

THE CRIMINAL RESEARCH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT EVALUATION SYSTEM (CRIMES): A COMPREHENSIVE RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR SMALLER POLICE¹

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BACKGROUND AND ORIGINS

Small Rural Border and Tribal Law enforcement agencies are frequently faced with prohibitive cost when acquiring, implementing and operating records management systems (RMS). These costs include those for software/system acquisition, software maintenance, and IT personnel for systems operation. An alternative to the typical RMS where an agency acquires a system and staffs and operates it independently is an RMS system shared by multiple agencies. One innovative model developed to offset the cost and meet the needs of smaller agencies is the Criminal Research Information Management Evaluation System (CRIMES) developed and operated by the Police Research Center at Sam Houston State University. This RMS system, which dates back to 1995, now serves 54 different local law enforcement agencies in the State of Texas. This comprehensive system is fee-based with annual fees ranging from \$15,000-to \$75,000+ depending on the size of the population the agency serves.

2016 Annual *CRIMES* License Fees

<u>Jurisdiction Size</u>	<u>Annual</u>
To 9,999	\$15,000
10,000 to 14,999	\$20,000
15,000 to 19,999	\$33,000
20,000 to 49,999	\$49,000
50,000 to 74,999	\$59,000
75,000+	Negotiated

County Populations = 35% of incorporated plus

CRIMES was developed in response to a request for such a system from Texas police chiefs who were dissatisfied with the systems and technology that was available to them. Asking a regional university to develop a system that would meet their needs might seem unusual; however Sam Houston State University was heavily involved in collaborations with criminal justice agencies dating back to 1965 when its College of Criminal Justice was formed in response to criminal justice agencies requests for education, training, and technical assistance. The development of CRIMES started in 1995 and by 2001, CRIMES had 11 subscribing agencies. However, at about that time, CRIMES staff halted the expansion of subscribers in order to address several bugs in the system. CRIMES has experienced steady subscriber expansion since that time. Unlike most common Records Management Systems, which are developed and marketed by for-profit organizations, CRIMES was and still is operated as a non-profit entity being part of a university in a public state university system. It was designed with ease of use in mind for agencies with limited IT capacity.

Over the 21 years of its continuous development and operation, CRIMES has evolved to the point where it could become a private for-profit enterprise, but CRIMES staff provide a strong rationale for retaining it as a university-based non-profit enterprise. First, since CRIMES does not have to be “profitable,” it can use subscriber agencies as a “test bed” for developing and refining new technologies, without incurring a lot of additional costs in doing so. Second, CRIMES provides university police researchers with an opportunity to “develop models of improved police strategy premised upon emergent technology.” Third, and possibly one of the strongest rationales for retaining CRIMES within the university is that it provides faculty and students with unusual opportunity for professional development. Criminal justice students are provided with access to police data for use in theses, dissertations, and various capstone projects.

Additionally, computer science students are provided with the opportunity to work on the continuous development of the CRIMES system. Fourth, CRIMES provides a platform for the training of law enforcement in the application and use of such technology in analysis and decision-making. Fifth, CRIMES supports a regional network for police records and information sharing.

Although, the CRIMES operation, as a university-based enterprise that supports over 50 police agencies might seem and it unusual, CRIMES staff point out that there are parallels in other fields where universities provide technical assistance and services and reap the benefits of research and teaching opportunities such as in the area of medicine and public health. With regard to research, CRIMES serves as a single point where data from over 50 agencies using a common system comes together and can be accessed by researchers, whereas combining data for research purpose from over 50 agencies with several different systems would be very difficult to coordinate and manage.

The CRIME mission statement is:

CRIMES was launched as a direct technical assistance endeavor to Texas law enforcement consistent with the Criminal Justice Center’s Mandate, and legislative funding history. Additionally the rationale for the endeavor includes:

Serving as a Law Enforcement Technology Demonstration Endeavor

Serving as a demonstration environment for integrating Emergent Technology with Police Strategy

Providing a Contribution to Law Enforcement Training

Engendering a Statewide/Regional Crime and Operations Analysis Effort

CRIMES is expected to continue as the core of Sam Houston State University's efforts to bring state-of-the-art technology to Texas law enforcement.

CRIMES: CONFIGURATION, CORE MODULES, COMPONENTS, AND REPORTS

The configuration of the CRIMES RMS includes core modules, support components, analytics components, and management tools. A total of 20 application modules are available in CRIMES. It should be noted that while CRIMES was originally, and for most of its operational history, dedicated to serving local police agencies, it is now addressing the records management needs of Texas probation agencies as well as the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (corrections). CRIMES uses the Microsoft Windows operating systems along with several Microsoft Office components and was designed with ease of access and operation by local personnel in smaller agencies in mind. The entry or splash screen for the system appears below.



Core Modules. The CRIMES RMS includes three “core” modules. These modules meet basic law enforcement information and communication needs including computer-assisted dispatch (CAD), master name-person identification, and incident reporting. In addition, CRIMES equips the agency with a mobile or remote (patrol) capacity to access core and application modules.

