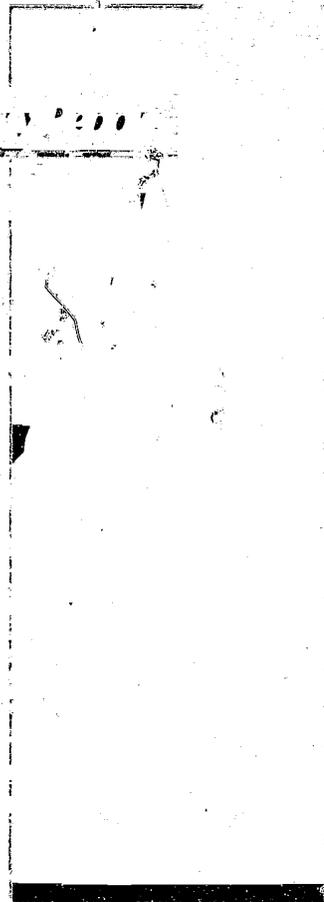
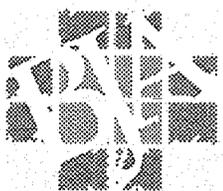


REGISTRATION  
RECORDS  
SEARCHING  
SERVICES  
PROGRAM



SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
MAY 1968



SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED  
FBI - MEMPHIS  
MAY 1968

153034

The Regional Information Sharing Systems Program

---

# Membership and Service Activity of the RISS Projects

1991 - 1993

NCJRS

Summary Report

MAR 29 1995

November 1994

ACQUISITIONS

Institute for Intergovernmental Research  
Post Office Box 12729  
Tallahassee, Florida 32317

---

This project was supported by grant number 94-RS-CX-0002, awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs which also includes the National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

153034

**U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice**

This document has been reproduced exactly as received from the person or organization originating it. Points of view or opinions stated in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the National Institute of Justice.

Permission to reproduce this ~~material~~ material has been granted by

Public Domain/OTP/BJA

U.S. Department of Justice

to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS).

Further reproduction outside of the NCJRS system requires permission of the ~~owner~~ owner.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

		PAGE
	PREFACE	v
Chapter	1. OVERVIEW OF THE RISS PROGRAM	1
	2. PROJECT GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE	2
	3. MEMBERSHIP	5
	4. SERVICES PROVIDED	7
	Information Sharing	7
	Analytical Services	13
	Telecommunications	14
	Optional Services	14
	Confidential Funds	14
	Investigative Equipment	15
	Technical Assistance	16
	Training	16
	5. MEMBER AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS SUPPORTED BY PROJECT SERVICES	17
	6. SERVICE AND ACTIVITY GROWTH TRENDS	23

## PREFACE



The Office of Justice Programs Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program is a federally funded program to support law enforcement efforts to combat drug trafficking and organized criminal activity. Six regional projects provide criminal information exchange and other related operational support services to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies located in all fifty states. These projects are:

The Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network (MAGLOCLEN);

The Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC);

The New England State Police Information Network (NESPIN);

The Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC);

The Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN); and

The Western States Information Network (WSIN).

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) provides management review, performance assessment, and operations analysis services to the Regional Information Sharing Systems Program through grant awards received from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

This report contains a summary analysis of RISS project activity addressed by the RISS Program Guideline established by OJP. RISS project data are routinely collected and analyzed with the cooperation and assistance of the projects. The activity data in this report cover the years 1991, 1992, and 1993. The summary briefly describes the RISS Program, project service components, and activity data describing the various service components and presents member agency case investigations supported by project services. A summary of project service and activity growth trends is also discussed.

Additional, more detailed analyses of project activity are contained in other reports prepared by IIR and are available upon request.

# OVERVIEW OF THE RISS PROGRAM

The Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program supports multi-agency coordination and cooperation among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The operation of a regional information sharing project was first supported by U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding in 1974. Six regional projects (MAGLOCLEN, MOCIC, NESPIN, ROCIC, RMIN, and WSIN) are currently operational and together they provide their member agencies throughout the United States with a broad range of criminal intelligence and investigative support services.

DOJ funding oversight and program management responsibilities are described in the RISS Program Guideline which sets out program goals and objectives, strategy, project

components, program administration, characteristics, and funding.

## PROGRAM GOAL

The overall goal of the RISS Program is to enhance the ability of state and local criminal justice agencies to identify, target, and remove criminal conspiracies and activities spanning jurisdictional boundaries.

## PROJECTS

The Regional Information Sharing Systems projects span the United States, from NESPIN in the Northeast to WSIN in the West. By providing information otherwise unavailable or too time-consuming to obtain, the RISS projects have facilitated law enforcement agency

activities across the country and have made a significant difference in the fight against crime.

The geographical profile of the projects is shown on the following page.

## PROJECT OVERSIGHT

Each RISS project has established an oversight group (policy board or executive committee) composed of representatives from state and local member agencies in the project's multi-state region. The primary purpose of the oversight group is to provide policy and direction regarding project operations and administration. Each project policy board group holds regular meetings for this purpose.

## SERVICE COMPONENTS

Each project funded under the RISS Program has implemented both required and optional service components. Optional components are designed to support the required service components.

### Required Components

- Information Sharing
- Analytical Services
- Telecommunications

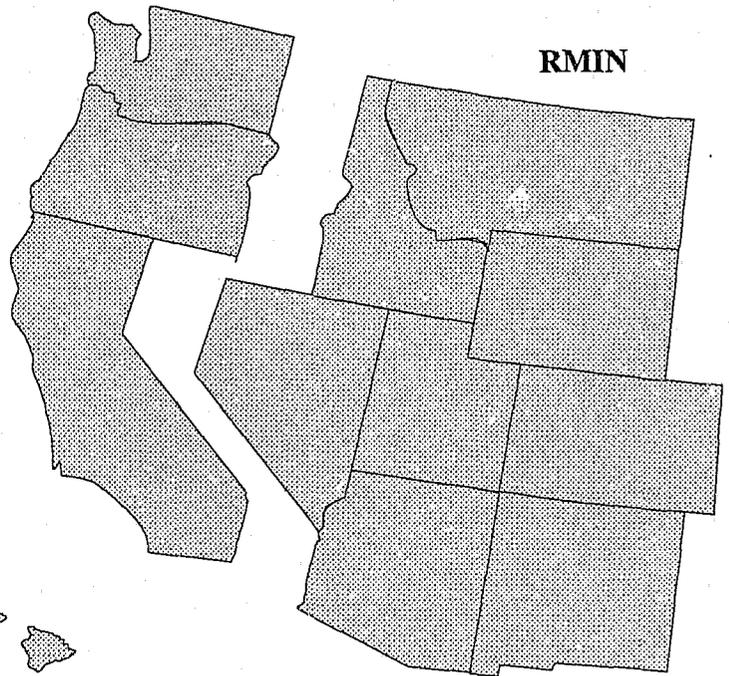
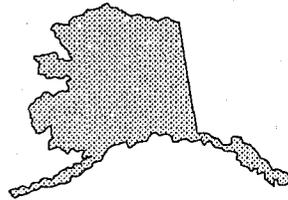
### Optional Components

- Investigative Support
- Specialized Equipment
- Technical Assistance
- Training



*The RISS Project Directors and staff attend national law enforcement conferences to provide information on RISS services.*

# PROJECT GEOGRAPHICAL PROFILE



## **WSIN**

The Western States Information Network project is headquartered in Sacramento, California, with member agencies in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington as well as Canada. Narcotics are the criminal activity focus of the WSIN project.

## **RMIN**

The Rocky Mountain Information Network project headquarters are located in Phoenix, Arizona. The project serves member agencies in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming as well as Canada. The RMIN project focus is narcotics trafficking, organized crime, and traveling criminals.

## **ROCIC**

The Regional Organized Crime Information Center project is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, and serves member agencies in fourteen states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. ROCIC's priority is narcotics trafficking and organized traveling criminals.

