

eWarrants and Other eProcess - Statewide and Local Design Concept

Object

To have a statewide electronic warrant system that immediately updates LEADS and the FBI in order to have a real time exchange of data that is fast and accurate and increases safety for both the public and the arresting officer. This will also eliminate redundant data entry by the clerks and arresting agencies for a more effective use of tax payor money.

Current Procedure

Court signs paper warrant. Warrant is sent by clerk to arresting agency. Arresting agency duplicates data entry into their record keeping system and/or into LEADS. Entire procedure can take up to several days or longer, while possible opportunities to detain wanted person are missed.

Electronic Concept – Synopsis

Need a Statewide web site for the use of an electronic warrant or other eProcess, including but not limited to orders of protection, juvenile warrants, process recalls, and process service. Judge electronically signs warrant. Certified Judicial signature sends warrant to local Clerk, at the same time it sends a copy of the warrant to the agency of record [or in centralized warrant counties (to be encouraged), to the Sheriff], and it also sends the eWarrant to the 'State' web (or possibly instead of the eForm itself, an XML extract file with warrant information would be sent. This is a discussion point.), the 'State' web takes XML data from eWarrant and sends it to ISP and FBI, ISP updates LEADS using the extracted data. Entire procedure can take a few minutes, or less. The organization to take on the responsibility for the 'State' is as yet undesignated.

Available Software

Illinois State Central Management Services (CMS) purchased statewide Adobe reader extensions for electronic form use, saving local government thousands of dollars. CMS purchased statewide signature certification, saving local government even more. Adobe Professional includes the Forms Designer. The routing software, Livecycle from Adobe, will be an expense.

Requirements

- ISP needs an XML interface to LEADS.
- Need a 'State' web site for 'State' eProcess forms.
- 'State' needs to extract XML data from eWarrants.
- Web site should accept locally designed eWarrants for XML extract and return eService to same
- Ability for local Adobe eProcess and other local process programs to interface with XML
- Ability for judges and clerk at a county level to utilize the 'State' eProcess
- LEADS criteria is base for required data elements for forms and interface
- Clerk & local agencies to be given back warrant, service, and other via interface (DISCUSSION POINT: or the routing of the form itself for data extract by the local)
- Courts/Clerks/Agencies will need to register with 'State' in order for the form to include their routing information, i.e. copies print or are sent to arresting agencies

- Forms, 'State' and local, must have edits that require all LEADS data elements prior to allowing the judge to sign the warrant
- Service entered using 'State' eService should send back the eForm to the appropriate clerk, and if the clerk/county is not a registered user, force printing a copy of the form for manual transfer to clerk
- Allow eService and eRecalls from 'State' web/eForms on currently existing paper warrants
- DISCUSSION POINT: out of county arrests could be entered as served in LEADS immediately using eForms. Why not? LEADS, the holding agency, and the clerk can be notified of the service in real time.
- To establish language for the warrant, have the State's Attorney's Association draft

Issues

With an electronic warrant, the signature of the judge will lock the form from further tampering. Arresting agencies currently just do data entry, manually or through an interface, to LEADS but their entry includes the known weapons, scars, etc. LEADS does not accept updates to the warrant and requires a complete new entry. If the arresting agency is left out of the first flow of the warrant from the bench to LEADS, the additional data that is so important to an officer on the street, must be accepted after the initial warrant, i.e. an update to the LEADS warrant information from the arresting agency.

Multiple warrants need to be addressed. If a warrant has been served but LEADS is not yet updated because the arresting agency did not receive the service yet or hasn't had time to enter it, how do we deal with it? Holding queue with notice to clerk to verify?

Local courts utilizing the 'State' eProcess forms will need equipment: computer on the bench (PC or laptop, minimum functionality laptop would cost \$850 and a high end tablet with character recognition would run \$1,500.) and a biometric jump drive for securely storing their signature, approximately \$100 each in volume with a really sharp negotiator.

Local eProcess

- Judge signs eWarrant on bench, signature will not work until required LEADS data is entered into form – if missing required data such as DOB, eye color, etc., judge will ask ASA to produce, form remains in the judge's queue or is routed back to ASA until completed in full
- 'Original' to clerk with immediate PDF copy of form entered into docket and the clerk's process tracking system is to be updated
- Direct entry into Web for XML extract to LEADS
- Simultaneous copy of eWarrant sent to 'State' Web for XML extract to LEADS
- eCopy to Sheriff (if holder of centralized warrants)
- Courtesy copy to local agency

ADDITIONAL NEEDS

- Judges signing warrants at home (arrest or search)
- Incorporating mug shot or other biometric info as it becomes available
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