CRIMES' Core Modules

- **Computer-Assisted Dispatch (CAD) Module – Comprehensive management of communications function for Police, Fire, & EMS.**
- **Master Name File Module – Single file of all persons, vehicles & organizations in database.**
- **Incident Reporting Module – Computerized data entry for incident report.**

Computer-Assisted Dispatch (CAD), Incident Management, and Master Name File. The CAD manages police, fire, and EMS communications and has interconnectivity with 911, patrol mobile data terminals, the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS). The CAD dispatches police, fire, and EMS in response to calls for service. In addition to these basic functions, the CRIMES CAD has a large number of “Advanced CAD Components” that are listed in Appendix A.

Incident Management is another core component of the CRIMES CAD. This component creates a record of and stores extensive descriptive information about an offense incident. This component also tracks the flow of paperwork associated with an incident, generates incident reports, and retains incident data in a format usable for UCR and NIBRS reporting.

The **Master Name File** is a database that contains extensive information about persons identified in any of the other CRIMES components based on the individual’s name. This includes items such as names, aliases, addresses, phone numbers, physical characteristics, fingerprint linkages, and can include information on employment, education, and involvement in various reported incidents.

Mobile Component. The CRIMES “Mobile Component” enables information and reporting access for officers on patrol. It provides display and queuing of calls for service and enables accessing data bases contained in core modules as well as messaging from one patrol unit to another. This component also provides officers with remote access to the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

Mobile Component

Includes:

Field Reporting (Mobile entry of Incident Reports)

Beat Information (Search routine for retrieval of recent beat activity)

Field Search (CAD, Master Name File, & Incident Modules)

TLETS (Connectivity)

CAD Call Screen Display (Individual call information, user-defined display of pending calls)

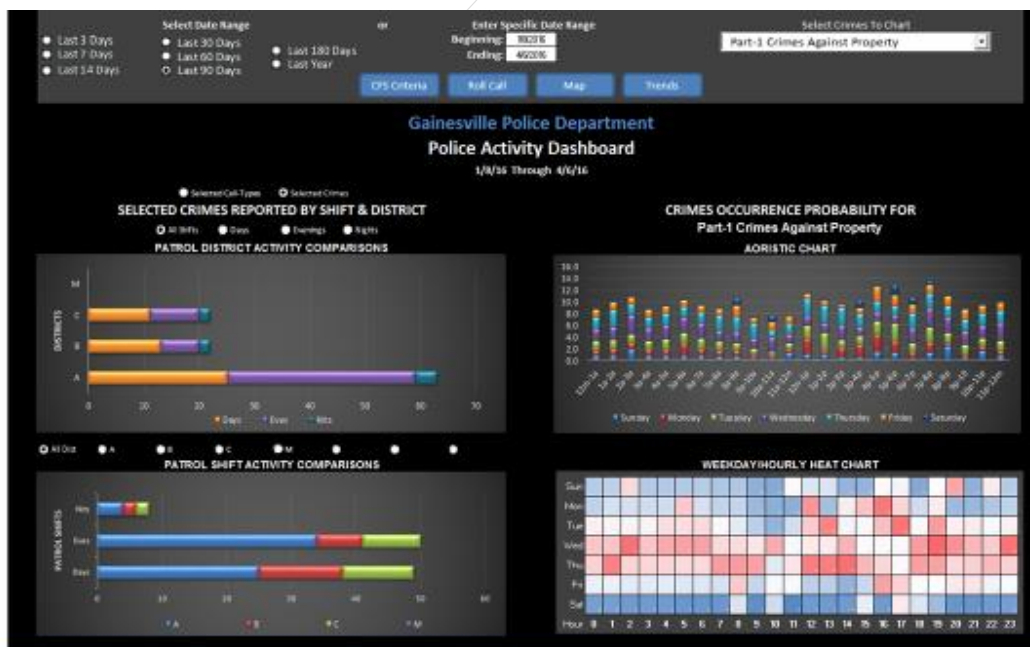
Unit to Unit Messaging (Broadcast capable)

Application Modules: CRIMES includes several separate “Application Modules. These applications cover a variety of essential functions including those that enable database searches and generate mandated reports such as the UCR and NIBRS. Applications include booking/jail management, property room management, traffic citation and accident reports, field interview notes, and trespassing. Included are several analytical tools including those for crime analysis, police activity analysis, response time analysis, accident analysis, racial profiling reporting, and COMPSTAT. Management tools include applications for booking, jail management and property room management. In addition, CRIMES provides a GIS/GPS interface that enables mapping (with a separate ESRI license) and vehicle and address location. CRIMES agencies can also take advantage of its internet reporting capacity. Citizens with internet access can report minor incidents via the agency’s web page. Another important feature of CRIMES is that it provides agencies with automated racial profiling reports using field interview or citation data, which brings Texas agencies into compliance with the state statute that requires such reporting.