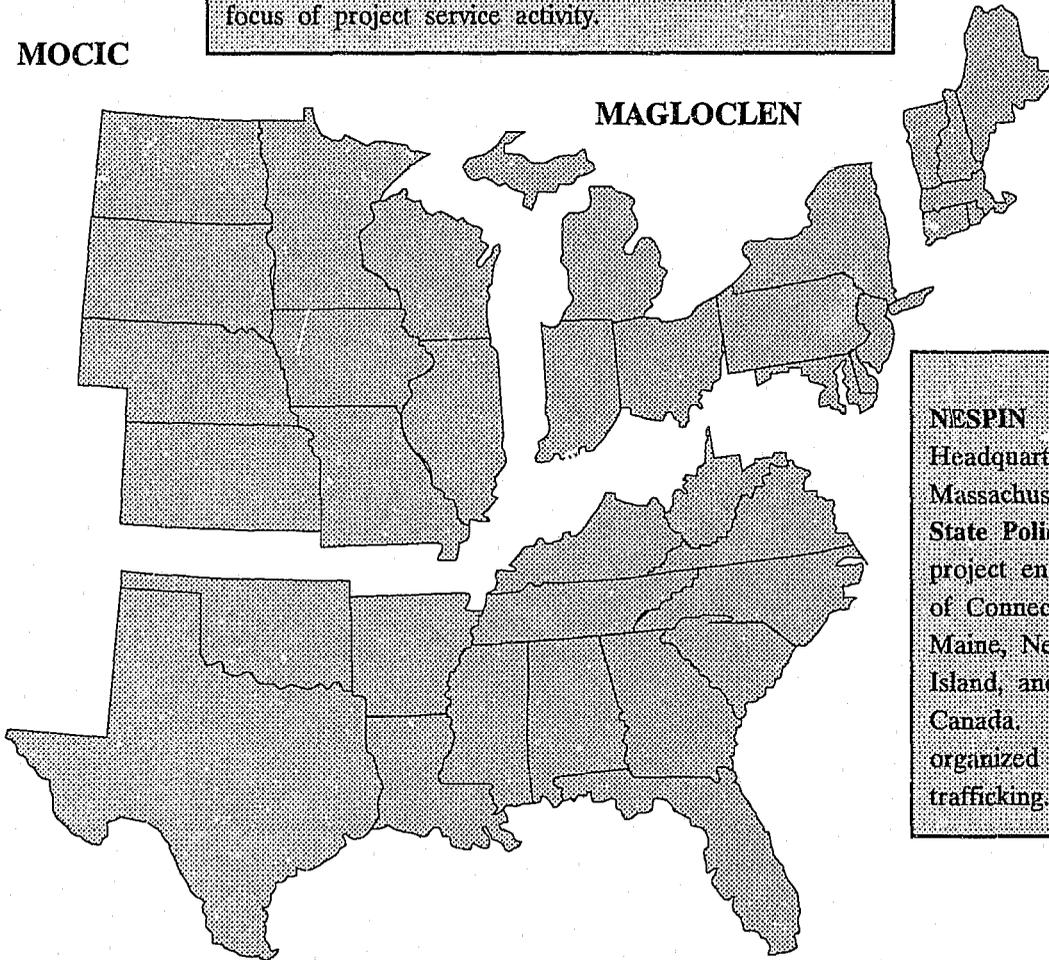
**MOCIC**

The Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center project headquarters are located in Springfield, Missouri. The project services member agencies in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin as well as Canada. Narcotics trafficking, professional traveling criminals, and organized crime are the focus of project service activity.

**NESPIN**

**MOCIC**

**MAGLOCLN**



**NESPIN**

Headquartered in Needham, Massachusetts, the New England State Police Information Network project encompasses the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont as well as Canada. NESPIN focuses on organized crime and narcotics trafficking.

**ROCIC**

**MAGLOCLN**

The Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network project is headquartered in Trenton, New Jersey. The project covers the states of Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, in addition to the District of Columbia and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada. The project focus is organized criminal activity and narcotics trafficking.

# MEMBERSHIP

Each RISS project has developed its own criteria for membership. The projects are comprised of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, prosecution agencies, and others such as multi-jurisdictional task forces or regulatory agencies with law enforcement or criminal investigative authority.

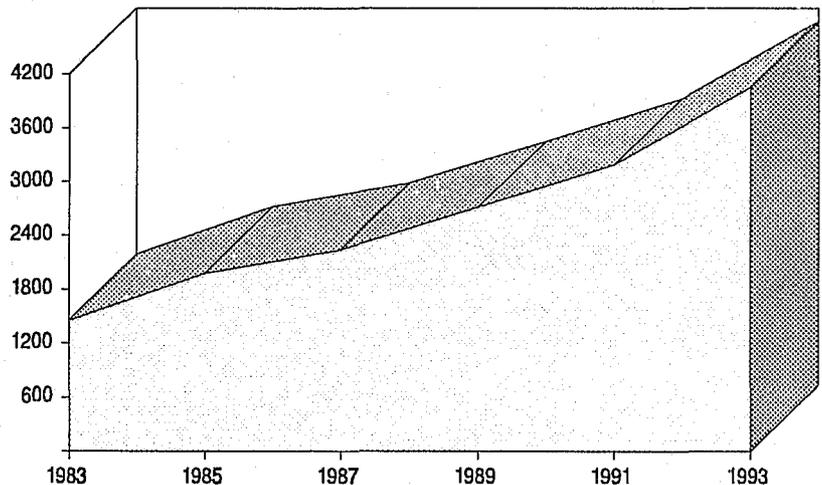
Project membership continues to grow at a steady rate. At year end 1993, the total agency membership was 4,055. The current membership for each project, as of September 30, 1994, is listed below.

## Current Project Membership September 30, 1994

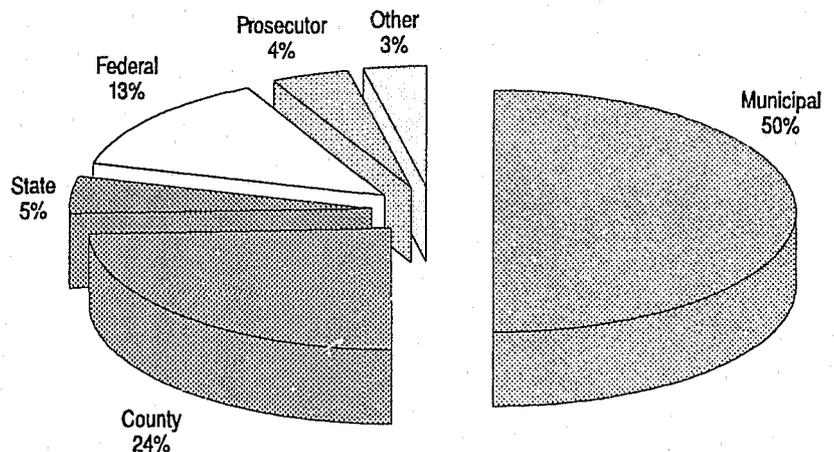
MAGLOCIEN	382
MOCIC	845
NESPIN	341
RMIN	700
ROCIC	992
WSIN	1011
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4271</b>

For all six projects combined, local (municipal and county) law enforcement agencies represent 74% of the total membership. There are currently 546 federal agencies which are project members. All six RISS projects have federal agency members.

**RISS MEMBERSHIP**  
Steady Growth from  
1,447 agencies in 1983 to 4,055 in 1993



**RISS MEMBERSHIP**  
BY TYPE OF AGENCY  
1993 Percent Distribution



---

The MAGLOLEN, MOCIC, NESPIN, RMIN, and WSIN project membership criteria allow Canadian agencies to participate as limited members. Currently, eighteen agencies in the Canadian provinces participate in these five RISS projects.

Data regarding member agency participation in RISS project activities, including database submissions and service usage, are collected and analyzed to measure the extent to which member agencies become involved in project activities.

Member agency participation was tracked for each of the four quarters in 1993. Due to technical problems, the MAGLOLEN and MOCIC projects were unable to capture this information. Of the combined member agencies in the MOCIC, NESPIN, RMIN, and WSIN projects, 80% participated in project services during at least one quarter out of four quarters in 1993. Federal member agencies in these four projects show a 74% rate of participation for the same period.

Over the past several years, the policy boards of the RISS projects have explored alternative funding sources other than federal grant support.

Five of the six projects have adopted membership fees as an additional source of income. All projects also share in asset recovery in member agency investigations where project services are used. These funds are used for purchases and services that benefit the member agencies, such as specialized training and purchase of specialized investigative equipment for loan to member agencies. Federal guidelines which apply to the federal funding contribution to the RISS projects also apply to project income from these additional funding sources.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

**U**nder the Program Guideline, three law enforcement service components must be maintained by each RISS project. These are information sharing, analytical, and telecommunications.

### INFORMATION SHARING

The primary function of the RISS Program is sharing of information about crimes, criminals, and criminal activity. The information sharing component operated by each project is multifaceted and consists primarily of a database with a system for submitting information and for inquiring

about records in the database. The projects supplement and enhance their information sharing through membership conferences and formal publications.

All six projects have established automated criminal intelligence databases which contain information pertaining to known or suspected criminals or criminal activity. Project intelligence databases are utilized to respond to member agency intelligence information inquiries and needs. All projects have adopted formal guidelines setting forth operational procedures for information submission, inquiry, and file review which have been approved

by the Bureau of Justice Assistance program management.

