



March 2005

IJIS Institute

A Report on

# **Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN)**

*The state of the technology ... with results and  
success stories*

This report has been prepared by the IJIS Institute to provide the Bureau of Justice Assistance information about the nations existing statewide automated victim information and notification programs. The report provides background information on program costs, and highlights the observed successes of these existing programs. The report also includes comments and feedback from agencies in these states that have SAVIN programs regarding the impact and effectiveness of their programs.

## Background on SAVIN Programs

Since 1996, nineteen states have developed Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) programs in an effort to fulfill the requirements of their state victim rights legislation. These SAVIN programs use information technology to obtain timely criminal justice information from jails, prisons, courts, and other facilities across the state and then make this information available to crime victims 24 hours a day via automated telephony, live operator assistance and via the World Wide Web. Victims call toll-free telephone numbers or visit a victim information website to check on the status of an offender or a case, and can register for notification via telephone, email, TDD, or written letter when the status of the offender or case changes. These systems provide around the clock live operators to assist victims in accessing the information. SAVIN programs are a single point of contact that allow victims to receive information regardless of where the offender or the case is located in the state.

Historically, crime victims are the least knowledgeable and least informed participants in the criminal justice process. SAVIN programs help to protect crime victims from further victimization and ensure that victims' legal rights are being honored. SAVIN programs also improve basic criminal justice decisions by ensuring that victims are given the timely and accurate information they need to be able to fully participate in the judicial process directed at their offender. Finally, these statewide systems provide extensive tracking and assessment of the victims' interaction with the criminal justice system while ensuring total anonymity for the victim.

Kentucky was the first state to implement a SAVIN program. Table one summarizes all known state SAVIN programs, when the programs were launched, the number of participating counties, and the portion of the criminal justice system served by the programs.

State	Since	Counties	Services
Kentucky	1996	120	Jails, DOC
Ohio	1997	88	Jails, DOC
Arkansas	1998	67	Jails, Prosecutors, DOC, DCC
Nebraska	1998	66	Jails, DOC
Michigan	1999	58	Jails, Prosecutors, DOC
New York	1999	65	Jails, DOC
North Carolina	1999	110	Jails, Courts, DOC
Alaska	2000	1	Jails, DOC
Maryland	2000	24	Jails, Courts, DOC
Illinois	2000	90	Jails, DOC
Oregon	2001	36	Jails, DOC
Rhode Island	2001	3	Jails, DOC
Minnesota	2001	87	Jails, DOC
Missouri	2001	101	Jails, Courts, DOC
Florida	2002	65	Jails, DOC
Texas	2002	235	Jails, Courts, DOC
Utah	2003	21	Jails, DOC
Louisiana	2003	75	Jails, Courts, DOC
New Jersey	2004	24	Jails, DOC

*Table One: States with Existing SAVIN Programs*

## SAVIN Program Cost Information

Each state that has implemented a SAVIN program has selected to outsource the following components of the service:

- Interface development with local information systems
- Hardware installed in remote locations
- Necessary dedicated bandwidth from remote locations to the vendors data center
- Around the clock live operator support for callers
- 24X7 Monitoring of data from each contributing system
- Production of program training materials
- Training (this is typically supplemented by state personnel)
- Central hardware and software used to process and manage all data exchanges and to deliver inbound and outbound information access to the public.

The states and local participating agencies directly contribute the following essential components to each of their SAVIN programs.

- Overall program management with staffs ranging from 1 – 4 FTE's
- Training resources to supplement those provided by the outsource vendor
- On-site part-time on-going project management and support personnel for each participating county agency. These resources assist with interface support, data entry, and point of contact related to the agencies participation in the program. This is typically between 10 and 25% of a FTE per participating agency, depending on the size and complexity of the county.
- IP Bandwidth for moving data from the county to the outsource vendor data center.

When looking at these cost components the IJIS Institute estimates that on average the outside vendor represents between 50% - 75% of the *total cost* of the SAVIN programs.