CRIMES' Application Modules

1. Local Warrants
2. Booking/Jail Management
3. Property Room Mgt
4. Traffic Citations
5. Traffic Accident
6. Police & Fire Mobile
7. Field Reporting
8. GIS/GPS Interface
9. Citizen Self-Reporting
10. Investigations Case Management
11. UCR Reports
12. NIBRS Reports
13. Racial Profiling
14. Alarm Permits and Billing
15. Management Reports
16. Productivity Reports
17. Crime Analysis
18. Security System
19. Expunge
20. Regional Server & NDEx Auto Upload

The screenshot below provides an example of a management report generated by a CRIMES application module. It is a “police activity dashboard” for the Gainesville, TX police department, the dashboard summarizes and compares activity across shifts and districts and also provides an estimate of the probability of crime occurrence.



Fire Computer-Assisted Dispatch and Mobile Capacity: CRIMES also supports fire agencies by providing them with computer-assisted dispatch and mobile communication capacity. In addition, it is integrated with a fire-services specialty software application and it can generate a variety of fire services operational supports.

Complete Fire CAD & MOBILE

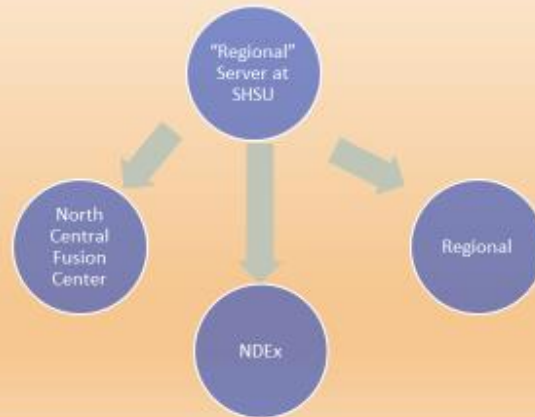
1. **CAD is Multiple Function and Jurisdiction**
2. **Fire Apparatus Recommendation and Move Ups**
3. **Paging by Type of Fire Call**
4. **Rip and run**
5. **Independent Fire Mobile**
6. **Integrated with FireHouse**
7. **Numerous Operational Reports**



Regional Databases and Remote Server Backup:

Built into the CRIMES system is automated backup of agency data. Once every 24 hours (at 3:00 a.m.) local police agency data is pulled via a VPN network to servers located at Sam Houston State University. This provides agencies with data backup and capacity for data recovery should data residing at the local level be lost due to local system failure. The SHSU server is also used to automatically push agency data to crime/law enforcement data sharing sites including the Texas Data Exchange (TDEX), which is operated by the Texas Department of Public Safety. That system manages the VINE system, which is a victim notification system, which is connected to the National Data Exchange (NDEX) system. Data uploaded to TDEX is available through CRIMES to participating agencies. For example, one agency can check for information that might connect multiple incidents across multiple jurisdictions. In addition, to the TDEX regional capacity, CRIMES agencies can elect to have their data shared with /uploaded to the North Central Texas Fusion Center.

CRIMES Network Connectivity



CRIMES: AGENCY REQUIREMENTS, CRIMES STAFFING, FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR POLICE AGENCIES

Minimum Agency Requirements: CRIMES staff summarizes the agency IT-related requirements for CRIMES participation as follows:

- The **software** required to run the **CRIMES** platform is Microsoft Windows®, Microsoft Server®, PHP, IIS, and Microsoft SQL Server®.
- **CAD Server:** Contains the SQL database that users access for all Computer Aided Dispatch functions.
- **Application/RMS Server:** Contains the SQL database that users access for the Records Management System. This includes data for the following modules:
 - Incident
 - Jail Management
 - Property Room
 - Citation
 - Crash Report
 - Field Interview
 - Trespass
- **Mobile Server:** Runs the software required for interfacing with the mobile units. The following packages are typically installed by **CRIMES** technical staff:
 - IIS – Internet Information Services

- PHP (latest stable version)
- E911 Interface
- Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System Interface
- AVL – Geolocation
- FireHouse® Interface
- **NetMotion® Server** is required for **CRIMES** Mobile, providing both persistence and CJIS compliant encryption.
- **Wireless provider.** **CRIMES** Mobile will operate on any major wireless service provider.
- **Property Room Barcode Reader/Scanner**
- **Driver's License Magnetic Card Reader:**
 - To be used with Citation, **CRIMES** Mobile, and Jail Modules
- **Citation Printer for Printing Tickets in Cars**

For smaller agencies or low utilization, the Application/RMS and CAD servers/databases can be combined on one server to reduce cost. Of course, in addition to possessing the software and hardware technology, local agencies need personnel with appropriate skill sets to support the agency's IT operations.

Staffing: Eight programmers are assigned to **CRIMES** Law Enforcement and three assigned to **CRIMES** Community-Supervision. Although there is a range of expertise represented among the staff, the common profile is a bachelor's degree in computer science and 5 years of previous programming experience. Additionally, there is a full time assistant responsible for administrative tasks. The Director of the Police Research Center focuses efforts on development and external relationships. A faculty member in SHSU's Computer Science Department handles all GIS components, and periodically, CRIMES utilizes computer science graduate students as research assistants.

Hosted Program: In September 2017 CRIMES plans to launch a hosted version of **CRIMES** for agencies less than 10,000 populations. Participating agencies will maintain perpetual internet connectivity to the central server at Sam Houston State University. All data entry, editing, and report generation will reside on the central server at Sam Houston State University. Additionally, required modifications to the software will have to be completed only once - at the central server. The current annual fee is a minimum of \$15,000. It is anticipated the annual fee for the hosted system will be priced less than \$5,000.

