Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Minutes
October 22, 2013

Attending: Bradley Long, Ann Libri, Tom Winkelman, James Hall, Mike Gillette, Darrell Clark, Les Nunes, Suzie Hulett, Tom Fleming, Bill Morgan

By Phone: Ruth Kafenstock, , Dave Sapochak, Gordon Wayman, Dan Leonard, Sheri Aker, Kari Kinnard, Greg Piland, Dan Lee

Opening Remarks – Darrell Clark, TRCC Coordinator: Darrell opened the meeting with introductions. He reminded grantees of the importance of submitting monthly progress reports. Mehdi reminded grantees that it is very important that these monthly and year end reports show progress and results that we can build on for the next year. Les inquired if funding is held back if mandatory progress reports are not submitted. Darrell responded that will happen next year.

NHTSA Comments – Kari Kinnard
Kari introduced herself to the committee and gave a brief history of her NHTSA/DC background. She stressed the importance of reporting good data and offered her assistance.

FHWA Comments—Greg Piland
Greg discussed the presentation he will be giving at this week's Traffic Safety Engineering Conference in Champaign. FHWA will be presenting a crash data process review. He explained that the draft is nearly ready with results from the 2,000 surveys sent concerning data issues. He reviewed the results with the committee commenting that work needs to be done regarding clarifying the law to better define use of data as well as training. Results from the surveys also revealed the safety data mart needs to be more user friendly. He expects the draft report to be available mid-November.

Updates
CODES Update-Mehdi Nassirpour—Mehdi Nassirpour

Traffic Records Performance Measures

Les asked about accessibility and the possibility of surveying people who visit data sites. He stress a needs to determine/measure number of people who use or visit databases.

Bradley Long explained that he is working on a safety portal which will address issues that are being discussed today. It is in the beginning stages and he will be working with BIP to build a user friend site which is easy to track who accesses databases and where. He hopes have a presentation for the January meeting. Les explained that we are exploring options to use 408 funds to help with the expenses. Brad added that this portal will replace MCR however historical data will be safe and stored on the portal.

Mehdi announced that the 2012 Crash Facts are on line with trend analyses. Next year's report will have trend analyses combined with crash data.

Electronic Safety Belt Survey Data Collection Tool (iPad)—Mehdi Nassirpour

MCR/CIS—Bradley Long
Brad reported on the July 1-September MCR use.----- Darrell explained that MCR is being phased out with some agencies, including Chicago PD, scanning and e-mailing reports to DTS. Smaller agencies may be given the option to continue this process rather than go to a vendor.

Sherri Akers reported that ISP reports 98% of its crashes through MCR.

Approved XML vendors include IATEC, Apris, New World and Sun Guard

Tom Fleming discussed the concerns of local police agencies is the release of personal information which can be used by attorneys. The Attorney General Office's reported that personal information could not be redacted from crash reports. Sherri Akers discussed the ISP software that redacts information however a dedicated staff person has to do the process.

Les inquired on the status of amending the 3rd party vendor law and was told it would not happen during the veto session but will be brought up during the spring session.

Sheri suggested adding a stipulation to vendor's contracts that personal information be redacted. Tom asked if a communication could be sent out address this issue.

Crash Reports--Jessica Keldermans

Data Entry is approximately 72 days behind the Date of Crash and Location Entry is approximately 90 days behind the Date of Crash.
Data Entry and Location Entry began working overtime on October 1, 2013.

We are still working on preparing the reports for the Trends booklet.

City of Chicago/IDOT Data Integration—David Zavaterro

In Dave's absence, Darrell updated the committee on issues with this grant. The City of Chicago Comptroller left which delayed the entire process. He has been working with them and contracts have been created to pay 3rd party vendors beginning November 1st with a rollout in spring of 2014. They hope to have 2% of crashes reported electronically by fall.

SOS Imaging Enhancement—Gordon Wayman

Our Contractual employee is doing well. She screened 108 files, soundexed 912 files loaded 13 files and answered 1192 telephone calls the first quarter. She did miss the first three weeks work in July based on the contract not being signed.

We are not meeting the 5 day threshold goal because of the increase in new accident cases. We are at around 7 days now. From January to July 2013 we received an average of 910 cases per month. In August of 2013 we had 1,581 cases come in from IDOT and 1,710 new cases in September.

Data Analysis/Data Reporting of Statewide Databases—IDPH Ruth Kafensztok

- IL EMS Data Reporting System: This is an interactive web-based reporting system providing the general public quick access to statewide injury and illness-related information from 4 data sources (Crash Report, Mortality, Trauma Registry, and Hospital Discharge).
    - Updated on July 12, 2013
    - There are now 18 years of data available for querying for Crash, Trauma and Hospital Discharge
    - Initial review of web statistics indicated increased usage represented by total "visits" of 8,686 for first half of the year, an 11.5% increase from the same period last year.
- Fact Sheets: These are 11 fact sheet style reports with tables and graphs providing general profiles for populations of interest using information from the Traffic Crash database.
    - During the month of July 2013, all eleven fact sheet reports were reviewed, finalized and approved for release.