Detailed descriptive information on subjects engaged in multi-jurisdictional offenses and criminal conspiracies is submitted to project databases by member agencies according to established procedures and criteria. Each project provides a submission form or format for this purpose. The type and amount of data captured vary from project to project based on submission criteria established by project policy.



*The MAGLOLEN project as well as each of the other RISS projects maintains an automated intelligence database on criminal subjects. The six RISS projects maintained information on nearly 386,000 subjects during 1993.*

The number of criminal subjects maintained in the individual project databases for the three-year period 1991-1993 is displayed in Exhibit 1. A subject is defined as an individual, business, group, or associate.

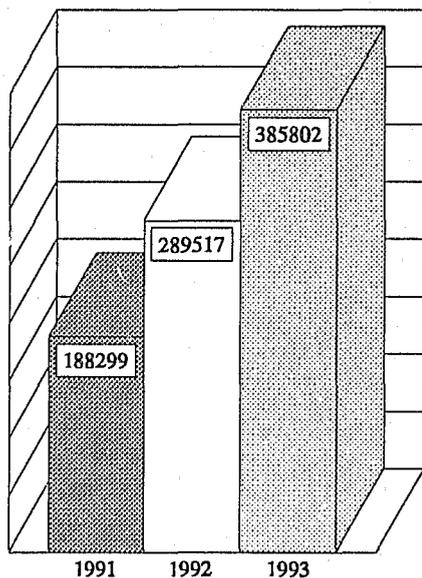


Exhibit 1  
RISS Databases  
Total Subjects

RISS participating agencies actively exchange information on criminal subjects through the regional networks. Currently, access to database information by the participating agencies and among the six projects is accomplished primarily by telephone calls between authorized individuals using WATS/patch telecommunications services.

During the continuing discussion of future RISS issues (the RISS 2000 deliberations), the project directors are currently considering a wide range of potential enhancements to their information sharing systems and the manner in which projects deliver their many services. During 1992, the pro-

ject directors adopted a goal of electronically connecting the six RISS computer systems for direct database access and administrative communication.

After exploring various system alternatives for achieving this goal, project officials adopted the technology of the California Statewide Integrated Narcotics System (SINS) to achieve connectivity of the project database systems. SINS is an automated law enforcement information system under development and implementation in California which provides law enforcement users with electronic access to database information, imaging capabilities, and geographic mapping functions.

During the period of this report, RISS project representatives have been conferring on the development of a uniform criminal intelligence database application. The application, called RISSNET II, was adopted as the criminal intelligence database component of SINS and of the RISS projects. All six projects will implement the RISSNET II database application and a wide area network to electronically connect with each other, as displayed on the following page. The California Department of Justice, Hawkins Data Center, will provide system and security management support for the California SINS network and for the RISS wide area network. Implementation of RISSNET II and electronic connection of the RISS projects will occur during 1994-1995.

Inquiries to project criminal intelligence databases represent the most important use of this critical project service by members and other quali-

fied agencies. The centralized databases are designed to encourage exchange of information and coordination among member agencies investigating the same individuals or organizations. Member agencies obtaining information on criminal subjects from project databases are referred to other agencies that have information on the subject. Inquiry service activity is displayed in Exhibit 2.

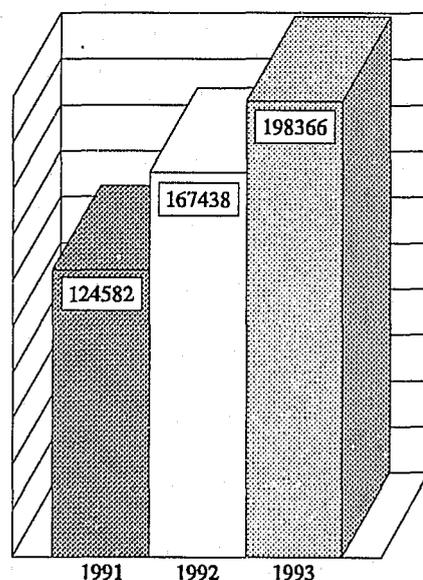


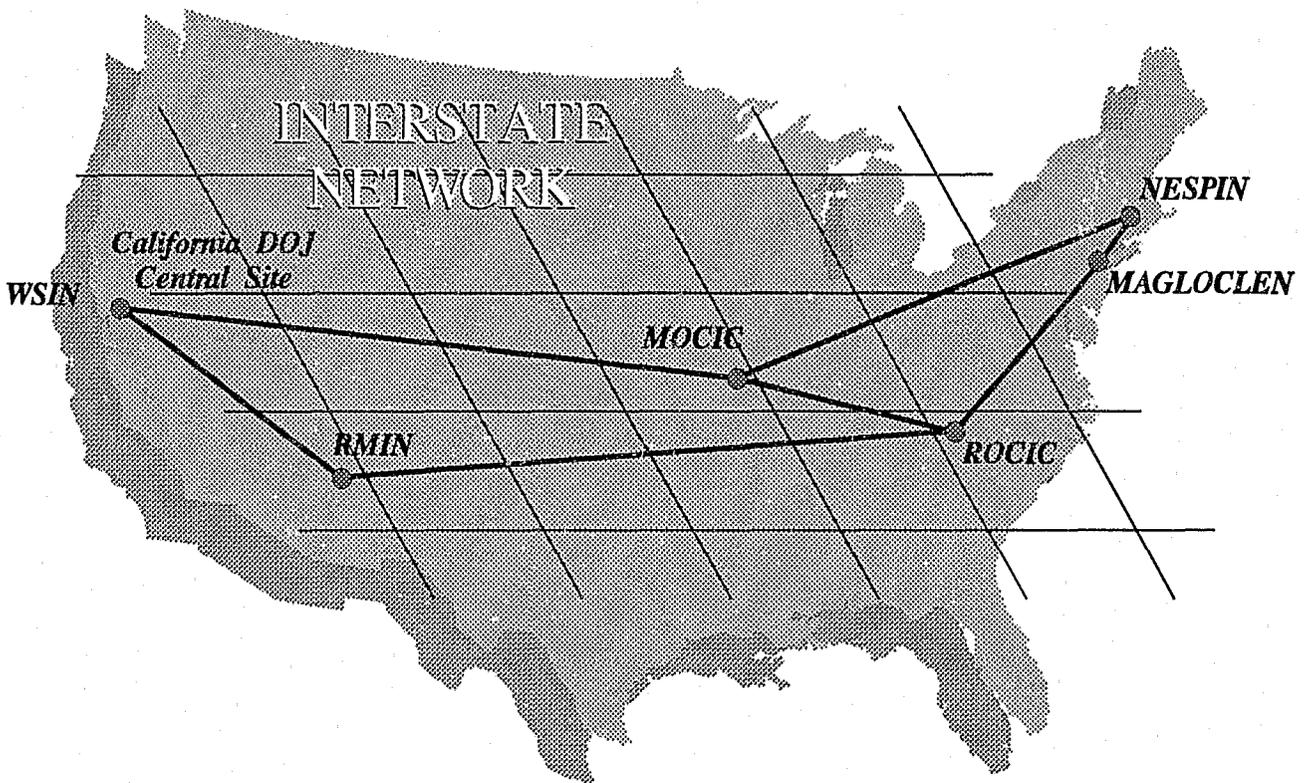
Exhibit 2  
RISS Database Inquiries

Member agency inquiries generate various types of activity by each project, including database searches in the project information system and contact with member agencies or other agencies for searches in their files. The projects record the number of "hits" (information found) on the subject of the inquiry.

---

# *RISS Network Connectivity*

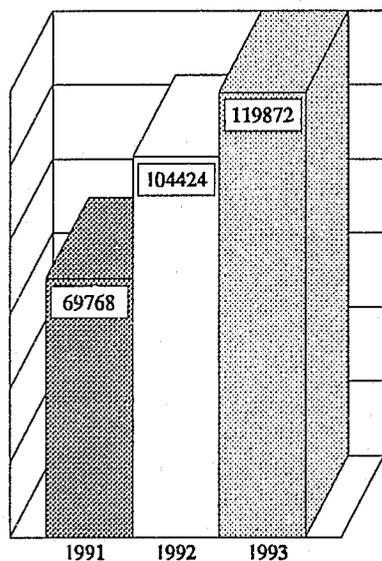
## **RISSNET II**





*Intelligence Technician staff at the NESPIN project process inquiries from member agencies. All projects combined processed more than 198,000 inquiries during 1993.*

Exhibit 3 displays "hits" in project and other agency files for the three years. The total number of hits in project and other agency files during 1993 for all projects combined was 119,872.

