

Press Release



ReportBeam

ReportBeam - Mississippi's State-Wide Reporting Solution

As the country moves forward with electronic law enforcement solutions, the State of Mississippi realized it needed a better way to collect and manage traffic collision data. With over 90,000 traffic incidents reported each year, Mississippi's law enforcement community is responsible for investigating and reporting collision data that is later used to improve transportation impediments as well as implement safety initiatives designed to curb the problems on the State's roadways. This data was being captured on paper forms and submitted to the Department of Public Safety where it was later entered into the State's data systems for statistical purposes. Unfortunately, due to the workflow involved, this data was often not available until many months into the following year and the data itself was questionable after being transcribed through many different stages.

The State Traffic Records Committee, spearheaded by Brady McMillen, Director of Accident Reconstruction for the Mississippi Highway Patrol, began the search for a better solution. They intended to find an electronic alternative that would ensure the integrity of the data at the source and provide a consolidated system for the management of collision reports. Key to this solution would be the immediate availability of the data for statistical purposes and a system which would allow law enforcement themselves to benefit from the data directly. A solution fitting this description, and purchased by the State, would be offered to all Law Enforcement agencies throughout Mississippi at no charge to them, streamlining their collision reporting workflow and enabling them to meet the States data submission requirements easier, and more efficiently.

The State Traffic Records Committee, with the help of Donna Smith of the Department of Public Safety and Master Sergeant McMillen, began to survey Law Enforcement Professionals throughout the State to identify the requirements of a State-wide solution which would meet the needs of the many different agencies throughout Mississippi. These requirements were then used to formulate a Request for Proposal to the premier software vendors specializing in reporting solutions. After a comprehensive and meticulous selection process, VS Visual Statement Inc. was identified as the vendor ready and able to provide a turn-key solution while also being able to work closely with the State to tailor a system specific to its needs.

The solution was ReportBeam.

Through a joint effort between the State and VS Visual Statement Inc., the system was customized to implement over two thousand business rules in the data collection tool. These rules make certain that data entered into the system strictly meets the requirements of validity specified by the State, thereby ensuring that the information used to improve the safety of Mississippians is correct and accurate. In September of 2004, Master Sergeant McMillen and Mrs. Smith began overseeing the pilot roll-out of ReportBeam to agencies throughout the State. As of February, 2005, over fifty agencies have subscribed to the system and the full deployment of ReportBeam is set to begin. So successful has the pilot been that the Safety and Responsibility Bureau within the Department of Public Safety has begun entering all collision reports for the year 2004 as Mississippi moves forward with a true electronic collision data system.

Already, ReportBeam houses tens of thousands of collision reports for the State and provides statistical information and geographical analysis to Law Enforcement and Public Safety Officers. This tool is available to all who can help improve the safety of travelers on Mississippi's roads and highways.



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"Your Collision Reporting Company"

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