Summary: Over its 21 year history, the CRIMES system has evolved into a sophisticated police Records Management System that meets the comprehensive needs of small to medium sized police agencies. Participating in CRIMES is relatively low cost in terms of licensing, but the IT hardware and staff requirements add sustainable cost to the use of CRIMES. Nevertheless, total costs are probably substantially less than those involved in using mainstream proprietary RMS software. However, at the present time there does not appear to be data available that would make it possible to compare cost of CRIMES with for-profit RMS systems used by other same-sized Texas law enforcement agencies. The cost of IT hardware and software for CRIMES

participation exceeds what many small agencies can afford. However, the launching of the hosted version of CRIMES in 2017 will provide affordable access to small agencies. In addition to their license fee of less than \$5,000, their additional cost will be for computers/workstations and mobile terminals. Since data entry, editing and report generation are carried out at the CRIMES central server, subscribing agencies will not need to acquire or maintain a server for the system.

CRIMES: COMMUNITY SUPERVISION INITIATIVE

Background: Although CRIMES was developed in response to the needs of local law enforcement agencies and has served them over the past 21 years, in 2016, in response to the needs of Texas community corrections agencies, CRIMES launched a Community Supervision Initiative. This initiative is focused on serving Texas judicial districts, some that include high population counties and others that include less populated counties. For example, Tarrant County (Fort Worth) is a highly populated County of 1,809,043, whereas counties such as Golidad and Refugio are much less populated (7,400 and 7,300 respectively). Tarrant and Victoria Counties had collaborated on a five-year endeavor to develop a probation RMS/case management system. Maintenance and updating cost proved to be problematic and costly and probation leaders in those jurisdictions were aware of the success of CRIMES in serving police agencies. These counties turned over the existing software that had been developed in-house to CRIMES at Sam Houston State University. Crimes added staff and reworked the software to make it more flexible and useable to a wider range of agencies. The expectation is that CRIMES will have full blown probationer supervision software operational the first quarter of 2017. At the core of the CRIMES Community Supervision software is the Probationer Case File which is described as a comprehensive record of probation conditions and contacts with probationers. The initial users of CRIMES Community Supervision software are Tarrant and Victoria counties which are the counties developing the original version of the software was developed inhouse. Nine additional counties are onboard to start using the software in the near future. As with CRIMES for law enforcement, one of the goals is to provide agencies with an affordable system. Locating the system and modeling it after the existing CRIMES operation makes meeting that goal achievable. Participating agencies will be charged \$30 per CRIMES workstation per month. A large agency such as Tarrant County will pay approximately \$100,000 per year including support and upgrades provided by CRIMES staff. A small agency, with a small number of work stations, for example six, would pay just over \$2,000 annually.

As with CRIMES for law enforcement, CRIMES-Community Supervision has mutual benefits for both probation agencies and the university. The software provides agencies with a comprehensive client-based information system. At the same time, CRIMES-Community Supervision software provides university researchers and students with a comprehensive database that can be used to assess community supervision outcomes. A principal goal of the software and its use is to put in to play principles of effective correctional intervention and evidence-based practices identified by William Kelly (2015)

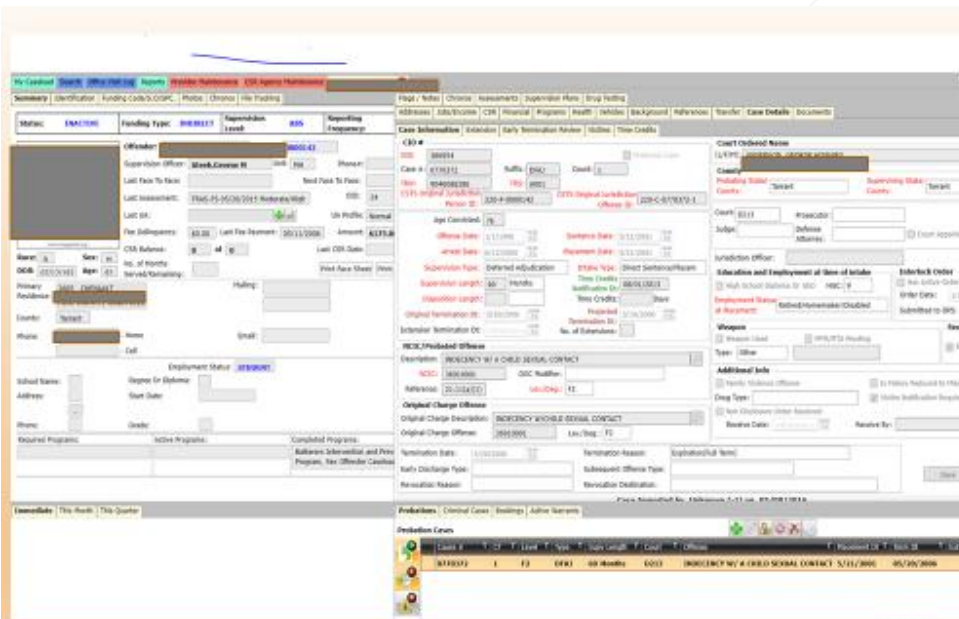
The Principles of Effective Correctional Intervention and Evidence-Based Practices