Once the SAVIN systems have been deployed, the outside vendor fees for these SAVIN programs range between \$100,000 (Rhode Island) and \$2.8 million (Texas) annually to support and operate. The cost is primarily driven by the number of participating agencies (county jails/courts/prosecutors) and the volume of offender and case transactions managed by these agencies. These outside vendor fees average less than \$1,000 per month per participating county agency in most states.

Each of these states have used Federal Grant funding to initially launch and operate their SAVIN program and have then transitioned their funding over to other state revenue sources.

## General Signs of Success of SAVIN Programs

The existing SAVIN programs demonstrate many of the characteristics of success that BJA strives to instill in each of the programs that it funds.

1. *Each SAVIN program has created a governance process that has fostered collaboration between law enforcement, government, faith, and service based agencies and residents.*

States have created SAVIN oversight committees comprised of State Agencies, Sheriffs, Prosecutors, victim witness personnel, private-non profit shelters, and victims. These committees are used initially to determine service configuration decisions such as:

- Information victims are given access to
- Which notification events are supported
- Training strategies
- Agency support strategies
- Public Awareness and promotion strategies
- Program success metrics

As each community joins the state SAVIN program local training programs involve Police, Sheriffs, Prosecutors, Shelters, state victim advocates, Courts, and other members of the criminal justice system.

2. *SAVIN programs have demonstrated the ability to offer a wide degree of local program control.*

Each State has designed variations in the specific implementation of their SAVIN program. Examples of variations in SAVIN Implementation include:

- Arrest Notification
- Pre-trial custody notification
- Court Event Hearing Notification
- Final Disposition Notification
- State Offender Custody Status
- Parole / Probation Hearing Notifications
- Probation and Parole Status Notifications

3. *SAVIN Programs Report Measurable Results of Program Effectiveness*

The SAVIN programs are tracking and reporting measurable milestones of success. Table two illustrates some of the measurable results of the combined nineteen SAVIN programs that exist today.

Measure	Combined Statewide SAVIN Result
Current Victims Registered	253,000
Avg Inbound Contacts Per month	620,000/Month
Avg Outbound Contacts Per month	450,000/Month
Avg Monthly Notification Events	65,000/Month
Avg Data Records Managed Per Month	38,000,000/Month
Avg Operator Assisted Calls per Month	60,000/Month
Avg Offenders Monitored by SAVIN each day	1,091,000

*Table two: Measurable Results of Current SAVIN Programs*

4. *SAVIN Programs have Continued to Innovate and Change*

There have been many continued enhancements that have been made, and continue to be made to the existing SAVIN programs. Since these programs began in 1996, all of the following technical and service innovations have been incorporated into the existing SAVIN programs.

- 24 Hour live operator support
- Email notification events
- The addition of Probation and Parole Information
- Web access for inbound / outbound alerts
- Locally customizable notification letter templates
- TDD Support for the hearing impaired
- 14 different languages have become supported
- Web based agency reporting
- The addition of protective order notification

At least twice each year new technical functionality is released by these SAVIN programs bringing new capabilities for victims.

5. *SAVIN Programs have effectively communicated their value*

The existing SAVIN programs seem to do a good job of communicating their value through press releases, media events, and reports that are developed for their respective legislatures. The state of North Carolina has produced a comprehensive study on their "SAVAN" program as a way to communicating the success, and cost effectiveness of their program.

Another strong testament to the success of SAVIN programs, and their communication efforts, is that during the 10 year period since SAVIN programs started to appear, no state has ever launched a program and then later stopped it. Each of these programs has been tested by the ultimate test of survival as they have gathered support for ongoing funding from their respective legislators.

## Specific Cases of Success of SAVIN Programs

In each of these specific cases, victim names have been removed to protect their identity.

### KENTUCKY Cases

These Kentucky success stories were documented by the Jefferson County Office for Women.

