What is RISS?

The Regional Information Sharing Systems® (RISS) is a nationwide program consisting of six regional centers that provide services to assist in the investigation and prosecution efforts of law enforcement. Thousands of criminal justice agencies across the country at local, state, federal, and tribal levels utilize RISS services and programs. RISS links law enforcement agencies through secure communications and provides information sharing resources and investigative support to combat multijurisdictional crimes, including violent crime, gang activity, drug activity, cybercrime, terrorism, human trafficking, identity theft, and other regional priorities. RISS strives to enhance the ability of criminal justice agencies to identify, target, and remove criminal conspiracies and activities, while promoting officer safety. The U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), provides program management and oversight of the RISS Program.

What is RISSafe?

RISSafe is an officer safety event deconfliction system. Investigative efforts, such as undercover operations, often create the potential for conflict between agencies or officers that are unknowingly working in close proximity to each other. In other cases, agencies or officers may be coordinating an event focusing on the same subject at the same time. In either case, agencies or officers may interfere with each other’s cases, causing investigative efforts to be disrupted or, worse, officers to be unintentionally hurt or killed. The use of an officer safety event deconfliction system allows for controlled and secure monitoring of these operations and the immediate notification of affected parties when conflicts arise.

How does RISSafe work?

RISSafe stores and maintains data on planned law enforcement events—such as raids, controlled buys, and surveillances—with the goal of identifying and alerting affected agencies and officers of potential conflicts impacting law enforcement efforts. RISSafe is used in conjunction with a mapping software to verify data on event locations when an event is entered into the system. Staff members supporting this initiative are assigned to a RISSafe Watch Center and are responsible for assisting officers, entering and monitoring events, responding to conflicts, and notifying affected parties.

RISSafe allows events to be entered by authorized remote users. When a remote officer enters data in RISSafe, he or she will be advised that the event is accepted with or without a conflict. In the event of a conflict, RISSafe Watch Center staff will receive an alarm, take ownership of the event, and notify involved parties of the pending conflict. Officers will be able to enter event data on a 24/7 basis but will not have the ability to see other officers’ entries into the system.

Officers may also contact their RISSafe Watch Center by telephone, fax, or e-mail to initiate the event registration process.
Who can access RISSafe?
RISS recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of all law enforcement officers. RISSafe is available to all law enforcement agencies. Contact your in-region RISS Center for information on accessing RISSafe.

Is RISSafe an intelligence database?
RISSafe is not an intelligence database; there is no criminal predicate required to post an operation. However, when entering an event into RISSafe, officers may include additional information, such as subject, vehicles, and gang data. After data is entered into RISSafe, appropriate information will be sent to a queue in the RISS National Criminal Intelligence Database (RISSIntel) for review by RISS Center intelligence staff or sent to another criminal intelligence system available via RISSNET™. After review, only data from RISS member agencies that meets 28 CFR Part 23 guidelines will be submitted to the RISSIntel databases.

Why should I use RISSafe?
- **Easy to Use**
  The system enables officers to easily submit event information 24/7 and receive feedback immediately regarding possible conflicts.
- **Valuable**
  RISSafe increases officer safety and enhances information sharing.
- **Secure**
  RISSafe is available by accessing the RISS Secure Intranet (RISSNET), which employs state-of-the-art Internet technologies to safeguard and provide fine-grained access control to resources.
- **No Cost**
  Through BJA funding, there is no cost for users to register, access, and utilize RISSafe.

When will RISSafe be deployed?
RISSafe has been deployed in selected RISS Center regions. It is anticipated that RISSafe will be available in all six regions in 2010.

For more information on how to access RISSafe or to become a RISSafe Watch Center, contact your RISS Center:

- MAGLOCLEN (800) 345-1322
- MOCIC (800) 846-6242
- NESPIN (800) 343-5682
- RMIN (800) 821-0640
- ROCIC (800) 238-7985
- WSIN (800) 952-5258

www.riss.net

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