- 1. Conduct thorough, accurate, actuarial-based assessments of risk and dynamic, criminogenic needs.**
- 2. Assess treatment readiness and enhance treatment motivation.**
- 3. Target interventions:**
 - a. On dynamic (changeable) criminogenic needs (need principle)
 - b. On multiple criminogenic needs
 - c. On medium- and high-risk offenders (risk principle)
 - d. To the personality, learning style, and intellectual capabilities of the participants (responsivity principle)
 - e. With social learning and cognitive-behavioral modalities, the primary evidence-based approaches to effective behavioral change.
 - f. With the appropriate dosage for the appropriate participants.

Kelly, W. R., 2015.

A study conducted by researchers at the Police Research Center found substantial variation in the types of and quality of referrals of probationer clients to intervention services. One of the goals in developing the Crime-Community Supervision system was to provide a tool that help agencies implement the principles outlined above. Several sample screens from the CRIMES=Community Supervision Software system appear below. The comprehensive probationer data collected by the system enables community supervision agencies to make the assessment and determine and plan the treatment/intervention needs of probationers. An important objective is to improve the consistency and quality of probationer referrals to interventions/services.

Sample Screens from CRIMES-Community Supervision Software



Probationer
Data

Flags / Notes Chronos Assessments Supervision Plans Drug Testing

Addresses Job/Income CSR Financial Programs Health Vehicles Background References Transfer Case Details Documents

Case Information Extension Early Termination Review Victims Time Credits

CID # 390954
 Case # 094608288
 TRS: 0001
 CSIS Original Jurisdiction Person ID: 226-P-000142 CSIS Original Jurisdiction Offense ID: 220-C-0770372-1

Age Convicted: 26
 Offense Date: 1/17/1996
 Arrest Date: 6/12/2000
 Supervision Type: Deferred Adjudication
 Supervision Length: 60 Months
 Disposition Length: 60 Months
 Original Termination Dt: 5/20/2006
 Extension Termination Dt: 05/20/2006

County: Tarrant
 Probating State/County: Tarrant
 Supervising State/County: Tarrant

Court Ordered Name: [Redacted]
 Court: D213
 Prosecutor: [Redacted]
 Judge: [Redacted]
 Defense Attorney: [Redacted]

Education and Employment at time of Intake
 High School Diploma Or GED: HSC: 9
 Employment Status at Placement: Married/Nonmarital/Divorced

Original Charge Description: INDECENCY W/ A CHILD SEXUAL CONTACT
 Original Charge Offense: 38050901 Lev./Deg.: F2

Termination Date: 5/20/2006
 Early Discharge Type: [Redacted]
 Revocation Reason: [Redacted]

Probation Cases

Case #	CT	Level	Type	Supr Length	Court	Offense	Placement Dt	Term Dt	Col Tr
0778372	1	F2	DFAJ	60 Months	D213	INDECENCY W/ A CHILD SEXUAL CONTACT	5/21/2001	05/20/2006	

Probationer Data

1.0 Criminal History 2.0 Education & Employment 3.0 Family & Social Support 4.0 Neighborhood 5.0 Substance Use 6.0 Peers 7.0 Criminal Attitudes Total Score

Offender: CA [Redacted] Date: 10/16/2014

1.0 CRIMINAL HISTORY

1.1 Most Serious Charge or Arrest Age 16 or Younger * (Score Transferred from Screener but can be changed)
 0=None 1=Yes, Misdemeanor 2=Yes, Felony

1.2 Number of Prior Adult Felony Convictions or Deferred Adjudications
 0=None 1=One or Two 2=Three or more

1.3 Prior Sentence as an Adult to Jail or Prison
 0=No 1=Yes

1.4 Received Official Misdemeanor while Incarcerated as an Adult
 0=No 1=Yes

1.5 Prior Sentence to Community Supervision or Deferred Adjudication as an Adult
 0=No 1=Yes

1.6 Supervision Ever Been Revoked and Sentenced to Prison
 0=No 1=Yes

Level of Need [Redacted] Total Score for Criminal History 0

Scoring Guide - 1.6 Supervision Ever Been Revoked and Sentenced to Prison
 Purpose: To determine if the offender has had his or her supervision revoked and was sentenced to prison.

- Score as 0 if the offender has not been on supervision or if while on supervision did not have their supervision revoked resulting in incarceration.
- Score as 1 if the offender had his or her supervision revoked and sentenced to prison/state jail.

Count:

- Revocation of supervision for felonies on adult counts.
- Both probation and parole revocations.
- If the offender serves any or all of the revocation time in a county jail as long as the intention was a sentence to prison.

Do Not Count:

- If the offender was sentenced to prison because of a new conviction and the previous supervision was not revoked.

Notes:

- The offender must have been sentenced to prison for the supervision violation.