- In 1996, shortly after Kentucky's statewide SAVIN programs, Louisville County Executive Dave Armstrong reported a victim that received a notification call from the SAVIN program indicating that her ex-husband, and attacker, had been released from the Jefferson County jail. Fearing for her safety, the victim left home and called the police to ask for an escort before returning. Upon returning to her home, the police found the victim's attacker hiding in her closet (in violation of a protective order) with a large knife. The attacker was re-arrested undoubtedly preventing another attack, and possible murder of the victim. The victim in this case believes that the telephone call from the SAVIN program saved her life.
- In a second Kentucky case, a Jefferson County Prosecutor relayed a story about a severe domestic violence situation where the defense attorney was successful at having a key hearing re-scheduled with little notice. The prosecutor did not have time to reach the victim and was shocked to walk into the courtroom to find the victim present. When the Prosecutor asked the victim how they knew to come, they indicated that they had been checking the SAVIN program and learned that the court hearing had been re-scheduled. This is a common strategy used by defense attorneys in domestic violence cases and the SAVIN program provided the information link that allowed the victim to be present. This often has a major impact on the outcome of the hearing.
- Finally, in one Kentucky County a domestic violence victim had pleaded for a judge to keep her husband, and attacker, jailed longer so that she could have more time to plan her move. The husband had already served 13 days and considering the pleas of the victim, the judge ordered a sentence of 30 days counting time served, thus leaving the offender with 17 days left to serve. Due to a clerical error at the jail the sentence was entered as 17 days and the offender was released only 4 days later. The SAVIN system alerted the victim, who called the prosecutor, and before the release was completed the error was corrected thus preventing the inadvertent release of the offender.

### RHODE ISLAND Cases

These Rhode Island success cases were documented by the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services. This agency handles jail facilities in Rhode Island as well.

- The office received a call from a victim of domestic violence arson. It was the morning after the offenders arrest and the victim was still quite upset. After receiving information about the Rhode Island SAVIN system, the victim began calling daily as a way to allow herself to go to sleep. The offender began to threaten the victim while in custody and with the assistance of others not in custody the victim was intimidated in a parking lot. Just because the offender was in custody did not ensure the safety of the victim, but without the SAVIN program the victim was unable to sleep or function in any normal way. The SAVIN system provided the information link that allowed the victim to begin to regain some of the control over her life.

- Another 87 year old victim called the agency to indicate that she had not received notification calls back from the agency about her offender. When the SAVIN system was checked, evidence of the calls was quickly identified, including the fact that the secured notification PIN codes had been correctly entered at the household. Upon further discussions it was learned that this victim was experiencing memory loss and her daughter, who lived with her, wanted to get notification in writing as well as via the telephone. The agency quickly noted this and from that point forward the SAVIN program generated both written and telephonic notifications related to this victim. This shows flexibility of the SAVIN technology in meeting the individual needs of the victims we serve.

## **ARKANSAS Cases**

These Arkansas success cases were documented by the Arkansas Crime Information Center

- One user of the SAVIN system was a WalMart store manager. This store had an employee that was a victim of domestic violence. The employee's boyfriend entered the store with a weapon and threatened to kill the employee. After his subsequent arrest, every employee at the store was afraid to come to work, for fear that the offender would be released and come back to the store to attack the victim. The store manager registered with the SAVIN program to receive notification as a way to plan for additional store security and to hold employee meetings about the situation. Many of the store employees also registered for notification of the offender's release.
- A victim, that was also an attorney, had her father and stepmother murdered in Arkansas. The victim often used the SAVIN system to stay informed about the court status of her offender. Though he was behind bars serving a lengthy sentence, he filed a petition for clemency that could have allowed him back on the street. "If not for a phone call from the SAVIN informing me that the trial was moving forward, I would have had no idea that he had filed for clemency," said the victim. "Because of the SAVIN program, I was able to file a petition very quickly" to voice her objections. The victim went on to state, "I feel safe because I was alerted to changes involving my offender. Had it not been for the Arkansas SAVIN, the results could have been terrible for me. Because of what I believe was a breakdown in the clemency process, the murderer of my parents filed an untimely new petition for clemency. SAVIN alerted me to this situation. I sued the state and went to court over it. SAVIN also alerted me that the murderer would be in court with me and that he was successfully returned to the maximum security unit after the court appearance. Denial of the first petition was found timely. I do feel safe knowing that because of SAVIN I will be alerted to any changes. Had I not had that first phone call from SAVIN the process could have continued without my knowledge with terrifying results."
- One Arkansas victim whose husband was murdered in 1989 reports, "In the middle of the night, when my heart is pounding, I get up and call SAVIN and I know where (the offender) is. The victim and the family are at the mercy of everyone else. SAVIN gives you leverage to stay informed. It gives you comfort to know that the offender is where he belongs. When you have a homicide in your family, you're not rational. That's why it's important to sign up."

