



TRIBAL ACCESS PROGRAM

**FOR NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION
ENSURING THE EXCHANGE OF CRITICAL DATA**

Overview of Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP) for the National Congress of American Indians



Department of Justice
Office of the Chief Information Officer
Office of Tribal Justice

WEB: www.justice.gov/Tribal/tap
EMAIL: TribalACCESS@USDOJ.GOV



- Provide a general overview of the Tribal Access Program (TAP)
- Discuss how TAP can help to keep Tribal communities and victims of crime safe
- Discuss how Tribes may apply to be a part of TAP



Federal law:

- Both Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2005 and Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) of 2010 provide authorization for Tribal law enforcement agencies to access national crime information databases
- The Attorney General shall ensure that Tribal law enforcement officials that meet applicable Federal or State requirements be permitted access to national crime information databases (34 USC Section 41107)

Challenges:

- Tribal participation in national criminal justice information sharing depends upon state regulations, statutes, and policies in which Tribal land is located
- Tribes may face barriers to accessing and entering information into national crime information databases via state networks



- DOJ launched TAP in August 2015 at DOJ CJIS Tribal Day
- Managed by the DOJ Chief Information Officer (OCIO) and Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ) but is a partnership with SMART, COPS, OVC, FBI CJIS, BIA and Tribes
- TAP is composed of three elements:

ACCESS

DOJ serves as the CJIS Systems Agency (CSA) for federally recognized Tribes:

DOJ assumes responsibility for granting network access, extending the model used by federal agencies to Tribes.

DOJ ensures security training (i.e., personnel, IT, and physical), on-boarding/vetting (agency and individual users), training and testing, and auditing.

TECHNOLOGY

DOJ provides two solutions: TAP-LIGHT and TAP FULL

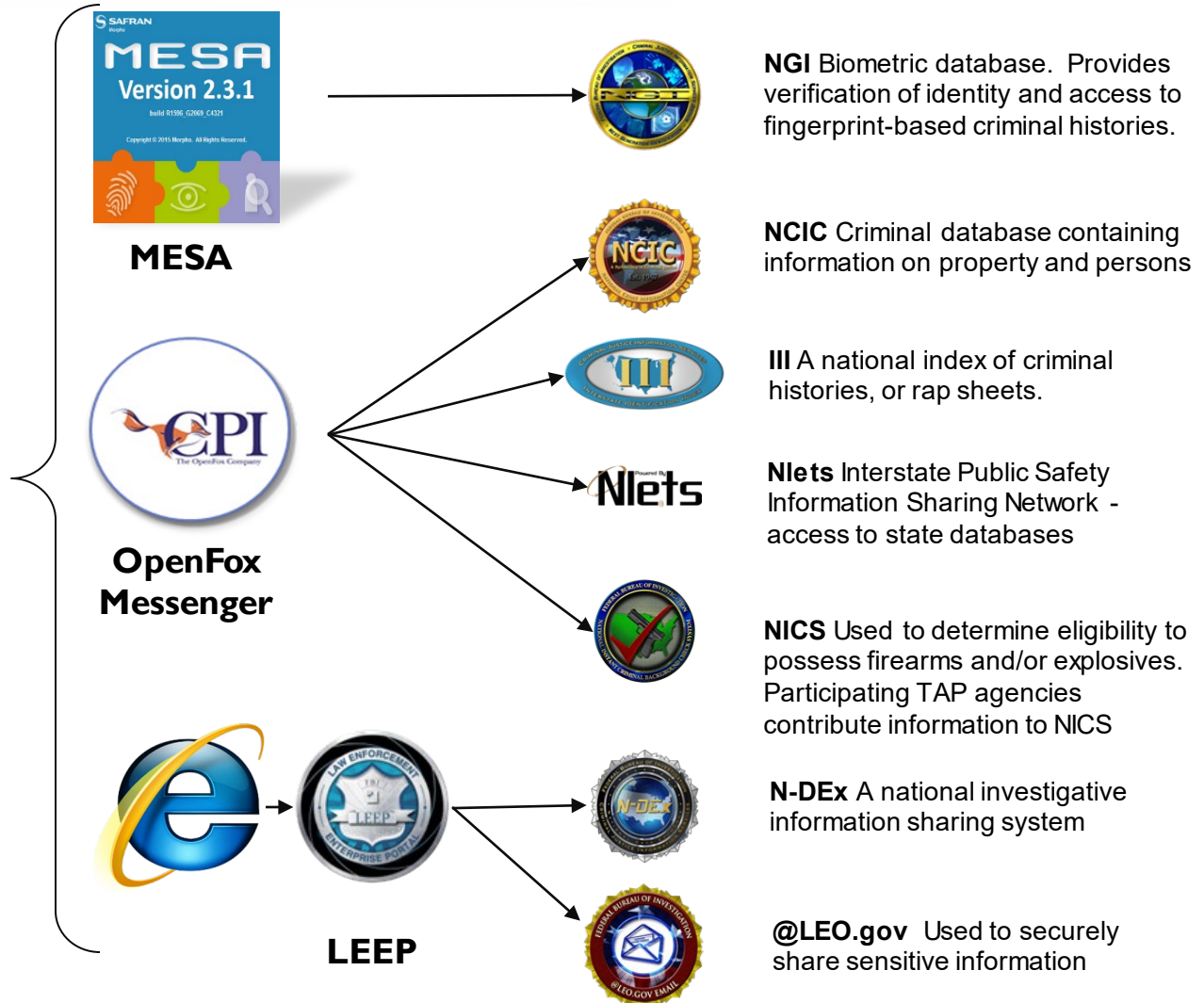
TAP-LIGHT provides agencies with the ability to conduct name-based record checks and enter person and property information, while TAP-FULL provides the additional hardware necessary to conduct fingerprint-based criminal and civil record checks and submit arrest booking data.