Criminal History Assessment

Texas Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Felony Assessment

Adding Felony Assessment

3.0 Criminal History | 2.0 Education & Employment | 3.0 Family & Social Support | 4.0 Neighborhood | 5.0 Substance Use | 6.0 Peers | 7.0 Criminal Attitudes | Total Score

3.0 FAMILY AND SOCIAL SUPPORT

Score

3.1 Parents have Criminal Record No/No Yes/Yes

3.2 Emotional or Personal Support Available from Family or Others Satisfactory Support Inadequate Support

3.3 Level of Satisfaction with Current Level of Support from Family or Others Satisfactory Dissatisfied

3.4 Stability of Residence Stable Unstable

Previous (Education) Level of Need L Total Score for Family & Social Support 0 Next (Neighborhood)

Scoring Guide - 3.4 Stability of Residence

Purpose: To determine the stability of the offender's residence.

- Score as 0 if the offender has lived in a stable residence over the past 12 months.
- Score as 1 if the offender does not have a stable place to live.

Count	Criteria
Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residence stable if the offender has an assigned room to sleep in each night.
Do Not Count	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residence stable (temp, temporary residence is listed) Moves for college, shared parenting (if the offender's parents are lit or for legal guardians), treatment facility, or incarcerated event.
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stable residence includes a living arrangement with family and/or a contractual agreement (apart rent) where the offender receives mail, helps pay the bills, has a key, and has experienced few moves during the past year. Unstable residence includes three or more address changes in the past 12 months or living arrangements that are otherwise

Save as Draft Save Felony Assessment Cancel

Family and Social Support

Texas Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Felony Assessment

Adding Felony Assessment

3.0 Criminal History | 2.0 Education & Employment | 3.0 Family & Social Support | 4.0 Neighborhood | 5.0 Substance Use | 6.0 Peers | 7.0 Criminal Attitudes | Total Score

4.0 Neighborhood

Score

4.1 High Crime Area No/No Yes/Yes

4.2 Drugs Readily Available in Neighborhood No/No, Generally Not Available Yes/Yes, Available

Previous (Family) Level of Need L Total Score for Neighborhood 0 Next (Substance Use)

Scoring Guide - 4.2 Drugs Readily Available in Neighborhood

Purpose: To determine if drugs are readily available in the neighborhood where the offender resides.

- Score as 0 if the offender resides in a neighborhood where drugs are not readily available.
- Score as 1 if drugs are available in the offender's neighborhood.

Notes	Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the most recent time in the community. If the offender lives in a residential program or halfway house, rate the neighborhood where the offender lived prior to the facility.

Save as Draft Save Felony Assessment Cancel

Neighborhood

Decision Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Policy Assessment

Adding Policy Assessment

3.0 Criminal History | 2.0 Education & Employment | 3.0 Family & Social Support | 4.0 Neighborhood | 5.0 Substance Use | 6.0 Peers | 7.0 Criminal Activities | Total Score

5.0 SUBSTANCE USE

Score

5.1 Age First Began Regularly Using Alcohol
 0-27 or Older 1-Under Age 27 2-28-34 3-35-41 4-42 or Older

5.2 Ever Used Illegal Drugs
 0-No 1-Yes 2-Within Past Year

5.3 Drug Use Caused Problems
 0-None 1-Past 2-Current

5.4 Drug Use Caused Problems with Employment
 0-No 1-Yes

5.5 Drug Use Caused Problems with Friends and Family
 0-No 1-Yes

Previous (Neighborhood) Level of Need Total Score for Substance Use Next (Peers)

Scoring Guide - 5.4 Drug Use Caused Problems with Employment

Purpose: To determine if offender's drug use has caused problems with employment in the **past 6 months**.

- Score as 0 if the offender has not had any drug use related problems with employment in the past 6 months.
- Score as 1 if the offender has been fired from their job, is routinely criticized on the quality of their work due to drug use, missed work due to drug use, has been caught under the influence during work, or has been denied a job due to an inability to pass a drug test in the past 6 months. **If this item is scored as 1, item 5.3 must be scored as 2.**

Do Not Count	• Time missed at work due to court appearances or time in jail, even if the charge is substance abuse related.
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the most recent 6 months when scoring this item. Score as 1 if the offender self-reports problems at work due to drug use. Score as 0 if the offender is unemployed but has not had a work-related problem with drug use.

Save As Draft Save Policy Assessment Cancel

Substance Abuse

Decision Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Policy Assessment

Adding Policy Assessment

3.0 Criminal History | 2.0 Education & Employment | 3.0 Family & Social Support | 4.0 Neighborhood | 5.0 Substance Use | 6.0 Peers | 7.0 Criminal Activities | Total Score

6.0 PEER ASSOCIATIONS

Score

6.1 Criminal Friends
 0-None 1-Some 2-Majority

6.2 Contact with Prior Criminal Peers
 0-No Contact with Criminal Peers 1-All Sides of Contacting Criminal Peers 2-Contact or Activity Sides out Criminal Peers

6.3 Gang Membership
 0-No, Never 1-Yes, Not Now Current 2-Yes, Current

6.4 Criminal Activities
 0-Strong Identification with Prosocial Activities 1-Nature of Pro- and Antisocial Activities 2-Strong Identification with Criminal Activities

Previous (Substance Use) Level of Need Total Score for Peer Associations Next (Criminal Activities)

Scoring Guide - 6.4 Criminal Activities

Purpose: To assess offender's participation in activities with the potential to result in criminal behavior.