## TEXAS Success Case

This Texas success case was documented by Justice for All, a non-profit victims' service group in Houston Texas.

- A 79-year-old Lubbock resident was murdered on New Year's Day 2004. The victim called 911 claiming he was being beaten and robbed. Within three minutes police drove up to his house to find a man leaving the home. Police pursued him, he opened fire and was shot by police.

The assailant remained in hospital for nearly three months before taken to jail. The victim's granddaughter was in Houston spending holidays with her parents and family when they got the call. She drove her parents to Houston where they found that her grandfather was brain dead from his injuries. The victim's granddaughter stated, "It was awful. You think it will never happen to you and when it does, you simply can't believe it. My whole attitude about personal safety has changed. I feel paranoid. I'm home by myself a lot on weekends because my husband works nights. Some times I get very frightened. Little things will freak me out. I've actually called my husband a couple of times to come home because I was afraid. Once a pizza delivery guy showed up at my door thinking we were another address. I wouldn't answer the door because I was so scared. Every time someone calls whether it's a telemarketer or someone else, I become very nervous and afraid. I really need the state's SAVIN program."

The Lubbock Victims' Association told Brittany about the Texas SAVIN program. While the suspect was in the hospital, hospital officials wouldn't release information on his condition and it was very frustrating wondering what was going on with his situation. The family started calling SAVIN and found it to be a great relief. "Before I used the SAVIN program, I was the contact between the prosecutor's office and my parents who live in Houston. My mom had to wait until I got home from work or school to get an update on what's going on. It was very stressful. Now, I can call whenever I want to know and my parents can call as well. It's a great relief to know we can find out the latest information any time we want."

The granddaughter reports that she has called about three or four times her self, every other week. She prefers that the prosecutor spend the time preparing a case for trial than worrying about keeping her in the loop. "With SAVIN, I can call whenever I want to know and the prosecutor's office can focus on the case. I would rather have them preparing for trial than worrying about keeping me in the loop. ***This program is a blessing to me. It gives me knowledge and knowledge is power for crime victims.***"

## **Quotes from state and local agency personnel who work with SAVIN programs**

**Cathy Baragrey**  
**Victim Advocate**  
**Otsego County Michigan Prosecutor's Office**

“Our SAVIN system was implemented two years ago for the Otsego County Prosecutor's Office for the adult tracking system. The system notifies victims automatically of upcoming court dates and the release of the accused, but also locates an offender in a county jail. A business that was robbed wanted to be informed of hearings. The victim said his boss will ask him what's going on with the case, he'll call the system and be able to tell him something right away. Victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse feel a sense of control and safety. I tell them at the beginning of a case what to expect and how to use the system. Once they are set up, I know SAVIN is going to make the call.” Cathy pointed out how she has conducted training with law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and victim advocates about the importance of SAVIN. She also promotes SAVIN during Crime Victims Rights Week each April. Due to budget cuts, the staff was downsized. They had more work with fewer people to do it. They asked themselves, “How can we carry the workload in a more efficient way? SAVIN was a big part of the answer.”