    - By August 2013 the set of 11 fact sheets was made available on-line in the following websites
    - The set of fact sheets are available for 8 years of Crash Report data
- Special study: This is a feasibility study to augment IL FARS data fields with completeness issues with IL Trauma Registry data where record matches are found between the 2 data sources:
    - Continued work with F-Desk/FARS data review
    - The amendment to the CODES data sharing agreement with IDPH is in final stage (i.e., approval and signatures), and planning for the technical specifications of the ITR data extract request was initiated

Mehdi explained that FARS data is not complete, missing BAC information. It is important that they compare the trauma registry data with the FARS data to retrieve the BAC—critical federal funding is based on the BAC data.

SOS: Data Dictionary and Flow Process Diagram—Dave Sapochak

Dave reported they have one full-time contract worker on the project and there is 27% of the work is complete. They are continuing to move forward. Darrell explained this is 5-10 year project to merge databases to share with other agencies. SOS is in the process of redesigning their direct links which is a long and arduous process.

NEMSIS v2 to NEMSIS v3/Pre-hospital and Trauma Data Linkage—Dan Lee

Project 14-18-02: NEMSIS v2 to NEMSIS v3 Conversion

In terms of data quality, completion of this project is expected to:

- Improve data accuracy through increased emphasis on validity rules in version 3 of the NEMSIS standard;
- Improve data uniformity through the enforcement of these rules using a modular rule enforcement mechanism known as Schematron;
- Improve data **timeliness** through the introduction of a web-service requirement as part of the standard.

1st Quarter FY 2014 Accomplishments

An Information Technology (IT) Procurement Business Case (PBC) was completed and approved by Central Management Services (CMS). This process could not begin until the grant funds for the project had been awarded and a project agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation had been signed and was ready for implementation, which occurred in mid August.

Next, a contract for the necessary IT services was created, approved by the department's legal services team, and provided to the software vendor for approval and signature, which have been obtained. The contract has been signed by our department and is currently at CMS where it will be approved by their legal area and then signed by their Director. That is the final signature and the contract will start on that date.

In the mean time, a draft Version 3 dataset was distributed to the Illinois EMS community and other stakeholders for review, and this document as well as the conversion process was discussed at two meetings of the Illinois EMS Advisory Council's Data Committee, held on 17 and 27 September (agenda, minutes, and sign-in lists for these meetings are available upon request).

2nd Quarter FY 2014 Expectations

Finalize Illinois' NEMSIS Version-3-compliant dataset.

Develop a plain-language version of a preliminary set of comprehensive error-checking rules that conform to the both NEMSIS Version 3 standard for EMS data and the State of Illinois error-checking and data consistency requirements.

Develop and implement a Schematron-based capability for enforcing NEMSIS and Illinois error-checking and data consistency requirements (Schematron is a rule-based validation language for evaluating XML markup language characteristics).
Develop the first draft of a data dictionary describing the Illinois NEMSIS 3 dataset and the validity rules that apply to each element in that dataset.

Project 14-18-04: Prehospital Data – Trauma Registry Data Linkage Pilot
In terms of data quality, completion of this project is expected to:

- Improve data linkage by bringing together two previously unlinked databases
- Improve data accuracy by providing additional opportunities for cross-checking data elements to detect logical errors

1st Quarter FY 2014 Accomplishments
A coalition of EMS agency, EMS System, hospital IT, trauma, and software vendor representatives met on August 29th to explore options for linking EMS run data with Trauma Registry Data, selecting an approach, and designing and implementing functionality based on the selected approach. The idea is to use patient identifiers to link records from the two databases within a hospital, and then to remove the identifiers. The resulting linked de-identified records are then available for use outside of the hospital without violating HIPAA or other patient confidentiality requirements.
The pilot hospital has assigned an IT project manager.
An outline for a white paper for the project has been developed and disseminated to the group.

2nd Quarter FY 2014 Expectations
Complete white paper.
Develop and execute IT contract.
Begin design phase.

FY 2015 proposal
Improve accessibility of EMS data by launching a two websites:

- An EMS-only site accessible by EMS System personnel for oversight and QA, allowing those personnel unrestricted access to their System's data;
- A public site that would allow users to filter data based on a large number of call, treatment and patient demographics parameters, and to export this data into multiple file formats (e.g., tab-delimited, comma-delimited, Excel).

Mehdi asked when the conversion is completed, how long will current users have to convert to v3? Dan explained it will be released in the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2014 and the conversion period will take a year.

FY2013-408 Grants approved by ITRCC
Darrell again reminded grantees on the importance of submitting monthly progress reports. He also asked that grantees e-mail about possible FY15 grant ideas.

Subcommittee Reports—none at this time

Future Meetings

- January 21, 2014
- April 15, 2014
- July 15, 2014
- October 21, 2014