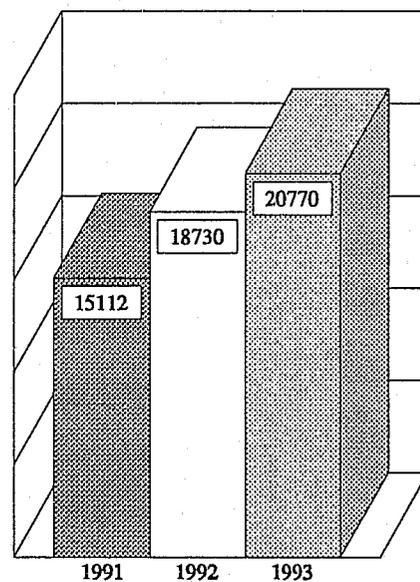


**Exhibit 3**  
*Hits in RISS Project and Other Agency Files*

In addition to the databases, each project has implemented other services to enhance the required information sharing component. These services encompass project publications, conferences, and meetings held for the purpose of sharing information on specific investigations or emerging criminal groups. Although the training service component is an optional component under the Program Guideline, project conference formats often provide a mixture of information sharing and training activities.

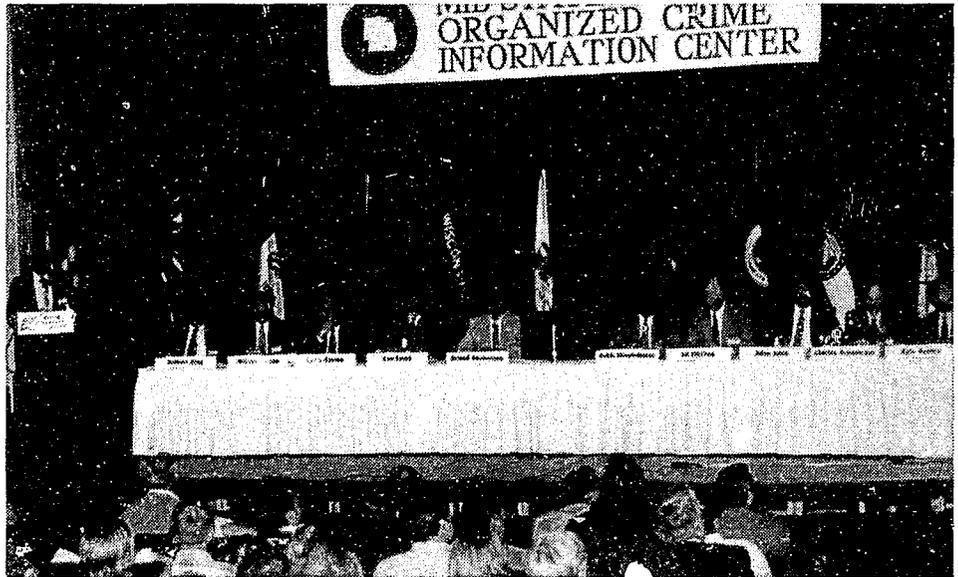
Types of conferences sponsored by the projects include subject areas related to specialized investigative equipment; analytical techniques; surveillance techniques; techniques for investigating narcotics trafficking, organized crime, economic crime, and terrorism; as well as project orientation and overview of services.

Exhibit 4 displays information on the number of agency representatives in attendance at project sponsored information sharing/training programs during the three-year period.



**Exhibit 4**  
*Attendance at RISS Information Sharing/Training Conferences*

*MOCIC 13th Annual  
Conference and Training  
Session, Dubuque, Iowa,  
September 1993.*



*MAGLOLEN Annual  
Membership Meeting,  
Atlantic City, New Jersey,  
April 1993.*



*Registration at WSIN Annual  
Training Conference,  
Sacramento, California,  
June 1993.*



Additionally, the projects and the Bureau of Justice Assistance sponsor conferences for project staff to increase their knowledge and skills in specialized law enforcement topics and for information exchange. Project staff conferences held in 1993 were as follows.

#### **RISSNET USERS GROUP MEETINGS**

RISS project representatives formed a group called the RISSNET Users Group to address project database system needs, including uniform software, technology, and functions. A total of three RISSNET Users Group meetings were held in 1993. Representatives from each of the six RISS projects were in attendance at each of these meetings.

The first was held in Nashville, Tennessee, in March. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the development of a revised RISSNET (RISS project intelligence database) application.

The second RISSNET Users Group meeting was held in April in Atlanta,

Georgia. IIR staff provided information and a demonstration of the first version of the RISSNET application. Arrangements were made for other software demonstrations to introduce alternative platform programs compatible with RISSNET and discussions were held on development of enhancements for the application.

In August 1993, the RISS project directors made a decision to adopt the California Statewide Integrated Narcotics System technology and utilize RISSNET II as their criminal intelligence database application. The RISSNET II application will be an enhanced, uniform version for all six projects.

The third Users Group meeting was held in September in Sacramento, California. Staff of the WSIN project, California Department of Justice, Hawkins Data Center, and IIR provided information on RISSNET II and discussions were held with regard to features and functionality needed in the enhanced, uniform application for all six projects.

#### **RISS FINANCIAL STAFF CLUSTER CONFERENCE**

A cluster conference was held in Atlanta, Georgia, in October 1993 for the financial staff of the RISS projects. Ten representatives from the six RISS projects were in attendance. Discussions were led by a representative from the Office of the Comptroller, Office of Justice Programs. Topics included cost principles, administrative provisions, program income, conference expenditures, confidential funds, audit requirements, budget adjustments, and record retention.

#### **RISS POLICY BOARDS CLUSTER CONFERENCE**

The RISS Policy Boards Cluster Conference was held in November 1993 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The conference was attended by more than 100 participants, including board members and staff from each of the six RISS projects and representatives from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Drug Intelligence Center. A workshop session entitled "Basics of Good Board Member-



*Policy board members from each of the six projects attended the RISS Policy Boards Cluster Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada, November 1993.*

ship" was conducted by Dr. Robert Andringa of The Andringa Group. During an afternoon session, the RISS board members were divided into individual workshop groups, including: Project Membership, Project Funding, Wide Area Network Connectivity, Maximizing Project Service Delivery, Project Oversight, Model Intelligence Systems, and Member Service Needs and Participation.

Recommendations from the conference included addressing concerns about information access and security; development of a projectwide committee to continue discussions of alternative funding issues for the RISS Program; pursuing the immediate interproject connection of the RISS databases; using the Law Enforcement Intelligence Network (LEIN) systems, which are currently operating in several mid-western states, as vehicles for funneling statewide information to the RISS projects; and increasing member agency participation with the projects.

## ANALYTICAL SERVICES

The analytical component consists of investigative data compilation and analysis services to assist members in multi-jurisdictional investigations.

Each RISS project makes information analysis services available to its member agencies. All projects have the capability to provide traditional analytical service activities (telephone toll analysis, investigative case analysis, financial analysis, and criminal activity trend analysis) which result in the dissemination of various products such as investigative charts, link diagrams, special criminal activity reports, and automated listings of investigative data and telephone call data. The implementation of these analytical service activities differs among the projects primarily because of differences in member needs and service requirements and project management policies. Exhibit 5 displays analytical products delivered to

member agencies as a result of various analytical service activities, including telephone toll analysis, investigative case analysis, financial analysis, and criminal activity trend analysis.

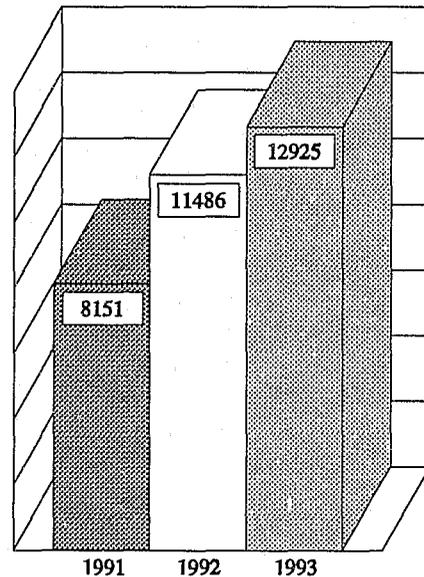


Exhibit 5  
*Analytical Products*



*RMIN analysts at work assisting the project's member agencies by preparing investigative case analysis products.*

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

All six projects operate long distance telecommunications (WATS) systems for the primary purpose of facilitating information sharing and exchange among project member agencies. Project telecommunications services include the optional service of call patching capabilities for interstate patch calls. The telecommunications systems are operated at no cost to member agencies and support the operations of the information sharing and analytical components of each project, as well as project supported investigations and activities.

Usage of project telecommunications systems varies widely among the projects and is based on the need of member agencies for such services or the management policy in each project region, and is not related to the total number of members in each project. RISS WATS/patch service activity is displayed in Exhibit 6.