**Sharon D'Eusanio**  
**Deputy Director, Division of Victims' Services**  
**Office of the Florida Attorney General**

**Ms. D'Esanio is also a nationally know advocate for crime victims rights and a crime victim herself.**

“Usually, a victim is left out of the information loop. The whole idea of providing victims services is to help them regain control of their lives. Florida has a constitutional amendment requiring that victims be kept informed of the criminal justice process. Victims have the right to be informed, to be present, and to be heard. A lot of services are available up front. Often, victims will be kept informed during the trial process, but post-conviction, they want to know about the offender. Where is he housed? When will be released? The victim is often forgotten. We haven't done a very good job. So much depends on the attitudes about victims' rights. I can't think of a better way than our SAVIN program for keeping victims informed. It's the simplest way to notify victims. Some victims just want to forget. If they don't want to be notified of an offender's status, if they would rather call SAVIN, it puts the choice in their hands. My perpetrator is serving a lengthy sentence, but I want to be notified of a parole hearing so I can be present. I was raped in 1980; the following year I began speaking out about gaps in the system. From a victim's perspective, there's something that keeps gnawing at you after the incident. You want to know the status of the person who changed your life. Sometimes I'll wonder, “Am I safe?” You know you can't talk to a live person when you're home alone at 11 o'clock on a Saturday night, but it's a comfort to be able to call SAVIN anytime.”

**Charles Pruitt**  
**Director of the Arkansas Crime Information Center**

“Prior to our SAVIN program, it was very difficult to provide crime victims with the information they needed to stay informed about their offender. SAVIN has been a successful program for both crime victims and criminal justice agencies, providing a sense of security that was lacking before.” Our SAVIN program has been a real asset. Before we had this system, victims had no idea what would happen to the perpetrator. It's added a tremendous sense of security for those individuals. We see this as a vital aspect of what we do. SAVIN provides direct access to information for citizens.”

**Captain David Ebinger  
Little Rock Police Department**

“It used to be very difficult to try and investigate domestic violence crime and work with victims at the same time. Now we are able to assure victims and their families that they will be able to keep track of their offender and be notified of critical release and court information.” When our SAVIN program came online we were able to assure victims and family members that they would be able to track their offenders within the system.

**Robert Herzfeld, Jr.  
Saline County , Arkansas Prosecutor**

“My office caseload is approximately 45,000 per year, including misdemeanors and felonies. SAVIN is tremendously important in what we do, allowing our victim advocates to spend less time trying to locate people and more time helping people.”

**Douglas Yearwood  
Director of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Analysis Center**

In February 2004, a study conducted by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Analysis Center and the Governor’s Crime Commission surveyed users of SAVAN (Statewide Automated Victim Assistance and Notification). The Crime Commission’s report, “Notifying and Informing Victims of Crime: An Evaluation of North Carolina’s SAVAN System,” included the results of a 22-question survey for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors’ offices, in addition to a client feedback telephone survey for crime victims. The majority of respondents agreed that the SAVAN system had substantially improved the ability to track offenders for both members of the criminal justice system and for crime victims and their families. The SAVAN system also received high marks for technical assistance, responsiveness of SAVAN system operators, and system accessibility. Victims of crime who responded to the survey reported that the system has ***had a considerable impact on enhancing and maintaining victim safety. More than 80 percent of victims revealed that using the SAVAN system provided them with a sense of safety and security.***

An overwhelming majority of respondents, more than ***93 percent, noted that SAVAN has generated considerable cost savings for their agencies.*** Without SAVAN, all 100 sheriffs offices would be required to notify crime victims regarding custody status and all 39 district attorneys’ offices would be required to do the same for court notifications. This would produce an annual combined expenditure of \$12,264,276, or an average of \$85,416 per local agency. ***“The evaluation shows that SAVAN exceeds our expectations. Not only are victims receiving timely information about their cases and offenders, they are also being given a greater degree of perceived safety and peace of mind.”***

**Steve Evans**  
**Program Administrator**  
**Kentucky SAVIN Program**

“It’s one of the few jobs where you get phone calls from people telling you, “I appreciate what you do. This has changed my life.”

**Catherine Hicks**  
**Victim Advocate – Correction SAVIN Administrator**  
**Florida Department of Corrections**

“We get constant calls from victims telling us that they’re so grateful for the service. They’re so terrified of that person in jail. On occasion, the offender will be placed in a facility close to where they live, and that will really scare them. Sometimes we can help them file a request to have the offender transferred to another facility. That’s the power of our SAVIN system at work.”