TRAINING

DOJ provides enhanced training and assistance:

TAP provides online and on-site training; assists Tribes in analyzing needs and identifying/providing appropriate solutions to maximize the value of national crime information.

Technology: TAP Kiosk Workstation



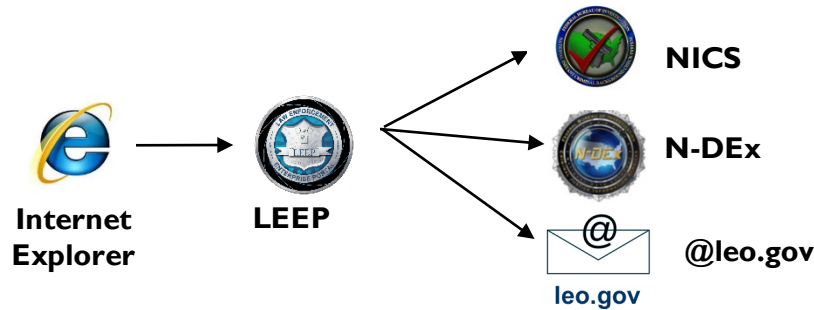
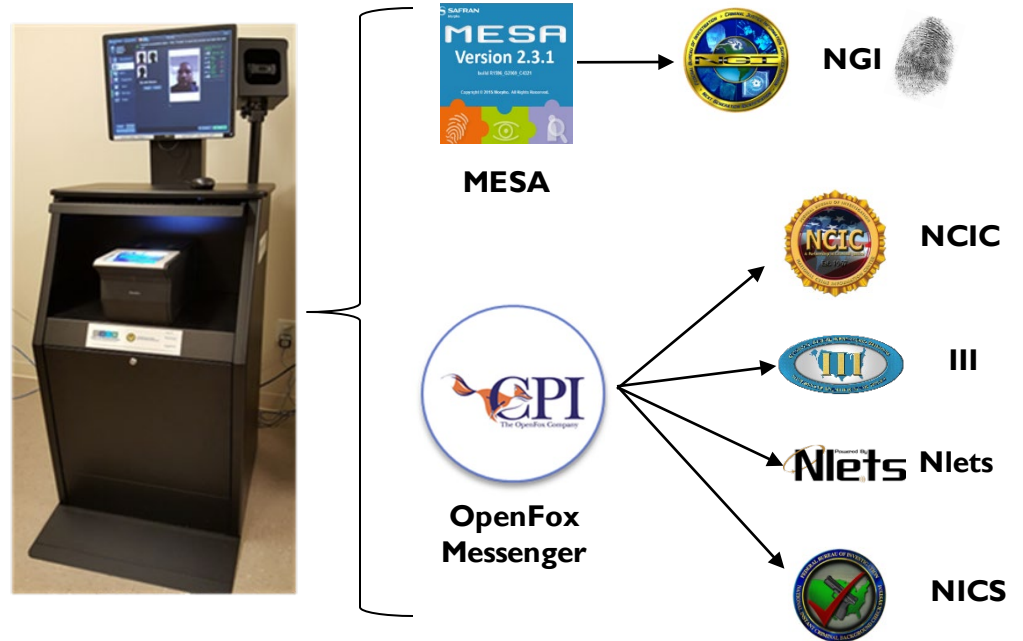
TAP-LIGHT vs TAP-FULL



TAP-LIGHT



TAP-FULL





Agencies include:

- Law Enforcement / Police Departments
- Criminal Courts
- Prosecutors Office
- Pretrial Services
- Corrections
- Probation and Parole