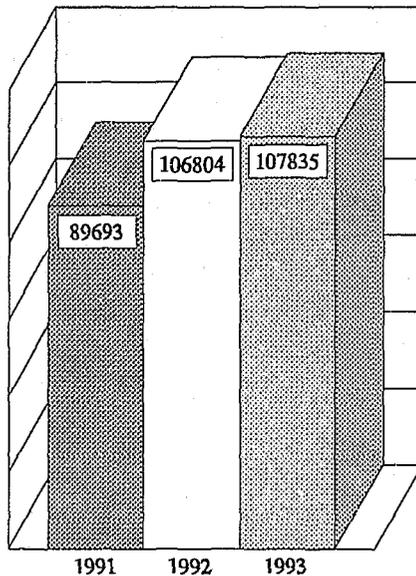


Exhibit 6  
RISS WATS/Patch Calls

## OPTIONAL SERVICES

Other services provided by the projects to participating member law enforcement agencies include the op-

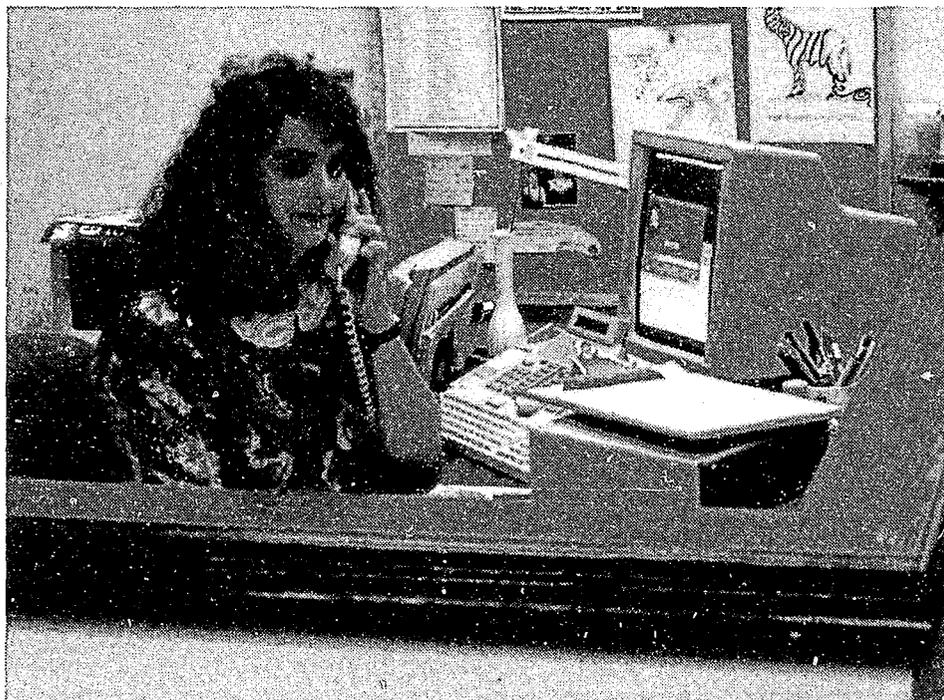
tional service components of investigative support (confidential funds), specialized investigative equipment, technical assistance, and training.

### CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS

All of the RISS projects have confidential funds available for use by member agencies for the purchase of investigative information, contraband, stolen property, and other items of an evidentiary nature, or to provide for other investigative expenses. The availability and use of confidential funds are strictly controlled by federal guidelines and internal policies and procedures developed by the projects. The projects require member agencies to report on the use and benefits of the confidential funds in supporting their investigative activity. These reports also include information for submission to project databases.

Information on the number of RISS confidential funds transactions is dis-

*A member of the MOCIC staff assists member law enforcement agency representatives with telecommunications service to support their investigative and intelligence activities.*



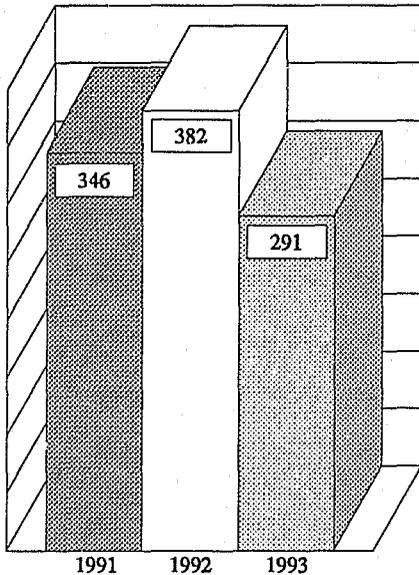


Exhibit 7  
RISS Confidential Funds  
Transactions

played in Exhibit 7. The net amount of confidential funds provided (confidential funds lent less the return of unused funds) by the projects to member agencies totaled \$409,990 for calendar year 1993. Provision of confidential fund support services varies

depending on individual project management policy and budget constraints.

### INVESTIGATIVE EQUIPMENT

Pools of specialized investigative equipment for loan to participating member agencies are maintained by each of the six projects. These project equipment pools generally contain the same types of investigative equipment (photographic, communications, surveillance, etc.), differing primarily in the number of each type of equipment and the age of the various pieces. Each project has developed criteria to process requests by member agencies for loans of equipment, and each has implemented inventory controls and procedures for operation of this service activity. The projects require member agencies to provide reports on the use and benefits of the equipment in supporting their investigative activity. As in the use of confidential funds, these reports also provide in-

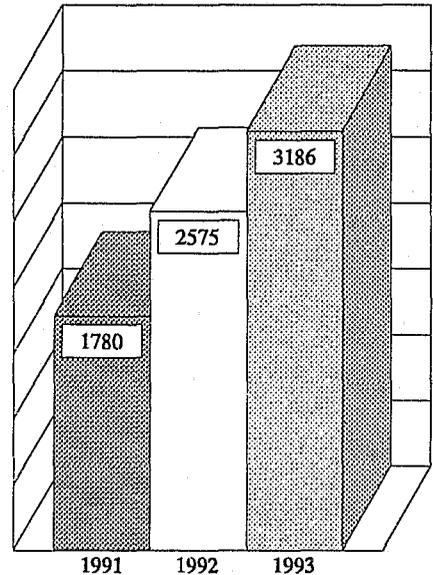
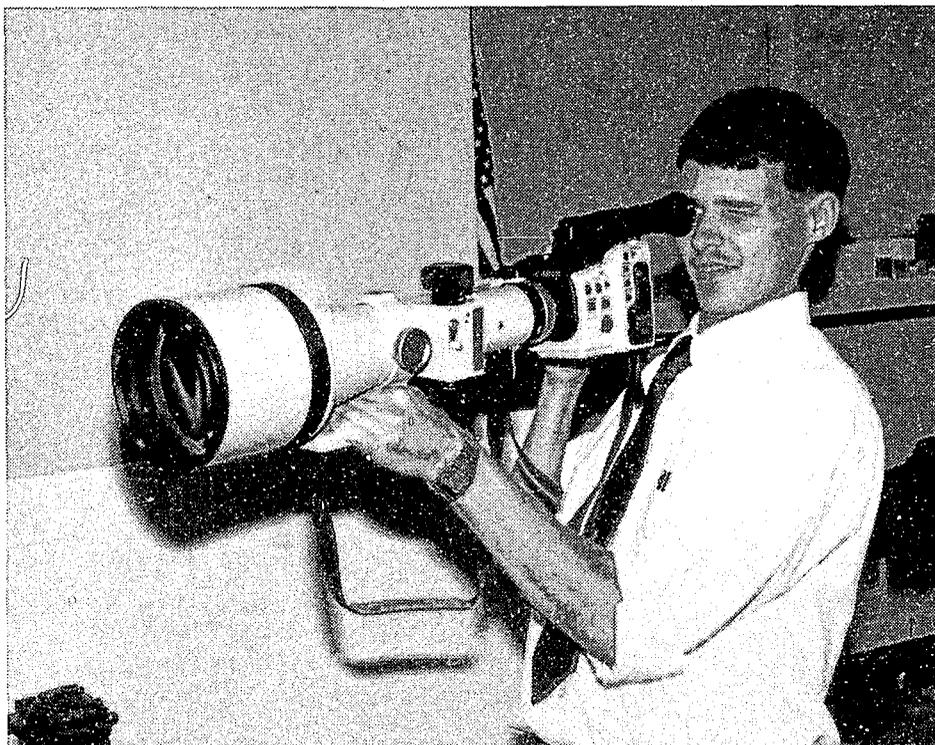


Exhibit 8  
Equipment Loans

formation for submission to the project databases.

Equipment services vary at each project depending on service priorities established by project management, type and condition of equipment available for loan, and extent of



*A member of the ROCIC staff inspects investigative equipment available for loan to member law enforcement agencies.*

---

equipment orientation and usage training of member agency personnel. The number of investigative equipment loans by the combined RISS projects is displayed in Exhibit 8 for each of the three years.

#### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

The technical assistance service component encompasses consultation, advice, and information regarding submission of data to the project database; use of specialized equipment; investigative procedures; confidential funds in support of multi-jurisdic-

tional investigations; and information analysis. Technical assistance may be rendered by a project staff to member agencies, or at times a project may facilitate assistance to another RISS project.

All six projects have established active field staff units to support the implementation of the technical assistance component. While project staff members are prohibited from participating in member agency investigative activity, field staff personnel from the six projects are generally provided as needed to fa-

miliarize member agencies with the utilization of project information, equipment, and other services.

#### **TRAINING**

Each of the projects has established a training service component to enhance investigative and information sharing skills of member agency personnel. This service activity is reported in the section of this report which describes information sharing services.

## MEMBER AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS SUPPORTED BY PROJECT SERVICES

**T**he many services provided by the RISS projects assist their member law enforcement agencies in investigating multi-jurisdictional criminal activities spanning the project regions. The RISS system facilitates contact and information exchange among agencies both within the respective regions, as well as throughout the RISS network, and often results in solved cases. Examples of member agency investigations supported by RISS project services are summarized below.

### CRIMINAL INFORMATION DATABASE

The WSIN criminal information database was an invaluable tool in a case against a suspected narcotics offender. The Valley Interagency Narcotic Team (VALIANT) in Albany, Oregon, reported that in June 1993 the team conducted a routine inquiry on a suspect in their area. The suspect's name had been provided by an unidentified law enforcement source. A check with WSIN led the investigators to the Lewis County Unified Narcotics Enforcement Team (UNET) in Chelalis, Washington, where further information was obtained. As a result of the hit, a case was made on the subject which resulted in convictions for possession of methamphetamine, firearms offenses, and repeat offender violations.

In December of 1993, RMIN Intelligence Center personnel assisted

federal agents in the investigation of more than twenty people on charges involving fraud against the government. This case was worked jointly with the Arizona Attorney General's Office and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Grand jury indictments have been handed down on four of the subjects to date.

The ROCIC project maintains a crime-specific database for Homicide, Unidentified Bodies, and Missing Persons (HUMP) information. Through this database, ROCIC was able to locate two missing persons who were believed to have met with foul play. The HUMP database also matched a missing Asian female in Alabama to an unidentified Asian female body located in Florida. In a third case, the HUMP database located approximately 40 matches of victims with certain traits who are believed to be victims of two serial killers who were arrested in Pennsylvania. This information was disseminated to investigators in Tennessee, Ohio, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama.

### ANALYTICAL SERVICES

WSIN's analytical expertise proved beneficial in an investigation of a heroin trafficking organization. In December 1993, federal agents and local police arrested five San Francisco Bay Area men and one woman in connection with a Nigerian-based heroin trafficking organization with

ties to major cities on the East Coast and in Europe. Search warrants were served, resulting in the seizure of several pounds of heroin worth several million dollars and the arrest of at least 13 suspects. Agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Customs Service, the FBI, and the IRS, along with police officers affiliated with the Alameda County narcotics task force, took part in the raids in the East Bay. The main subject in the investigation is described by federal law enforcement sources as one of the Bay Area's leading heroin distributors. Assistance in this case was provided by the WSIN analytical unit in the form of five event flow charts, an organization chart, and telephone toll analysis.

ROCIC analytical staff assisted a member agency in a "high-profile" murder case that went to trial in the spring of 1993. Working with an investigator, an intelligence analyst produced a simple flow chart, suspect route mileage flow charts for the day of the murder, bar and line graphs depicting the suspects' phone usage, and several other charts depicting specific calls between the suspects. With each location, a space was provided to affix a photo to the chart for use in court. The intelligence analyst produced six charts for the investigation and updated them for the investigator as the court date approached. In separate trials, the state of Alabama won two convictions against two of the suspects. The state spent around \$20,000 in prosecution

of the second suspect's trial, while private defense costs were estimated to be nearly \$200,000.

MAGLOCLN's resources aided the Gloucester County, New Jersey, Prosecutor's Office Narcotics Strike Force, as well as other local, state, and federal authorities in a successful two-year undercover narcotics operation. MAGLOCLN provided confidential funds and analytical services to an operation that began as a simple investigation of a pizza and hoagie shop owner in Deptford, New Jersey. The operation evolved into a full-scale international narcotics network investigation. Detectives traveled to Florida and Italy, uncovering a large Italian organized-crime narcotics ring. MAGLOCLN's analytical support included a database of recorded telephone conversations and various organizational charts. After undercover agents purchased a pound of heroin from suspects, investigators arrested the shop owner and three other suspects. At least thirty-one additional

people were arrested and charged with bookmaking, loan-sharking, and conspiracy to distribute or possess heroin or cocaine. The heroin seized in the raid was estimated to have a street value of \$280,000. According to local officials, the bust was the largest in the county's history.

In 1993, NESPIN successfully facilitated an investigation involving the thefts of oriental rugs and other valuables. A task force had been formed which included the police departments of the New Hampshire and Massachusetts towns that had been victimized, the State Police from New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and the FBI. NESPIN provided analytical assistance to the task force, including over 5,000 toll records, numerous charts, reports, and computer printouts. Utilizing NESPIN's analytical case telephone file, investigators were put in contact with other agencies which were analyzing telephone toll records through NESPIN. Inquiries into NESPIN's

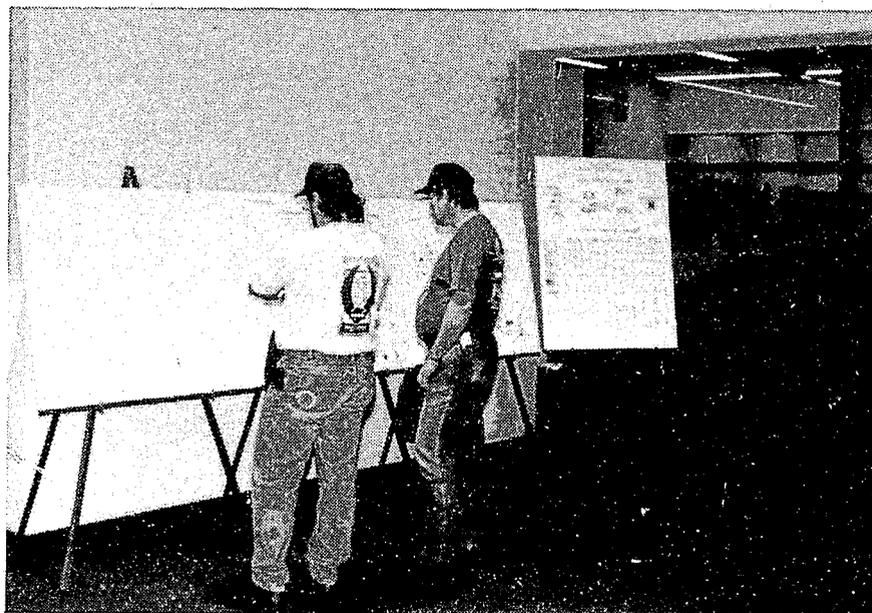
criminal information database also put other investigators in contact with each other.

Three suspects were eventually arrested for the above crimes and their "fence" was identified. It is believed that they had been committing these crimes for over ten years and had stolen millions of dollars in oriental rugs. Investigators recovered more than sixty oriental rugs worth at least \$150,000 and other stolen goods, including weapons.

### INFORMATION SHARING AND TRAINING CONFERENCES

The Trenton, New Jersey, Police Division's Vice Enforcement Unit, along with the Weed and Seed Task Force, reported a successful organized crime investigation that was aided by the sharing of information at various MAGLOCLN conferences. The individuals being investigated consisted of Jamaican nationals affiliated with a violent

*Attendees at information sharing and training conferences review examples of analytical charts prepared for member agency investigative and prosecution purposes.*



organized crime group in New York. The results of the case included the arrests of twelve suspects, including four major operatives; major disruption of the group's drug distribution network; and the seizures of five pounds of high-grade marijuana, two vehicles, and \$5,000 cash.

### LOAN OF SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT

RMIN's equipment-assisted cases reported seizures in the amount of \$38,649,802 during 1991-1993. There were also 1,051 arrests reported as attributable to the use of RMIN equipment.