**Sharon**  
**Administrator of Victim Services**  
**Utah Dept. of Corrections**

“The calls to our office used to be, ‘When does Bob Smith get out of jail?’ Now those calls are taken care of by our SAVIN program and the calls we get now are, ‘Bob Smith is getting out and I’m scared. What do I do?’ This means I can do my core job, which is helping victims establish a safety plan.”

**Carol Cobb**  
**Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Kentucky**

If we had had a SAVIN system in place at the time that Mary Byron was raped, her murder could have been prevented. The only good thing that has come from that horrible tragedy is that a SAVIN program has been instituted throughout Kentucky and many other parts of the country. We’ll probably never know how many crimes have been prevented by these programs.

## **Real Examples of how Law Enforcement is Benefiting from SAVIN Programs**

Some of the most intriguing success stories related to the statewide SAVIN programs actually have nothing to do with victims. Beginning in 2002, states began to realize that the near-real time exchange of offender jail data had tremendous value to law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that 46% of all offenders booking into county jails are wanted on some form of warrant or community supervision. Likewise the average stay in a county jail averages only 24 hours. The combination of wanted individuals moving quickly in and out of custody creates an opportunity for law enforcement. The SAVIN networks have established themselves as a totally unique, real-time, source of “who’s in jail”. Since these jails databases have traditionally been very de-centralized and fragmented, SAVIN programs are the first to manage this information in a usable form. What follows are specific law enforcement success stories from law enforcement use of the SAVIN data networks.

### **Arkansas – Law Enforcement Uses of the SAVIN Data Network**

In 2001, the state of Arkansas built a program called JusticeXchange as a tool for allowing law enforcement to search for offenders residing in the county jails. The program was built with a \$400,000 COPS grant completely on the data network that had previously been deployed for the statewide SAVIN program. This new law enforcement program provides a portal that allows law enforcement to query each of the states 66 county jails in real-time. The system also allows the agencies to subscribe wanted individuals against the network for real-time notification when an wanted person shows up in any county jail. Within 2 years the law enforcement program had more than 1,500 users representing law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

Today, the state of Arkansas subscribes all of their 40,000 offenders on community supervision and all offenders in the states sex offender database against the SAVIN network. Each day probation and parole officers are sent email alerts when one of their offenders books into any county jail in the SAVIN network. “One offender on dual probation and parole was arrested on new charges,” said Jodi Howard, a probation/parole officer in the Arkansas Department of Community Correction. “The SAVIN network allowed me to be notified me of the booking incident as soon as it happened and I could deal with his probation violation in a timely manner.” Howard said she and other probation/parole officers seldom knew of booking incidents involving their offenders prior to this type of system. Probation/Parole Officer Terry Mattox echoes Howard’s views. It is very frustrating when I learn, much later, that a client was incarcerated in another facility,” said Mattox. “When I receive an e-mail showing that one of my clients has been arrested, that provides me with very important information in supervising that client.”

Inspector Mike Allen, who heads the Criminal Investigation Division and Narcotics and Street Crimes Unit of the West Memphis, Arkansas Police Department, said JusticeXchange (based upon on the SAVIN data network) has given him an edge in investigations. At one time, West Memphis police booked and photographed offenders at the city jail. Those booking photos were used as a source for creating future line-ups, but eventually the city began housing offenders in the county jail facility. The department no longer had current booking photos available for investigative purposes, and instead relied on photos from 1999 and earlier. To put together a lineup, an officer would search for suspect matches from the old photo files while another officer questioned the victim or witness. This was a time-intensive process, and if the crime occurred in the early morning hours or a detective was called out on a weekend, the identification process could be hampered by delays in providing photos for identification. In one case, the department

had an armed robbery suspect for a home invasion, but lacked photos to show victims. Investigators had no legal precedent to photograph this suspect for identification purposes. To solve the problem, they located a recent photo of the suspect on the JusticeXchange site, printed his photograph, and provided a photo line-up identifying the suspect. “Time spent with a victim or a witness immediately following a crime is the most critical period for the identification process. Intimidation and influence from others, or simply time elapsed, can affect the outcome,” Allen said. “JusticeXchange helps my team to make identifications quickly and increase the chances of making an arrest.”

