free to call any of us with any questions, concerns or suggestions. We want your feedback!

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