MOCIC has assisted many investigations through the loan of both specialized investigative equipment and confidential funds. For example, during 1993 MOCIC aided the North County Metropolitan Enforcement Group of St. Louis, Missouri, in the arrest of 183 individuals and confiscation of narcotics with a street value of \$815,390. Owing to assistance from MOCIC, the Rural Area Interdiction Detail (RAID) Drug Task Force, operating in four jurisdictions in northeast Iowa, was responsible for 85 arrests and the seizure of drugs and other assets valued at \$443,100. MOCIC's assistance was utilized by the Southeast South Dakota Drug Task Force, made up of seven agencies in South Dakota. The task force recorded impressive results through an investigation that convicted 51 defendants on a variety of drug charges including major methamphetamine

trafficking. Suspects arrested were from South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Nevada, Arizona, and Pennsylvania.

In 1993, NESPIN supplied a surveillance van and other surveillance equipment to assist an investigation of an extremist group which advocates violence. The Wallingford, Connecticut, Police Department headed the investigation and was joined by the Connecticut State Police; the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol,

Tobacco, and Firearms; the U.S. Attorney's Office; and the Connecticut State's Attorney. Utilization of NESPIN's surveillance equipment assisted the investigators in obtaining criminal evidence and in identifying suspects. In the words of the investigators, the equipment "allowed us to take identification-quality surveillance photos that would normally have been impossible with our existing equipment." The results of the investigation were seven arrests and the identification of members of two organizations that perpetuate hate crimes. The investigators also seized nine assault rifles, one silencer, one bomb, and ten quarter sticks of dynamite.

### LOAN OF CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS

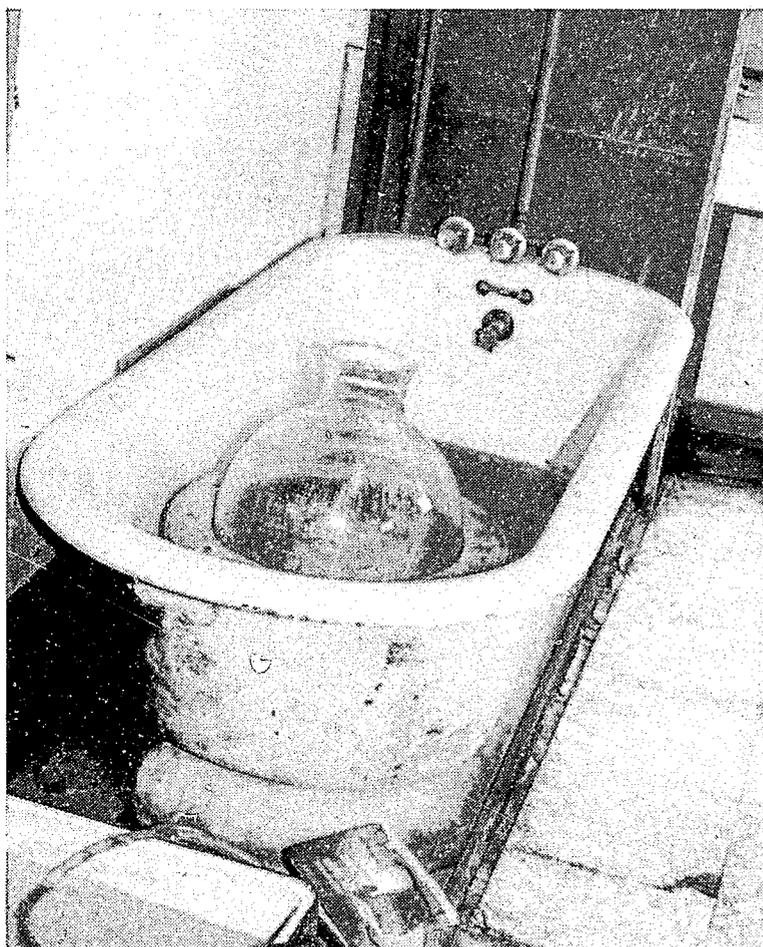
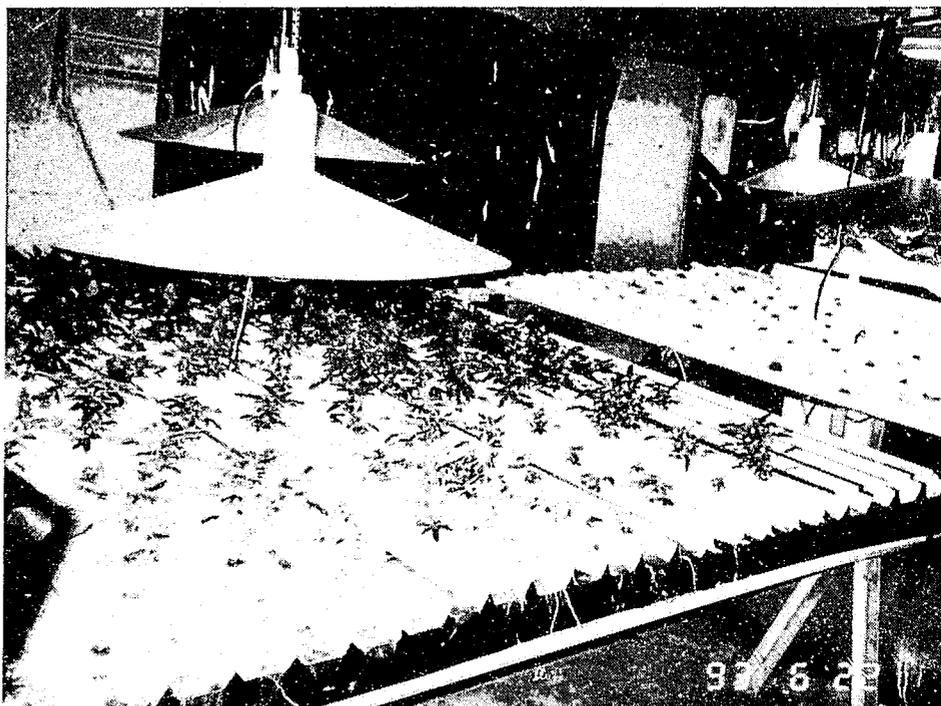
In September 1993, WSIN provided financial assistance in the amount of \$3,000 to support a cocaine investigation. Law enforcement agencies included Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, California State Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. An investigator in the case accompanied the first subject to

Stockton, California, where the second subject was contacted, and arrangements were made to purchase a half kilo of cocaine. This was a controlled buy, where the first subject was searched prior to the incident and kept under constant surveillance by law enforcement officers. Search warrants were subsequently served on ten separate locations associated with the second subject, who was arrested and charged with distributing cocaine.

As a result of WSIN funding, the Interagency Narcotics Enforcement Team (INET) and the Kittitas County Regional Drug Task Force, both in Washington State, began an investigation involving methamphetamine traffickers in 1993. On December 29, 1993, Kittitas County patrol officers conducted a traffic stop on one of the subjects, and as a result of the contact, the suspect was found transporting a methamphetamine lab from the western Washington area to his residence in rural Moses Lake.

ARRESTS, SEIZURES, AND RECOVERIES RISS MEMBER AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE RISS PROJECTS 1991 - 1993	
ARRESTS	18,249
NARCOTICS	\$9 BILLION
CURRENCY	\$63.9 MILLION
PROPERTY	\$80.8 MILLION

*Right: An indoor marijuana grow discovered as a result of a member agency investigation in which WSIN services were used.*



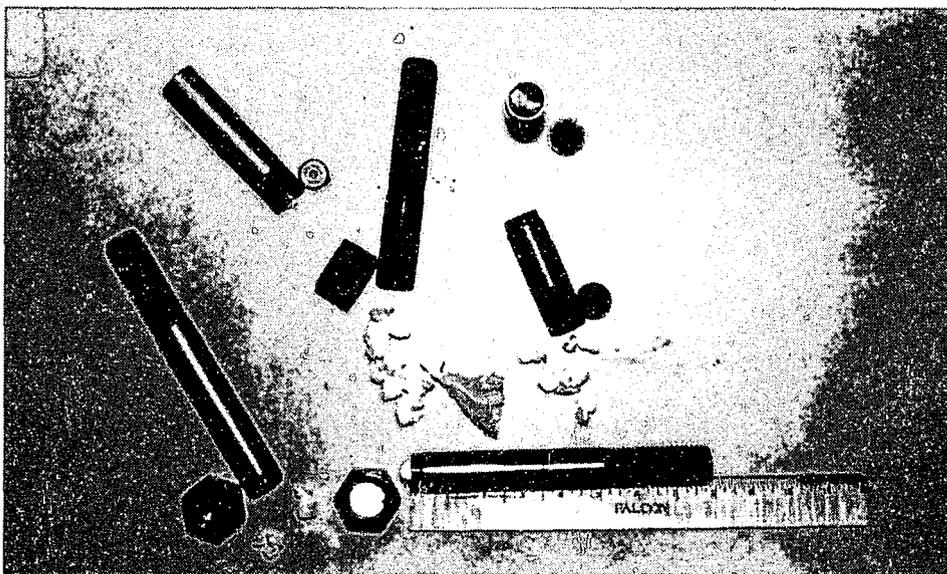
*Left: A methamphetamine laboratory seizure.*

During all of 1993, thanks to WSIN's financial help, INET reported 211 cases worked, 73 arrests, 73 indictments, and seizures valued at over \$25,000.

