

## Criminal History Parser Information

Funded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and ICE

### Summary:

Nlets completed a Criminal History Parser pilot and, as a result, standardized criminal history data for all states is now available to Nlets members. If your agency would like to take advantage of this service, contact the Nlets Service Center at [service@nlets.org](mailto:service@nlets.org) or 1-800-528-4020.

### Background:

All criminal history information in the United States is provided individually by each state, federal agency or territory's repository. Criminal histories are queried one of two ways. Either the request is sent to the FBI to launch a III (Interstate Identification Index) query, or the request is sent directly to the state via the Nlets IQ/FQ message keys.

Regardless of the query method, all criminal history responses are returned via the Nlets network and system. Recently, a national effort occurred to provide this data in a standardized format. Nlets has managed several Bureau of Justice Statistic grants to facilitate work within state repositories to accept and return the standardized XML formats created by the Joint Task Force on Rapsheet Standardization which are based on National Information Exchange Model (NIEM).

Most U.S. states, plus the FBI, are transmitting their records using this format. Through Nlets, consumers of the rapsheet can choose to receive the response records in XML or in text with a standardized stylesheet applied. The suppliers of criminal history rapsheets produce significantly different response formats to the end user. With that in mind, Nlets leveraged its position as the gateway for all criminal history response data and now offers a service which programmatically parses data elements from these text-based responses to the Nlets user community. ICE played a crucial role in this project, as they had an immediate need for this parsed record capability and agreed to fund a portion of the work necessary to produce the Nlets criminal history parser and participate in a pilot of the project.

The new parsing service has performed well during a trial period and is has been pushed out for wide release. Any Nlets user that can receive XML may take advantage of this service which is configured based on the agency's ORI. Once the Nlets Service Center sets up an ORI to participate, that state will receive all rapsheets as fully parsed XML, with the new message keys PFR and PII. For more details or to participate, please contact the Nlets Service Center at [service@nlets.org](mailto:service@nlets.org) or 1-800-528-4020.