- Score as 0 if the offender has a strong identification and participation in **prosocial** activities while avoiding antisocial behavior.
- Score as 1 if the offender engages in a **mix** of prosocial and antisocial activities. Score as 1 if the offender engages in behavior that puts them at risk for criminal conduct while also engaging in prosocial activities like work or family.
- Score as 2 if the offender has a strong identification with and regularly participates in criminal activities. **Score as 2 if the offender identifies with the criminal element, sees crime as a way of life, and engages in activities that involve elements of antisocial behavior (e.g., drinking while also using drugs, fighting, and/or stealing).**

Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the most recent 12-month period when scoring this item. This item pertains to activities that are directly related to criminal behavior, not simply non-productive activities (e.g., playing video games, watching television). Prosocial activities include time activities with family, work, school and sports; hanging out with prosocial friends; and engaging in hobbies, clubs, and/or church.
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Save As Draft Save Policy Assessment Cancel

Peers

Texas Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Felony Assessment

Adding Felony Assessment

1.0 Criminal History | 2.8 Education & Employment | 3.0 Family & Social Support | 4.0 Neighborhood | 5.0 Substance Use | 6.0 Peers | 7.0 Criminal Attitudes | Total Score

7.0 CRIMINAL ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS

Item	Score
7.1 Criminal Attitudes <input type="radio"/> 0=No/Limited Criminal Attitudes <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Some Criminal Attitudes <input type="radio"/> 2=Significant Criminal Attitudes	1
7.2 Expresses Concerns about Others <input type="radio"/> 0=Concerned about Others <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Concern for Immediate Family/Friends <input type="radio"/> 2=No Concern for Others	1
7.3 Feels Lack of Control Over Events <input type="radio"/> 0=Controls Events <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Sometimes Lacks Control <input type="radio"/> 2=Generally Lacks Control	1
7.4 Sees No Problem in Telling Lies <input type="radio"/> 0=No <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Yes	1
7.5 Engages in Risk-Seeking Behavior <input type="radio"/> 0=Rarely Seeks Risks <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Sometimes Seeks Risks <input type="radio"/> 2=Generally Seeks Risks	1
7.6 Walks Away from a Fight * (Score Transferred from Screener but can be changed) <input type="radio"/> 0=Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Sometimes <input type="radio"/> 2=Rarely	0
7.7 Believes in 'Do Unto Others Before They Do Unto You' <input type="radio"/> 0=Disagrees <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Sometimes Agrees/Agrees	0

Previous (Peers) Level of Need Total Score for Criminal Attitudes and Behavioral Patterns Next (Total Score)

Scoring Guide - 7.7 Believes in 'Do Unto Others Before They Do Unto You'

Purpose: To determine whether the offender believes in "doing unto others before it is done to them."

- Score as 0 if the offender generally disagrees with this statement.
- Score as 1 if the offender generally agrees with the statement.

Save As Draft Save Felony Assessment Cancel

Criminal Attitude

Texas Risk Assessment System - Community Supervision - Mental Health Trainer

Adding Mental Health Trainer

Offender: CASH, SARA DELANEY Assessment: Hsp, Initial CID #: 000000 Date: 8/28/2013 Score

Item	Score
1. History of Mental Health Treatment <input type="radio"/> 0=None <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=Over <input type="radio"/> 2=Past Year	1
2. History of Hospitalization or ER Visits for Mental Health Problems <input type="radio"/> 0=None <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=One <input type="radio"/> 2=Two or More	1
3. Any History of Mental Health Problems <input type="radio"/> 0=None <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=MOD to Moderate <input type="radio"/> 2=Serious	1
4. Evidence of a Mental Health Problem within the Past Year <input type="radio"/> 0=None <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1=MOD to Moderate <input type="radio"/> 2=Serious	1

Recommended for additional evaluation Total Score

Scoring Guide - 4. Evidence of a Mental Health Problem within the Past Year

Purpose: To determine if the offender has had a mental health problem within the past year and how serious the problem is.

- Score as 0 if the offender reports no mental health problems within the past year.
- Score as 1 if the offender responds yes to any of items 1 through 3 and reports them occurring currently or within the past year AND the symptoms appear mild to moderate in nature.
- Score as 2 if the offender responds yes to any of items 1 through 3 and reports them occurring currently or within the past year AND the symptoms appear serious in nature (e.g., offender reports recent suicide attempt).

Notes

- Score "mild to moderate" if the offender has experienced mental health problems, but the problems have not risen to the level of interfering with daily functioning for an extended period.
- Score "serious" if the offender has experienced mental health problems that have interfered with daily functioning for an extended period.
- For this item, daily functioning is any action that is tied to meeting a person's basic needs (eating, sleeping, social interactions, work).
- For this item, an extended period should be based on the combination of time and how impaired the functioning was due to the mental health issue.
- If the offender reports only experiencing symptoms described in items 1 through 3 when he or she is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, do not score as 2.
- If item 3 is scored as 0, item 4 will also be scored as 0.