### **New York – Law Enforcement Uses of the SAVIN Data Network**

All 62 Sheriff’s in New York share a law enforcement sharing program called JusticeXchange. This portal uses the data network that had been previously deployed and still being maintained as a part of the states SAVIN program.

JusticeXchange helped the Town of Hamburg Police by quickly identifying three known scam artists from Kentucky because both states’ criminal justice data are stored in the JusticeXchange database (because both have SAVIN programs). “We were able to obtain photos... and have an arrest warrant for one of the perpetrators,” said Captain A. Daniel Shea, Chief of Detectives.

Sergeant Donald Smith of the Westchester County Department of Correction has used JusticeXchange to identify inmates with suspected gang affiliations. Suspected gang members not currently in custody are being entered on a “watch list” that will automatically notify the county via e-mail if they’re jailed in any other county facility.

Homicide investigators from the City of Yonkers used JusticeXchange to eliminate a suspect in a case by using the system’s ability to create a six-person lineup. The inmate informant was able to eliminate the suspect as the possible perpetrator in a homicide, enabling the detectives to refocus their attention to another suspect. An arrest was made as a result.

### **Kentucky – Law Enforcement Uses of the SAVIN Data Network**

Officer Kelly Fentress maintains the Louisville’s Most Wanted List for the Louisville Metro Police.

A recent search of the states SAVIN database turned up 14 people on the Louisville Most Wanted list who were being held in jails throughout Kentucky. “We had no way of knowing these offenders had been apprehended elsewhere,” Fentress said.

One offender, Kevin L. Jaszarszewski — on the Louisville’s Most Wanted list for numerous local charges and attempted kidnappings in Oklahoma — was located using the SAVIN databases of jail offenders in KY and Texas,. The offender was in the Bexar County, Texas, Jail. Thanks to these SAVIN databases, Jaszarszewski has been returned to Louisville to face trial.

“The use of these SAVIN databases has been a tremendous help in locating people on the list,” Fentress added.

## **Florida – Law Enforcement Uses of the SAVIN Data Network**

Florida has used their SAVIN network to capture absconders listed in the Florida Department of Corrections database. A sample search of only 100 records located six absconders who are currently incarcerated in facilities outside of Florida. In addition, the search turned up one man, Marvin L. Hardy, who was wanted in Louisville, Kentucky for numerous offenses and incarcerated in the Broward County, Florida Jail at the time. Authorities in Florida and Kentucky cooperated to have Hardy sent to Louisville for trial, where he is now in custody. This same random search also found 17 absconders who were arrested after the warrant issue date, as well as four absconders who have been arrested since the warrant issue date and are currently incarcerated in Florida.

## **Federal Bureau of Investigations**

SAVIN databases were recently used to help the FBI capture a suspect on its Most Wanted Fugitive List. A search of the databases revealed that Donald Pea — wanted for his alleged involvement in the armed robbery of an Albany, Louisiana bank in 2003 — had been arrested in January 2004 in Memphis, Tennessee and was being held in the Shelby County, Tennessee Jail.

Pea was facing numerous other charges, including unlawful flight to avoid prosecution in a federal arrest warrant, and unrelated state charges in Louisiana and Michigan, in 2003. Federal officers were not aware that Pea was in custody.

## **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**

The National Center is using a web portal that searches most of the state SAVIN databases of jail offenders to help locate missing children and the people who abduct them.

With this tool, the National Center's case analysts can monitor jails across the nation for suspected abductors. The system also allows analysts to search for missing children who might later be arrested as adults. This information can help the National Center to obtain historical information to build timelines for law enforcement agencies.

“For the first time, we can identify an abductor who has been in jail, and be alerted if the individual is rearrested,” said Ernie Allen, president and CEO of NCMEC. “Getting this information to the right person at the right time can make the difference in finding a missing person and arresting those responsible for the abduction.”