The loan of confidential funds from MOCIC has enabled small communities to respond to ever-escalating drug problems. In rural Richmond, Missouri (population 6,000), funds were not available to conduct any cov-

ert drug investigations. Richmond was experiencing unchecked drug trafficking, some of which was related to the street gangs of Kansas City, Missouri. When Richmond investigators were presented with an opportunity to use a cooperating individual, funds were provided by MOCIC for the expenses and drug buy money. As a result, between May and December of 1993, drug cases were made on 47 individuals

including nine gang-related juveniles by the Richmond Police Department and the Ray County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office, which joined in the investigation. In addition to the confidential funds mentioned in this case, MOCIC also provided sophisticated surveillance equipment to support the investigation.



*Crack cocaine concealed for shipment.*

# SERVICE AND ACTIVITY GROWTH TRENDS

This chapter is a summary of a detailed analysis of RISS project activity and member agency service usage during the 1991-1993 period. The source data for the original detailed analysis is presented in a separate IIR report of RISS Program activity.<sup>1</sup> Project activity and service data for the three-year period were converted to trend line projections and average annual growth rates were computed. The average annual growth rates referenced below are displayed in Exhibit 9.

## SUBJECTS IN PROJECT DATABASES

The growth rate for the number of criminal subjects maintained in project databases averaged 56% annually during the 1991-1993 period. A subject is the criminal individual, business, group, or associate name submitted by a member agency on a submission form or format.

## SUBMISSIONS

The growth rate for submissions of criminal subjects to project databases averaged 32% annually during the three-year period.

## INQUIRIES

The growth rate for inquiries averaged 32% annually during the 1991-1993 period. An inquiry occurs when a member or other authorized

agency requests a project to check their database and other sources for information on subjects suspected of involvement in criminal activity.

## HITS

The growth rate for total hits (information found on the subject of an inquiry) in project files plus hits in other agency files increased an average of 35% annually during the 1991-1993 period. The growth rate for total hits in project files for all projects combined increased an average of 57% annually for the three-year period.

## INFORMATION SHARING/ TRAINING

Attendance at project sponsored information sharing and training programs increased, resulting in a 17% annual growth rate over the three-year period. Over 54,000 persons attended project sponsored information sharing and training programs during the period 1991-1993.

## ANALYTICAL

The growth rate for analytical products delivered to member agencies increased an average of 33% annually for the three-year period. The overall growth rate for analytical service requests increased an average of 12% a year for the 1991-1993 period.

## WATS/PATCH

During the 1991-1993 period, telecommunications call patching usage by member agencies experienced an average annual growth rate of 8%. Call patching is a service which allows law enforcement agencies to communicate with each other on a long-distance, toll-free basis in order to discuss investigative matters.

## CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS

The confidential funds service growth rate decreased 10% a year for the 1991-1993 period. The provision of these funds is vulnerable to cutback when external or internal funding restrictions are anticipated.

## EQUIPMENT

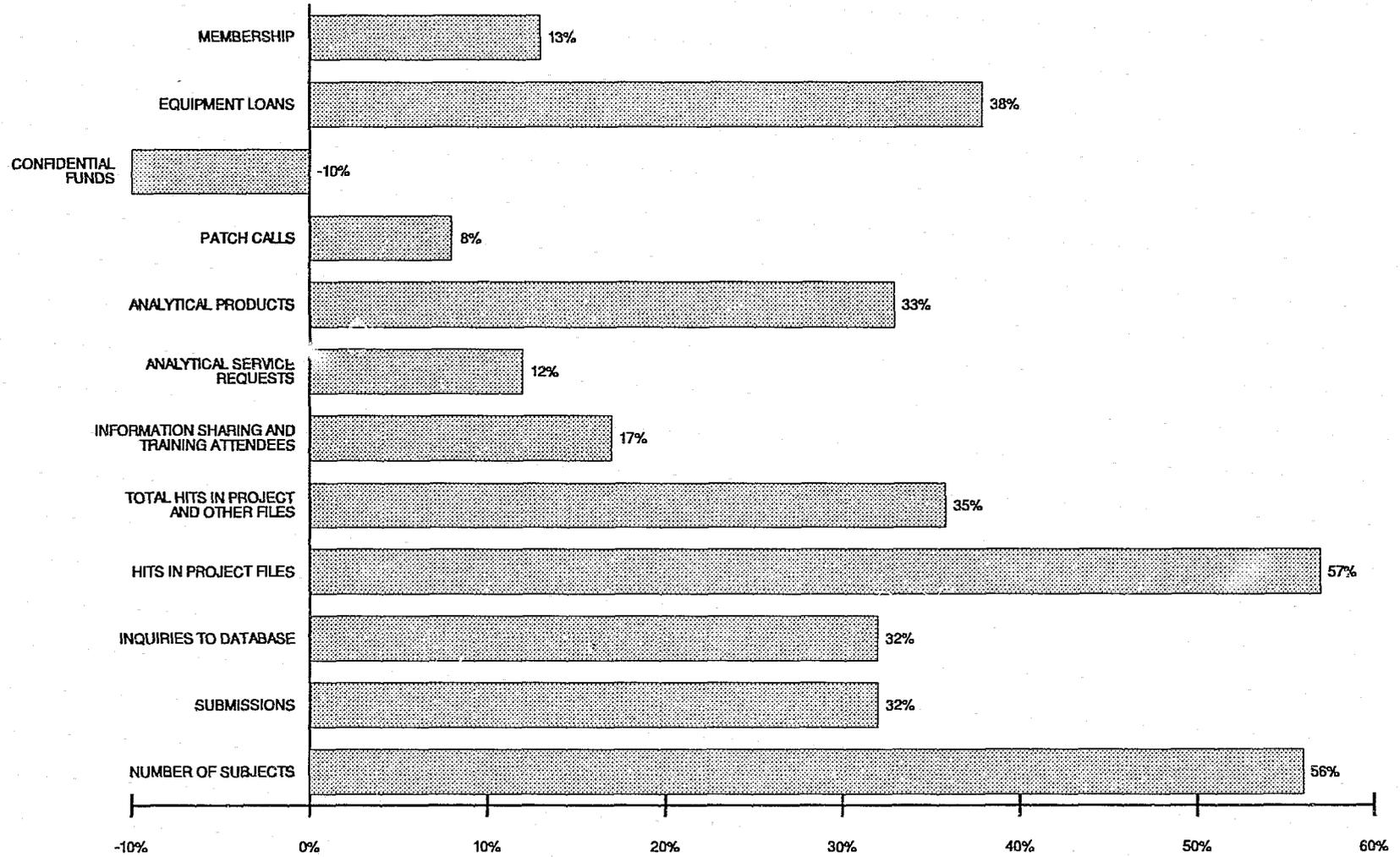
The growth rate for project investigative equipment loan services increased 38% a year for the period 1991-1993. Future trends for this service area will continue to be affected primarily by new equipment purchases and the condition of available equipment, as well as member needs.

## MEMBERSHIP

Overall project membership continued to grow at a rate which averaged 13% annually during the 1991-1993 period.

<sup>1</sup> IIR, The RISS Program Analysis of Activity 1991-1993, September 1994.

EXHIBIT 9  
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES  
FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD 1991-1993  
RISS PROJECTS



**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE RISS PROJECTS MAY BE  
OBTAINED FROM THE RISS PROJECTS AND IIR**

**Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center**  
Host Agency: Missouri Attorney General's Office  
Headquarters: Number Four Corporate Centre, Suite 205  
Springfield, Missouri 65804  
(417) 883-4383

**Regional Organized Crime Information Center**  
Host Agency: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation  
Headquarters: 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 850  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214  
(615) 871-0013

**Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law  
Enforcement Network**  
Host Agency: Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office  
Headquarters: 850 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 206  
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628  
(609) 530-0585

**Rocky Mountain Information Network**  
Host Agency: Arizona Department of Public Safety  
Headquarters: 2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 1000  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1027  
(602) 351-2320

**New England State Police Information Network**  
Host Agency: Massachusetts State Police  
Headquarters: 75 Second Avenue, Suite 100  
Needham, Massachusetts 02194  
(617) 449-5757

**Western States Information Network**  
Host Agency: California Department of Justice  
Headquarters: P.O. Box 903198  
Sacramento, California 94203-1980  
(916) 263-1166



---

**Institute for Intergovernmental Research  
P.O. Box 12729  
Tallahassee, Florida 32317**