Save As Draft Save Mental Health Trainer Cancel

Mental Health Questionnaire



Total Felony Assessment Score based on previous slides

CRIMES staff has articulated in broad terms, a logic model and implied evaluation design for assessing both outcomes and impact resulting from the use of the system. They see the system producing the major outcome of consistent, timely, and appropriate referrals to treatment which in turn will have a positive impact on probationer recidivism rates. CRIMES system data should enable evaluation researchers to make comparisons of jurisdictions with the CRIMES-Community Supervision software with jurisdictions that are without CRIMES or comparable software. Overtime, CRIMES probationer data should make it possible evaluate the impact of different interventions (treatment programs) on probationer recidivism.

CRIMES: SAFE PRISONS INITIATIVE

Another initiative that CRIMES has under way is its Safe Prisons Initiative. This initiative is being developed to support the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's efforts to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 1993 and the Texas Legislature's mandated Safe Prisons Program. At the present time, data required by the Safe Prison Program is collected, managed, and reported manually. CRIMES is developing a web-based system that will enable tracking the process for investigating allegations of sexual abuse and violent victimization within Texas prisons. In addition to compliance reporting, the Safe Prisons Database will be used to pinpoint opportunities for improving the detection of prisoner abuse and for informing the development of prevention/elimination strategies.

The TDJC Office of Inspector General serves the agency in a police-like manner and is responsible for investigating criminal incidents occurring within TDCJ institutions. The Office of Inspector General has used CRIMES much like a local police department for several years. The new CRIMES Safe-Prison system will be an extension of the existing CRIMES for law enforcement system. Three modules will be

developed that will retain all relevant incident-related forms and documents, track the incident investigative process, and inventory all relevant evidence.

CONCLUSION AND ADDITIONAL STUDY POTENTIAL²

The CRIMES system is a unique innovation resulting from some unusually strong historical relationships between a university and the Texas law enforcement community. Essentially it began and continues to this day, to be a university service to the police community, a service that benefits that community as well as the university. It is important to note that CRIMES is a nonprofit enterprise, and because of this, it provides Records Management System and Related Services that are characterized as being low cost. The formula for CRIMES development and success might be so unique that it would be difficult to duplicate in other states/settings. To do so would require an unusual commitment from a university or other non-profit entity as well as an exceptionally strong partnership with the law enforcement community. The expansion of “traditional” CRIMES, that is where RMS servers are located in local police departments, to police departments outside the State of Texas might accelerate costs to the point where staffing and operating costs passed on to agency users could result in CRIMES not providing the same financial advantage that current subscribers enjoy. However, the hosted version of CRIMES to be rolled out in 2017 has substantial potential for serving small departments no matter where they are located, and doing so at a very low cost.

Although CRIMES Community-Supervision is in its infancy, it appears to have good potential as a state of the art records management system for probation agencies. This possibility is premised on the idea that the integrated computerized CRIMES RMS that manages probation processes will, in contrast to existing systems in place in smaller jurisdictions, improve efficiency and effectiveness as indicated by more timely and consistent delivery of services to probation clients.

There are several information gaps surrounding the use of and effectiveness of Records Management Systems by SRBT law enforcement agencies. First, there does not appear to be systematic data on the current state of RMS configuration and use by SRTB law enforcement agencies. Although CRIMES is referred to as a “low cost” system, there does not appear to be

² More information on CRIMES can be obtained by contacting:

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any systematic data that enables comparing CRIMES costs with those for other systems used by SRTB law enforcement agencies in Texas and elsewhere. In addition, there does not appear to be systematic data on the systems used, the RMS functions available and actually used by SRTB agencies. A survey of SRTB law enforcement agencies capturing information on RMS used, system functionality, system acquisition and maintenance cost, and satisfaction with system use and performance would be useful in depicting the “state of the art” among SRTB law enforcement agencies. In addition, such survey data would provide a baseline for making various comparisons of systems and for determining preferences for and usage of various RMS components/modules.

In terms of the outcomes and impacts of CRIMES on agency behavior and operations, the yet to be launched low cost web-hosted system will provide an interesting opportunity to track changes in agency operational practices resulting from the adoption of the system. A quasi-experimental design could be used to evaluate such potential changes. This would require establishing a pre-adoption baseline of relevant agencies processes and then making a variety of comparison of adopters and a sample of non-adopters, preferably in the same state or sub-state jurisdiction.

The launching of CRIMES Community-Supervision presents an interesting opportunity to study the impact of the adoption of technology on probation efficiencies and outcomes. As noted previously, the overall goal of the system is to provide technology that will increase community-based corrections effectiveness. This includes enabling probation agencies to make the assessment and determine and plan the treatment/intervention needs of probationers. An important objective is to improve the consistency and quality of probationer referrals to interventions/services. The ultimate goal is a reduction in probationer recidivism. Since CRIMES Community-Supervision is just now being launched with more jurisdictions adopting it in the near future, there is an opportunity to evaluate the use and outcomes of the system by comparing adopters with agencies in comparable jurisdictions.