- Document Tribal arrests and Tribal court dispositions
- Access to investigative records to include DOJ Components
- Enter information to prevent guns from being purchased by prohibited persons
- Enter No Contact Orders
- Secure, encrypted email to exchange sensitive information
- Search and enter information about persons and property



Agencies include:

- Sex Offender Registry
- Civil Courts
- Public Housing
- Child Protective Services
- Children's Social Services (e.g. Foster Care)
- Child Support Enforcement Agencies
- Head Start Program

- Register sex offenders
- Perform fingerprint-based record checks of persons having contact or control over Indian children
- Obtain criminal history record information to respond to or investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children
- Perform fingerprint-based record checks on public housing applicants and tenants
- Enter Orders of Protection
- Perform record checks to locate absent parents to enforce child support orders



**TRIBAL
ACCESS
PROGRAM**

TAP Tribes



End of FY19 – 72 Tribes and over 300 agencies

KEY

- TAP-FULL tribe (receive a kiosk workstation for whole-of-government needs)
- ◆ TAP-LIGHT tribe (receive software for criminal justice agencies)

Funded by:

COPS SMART

Community Oriented Policing Services
U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring,
Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking





How TAP can help to keep Tribal communities and victims of crime safe



Document Tribal arrests and Tribal court dispositions

- **Police and corrections officers** can process criminal bookings.
- **Police and Criminal courts** can enter arrest warrants and domestic violence protection orders into national databases for off-reservation awareness and enforcement.
- **Pretrial services** can obtain complete criminal histories to make release recommendations



Entry of orders of protection and no contact orders into NCIC

- **Civil Courts** can conduct name-based checks in conjunction with orders of protection as well as enter orders of protection
- **Prosecutors** can enter charging documents, domestic violence protection orders, and dispositions for criminal charges to keep prohibited individuals from purchasing firearms



Enter sex offenders in the National Sex Offender Registry

- **SORNA Officers** can process complete sex offender registration and check-ins, including fingerprints, palm prints and mug shots



- **Conduct record checks of employees with access to children**
 - Tribal agencies such as social services, foster care, schools, daycare, school transportation and parks and recreation can conduct fingerprint-based record checks on tribal employees and volunteers who have regular contact with or control over Indian children
 - Social services can conduct follow-up fingerprint-based record checks after emergency placement of children under Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Purpose Code X
 - Cannot do general employment background checks



Child Protective Services (CPS) can conduct name-based record checks of individuals under investigation and in response to reports of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation

- Protection Orders
 - Violent Persons
 - Registered Sex Offenders
-
- **Public Housing** can request law enforcement to conduct name-based checks employees or prospective employees and to screen applicants or tenants receiving housing assistance, and for lease enforcement or eviction



TAP has also collaborated with:

- BIA-OJS Purpose Code “X” program to provide tribal social service agencies with 24-hour access to name-based criminal history information, to ensure children requiring emergency placements will be placed in safe homes
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), which has accompanied the team on deployments, and is providing tribes with information and webinar training on responding to missing children
- Amber Alert in Indian Country Initiative, which is developing programs to safely recover missing, endangered, exploited or abducted and children through the coordinated efforts of the tribes and their local, state and federal partners



- Prevented a person convicted of domestic violence from purchasing a firearm after PD identified an imminent threat to former spouse
- A Tribe entered all their Orders of Protection via TAP into national systems since the state required victims to take the orders to the county Sheriff for entry
- Stopped a known drug user with mental problems who was found incompetent to stand trial from purchasing a firearm
- A Tribal foster care program conducted a fingerprint based background check on a couple who applied to be foster parents. The prints returned an IdHS with an extensive record on the one of the applicants, including a manslaughter charge. The program was alerted quickly of the criminal history and ceased the licensing process for the family
- Improved Tribal public safety by facilitating prompt national criminal history checks for persons seeking positions in Tribal law enforcement or having contact with or control over Indian children



How to apply for TAP



- TAP is accepting applications for FY20
 - Application period runs September 1 – October 31, 2019
 - Application available online at <https://www.justice.gov/tribal/tribal-access-program-tap>
 - Complete the application and email to TAP.App@usdoj.gov



- Must have:
 - A Tribal sex offender registry pursuant to the Adam Walsh Act and are unable to submit all data to national systems; **and/or**
 - A Tribal law enforcement agency (not BIA direct service), who will use TAP to access NCIC and other national databases for both query and entry purposes; **and/or**
 - Utilize the TAP system to assist in providing service to victims of crime
- Tribal government's willingness and commitment to participate
- Diversity of the Tribe in terms of size and geographic location
- Need for access – though our goal is to reach out to ALL Tribes



- For more information, please visit our website www.justice.gov/tribal/tap/
- Contact the TAP team by email with questions at tribalaccess@usdoj.gov