

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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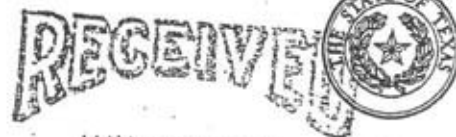
<http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/>



THOMAS A. DAVIS, JR.  
DIRECTOR

DAVID McEATHRON  
ASST. DIRECTOR

May 21, 2003



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COMMISSION  
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CHAIRMAN

Office of the Commissioner  
ROBERT B. HOLT  
JAMES B. FRANCIS, JR.  
COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Tim Moore  
Chair, Project MATRIX  
Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
P. O. Box 1489  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1489

Dear Commissioner Moore:

The State of Texas, Department of Public Safety will no longer participate in the MATRIX Project. Please remove references to our participation or having signed a MOU from your literature. We have never entered any agreements because of concerns about the overall costs to the State, as well as our expressed interest during MATRIX meetings to participate through our existing membership in CISAnet. Our stated goal of connecting existing network and system infrastructures to facilitate law enforcement information sharing is still paramount; however, we will do so with fiscal and operational responsibility. This decision has been made only after considerable thought and analysis, as well as collaboration with the Homeland Security representative for the Texas Office of the Governor.

In reviewing the materials published for the MATRIX project, there are three facets for consideration. We have outlined our position in each of these areas so that you may better understand our decision.

First, there is the proposed establishment of a RISS Node in each participating state. We have no need nor desire to purchase and maintain (with unfunded, out year costs) additional network servers and VPN configuration that provides no added value or ability to integrate to our existing operation. As you are aware, we expressed our intention to participate through our existing CISAnet infrastructure and not as a RISS Node. The installation of a RISS Node does not alone provide criminal information sharing. Without the mapping and integration by the states of their databases at considerable and additional cost, you have nothing but an expensive phone line. Our proposal provided the 'real time' and immediate sharing of the data available from the CISAnet participant states. We recently received correspondence from the RISS Directors Association that they consider CISAnet "duplicative" and would not support its efforts to connect in that

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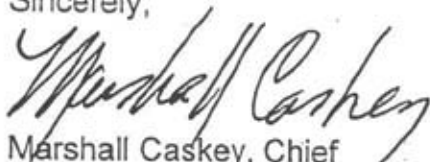
fashion. Further, the Association stated that they would only support the states as individual RISS Nodes and that any other relationship "would not be in the best interest" of either party. This is an interesting response given the federal mandate that efforts should be made to connect existing networks rather than create new ones and is regrettable that the RISS directors look upon information sharing as a competitive process.

Second, we already maintain and offer authorized law enforcement personnel access to a criminal and terrorism information web site. We also presently collaborate through other Web partnerships in the anti-terrorism arena.

And third, and the most costly, is the data warehousing factual analysis initiative utilizing a private corporation. The fiscal responsibility in participating in this endeavor cannot be reconciled in view of existing budget constraints and the potential recurring out year cost of over \$140,000 per month. Further, there are presently legal, ethical, and financial considerations in providing non-public data sets at our expense to a private company to sell back to us. 9

We look forward to continuing our normal law enforcement relationships with the many states in our mutual efforts in reducing crime and preventing terrorist actions. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Marshall Caskey, Chief  
Criminal Law Enforcement

MC:cw

cc: MATRIX Participant States  
Dick Ward, Bureau of Justice Assistance



Florida Department of  
Law Enforcement

James T. "Tim" Moore  
*Commissioner*

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Jeb Bush, Governor  
Charlie Crist, *Attorney General*  
Tom Gallagher, *Chief Financial Officer*  
Charles H. Bronson, *Commissioner of Agriculture*

June 12, 2003

Mr. Patrick Lunney  
Director  
State of California  
Department of Justice  
Post Office Box 903281  
Sacramento, CA 94203-2810

Dear Director Lunney:

It is with regret I receive your withdrawal from the MATRIX Project. We will remove any reference to the State of California, Department of Justice from all MATRIX documentation. I understand this decision has been made thoughtfully and in the best interest of the state of California.

I wish you continued success in your counter-terrorism efforts and look forward to our continued working relationship on this and other law enforcement issues.

Sincerely,

James T. Moore  
Commissioner

cc: MATRIX Board of Directors  
Dick Ward, Bureau of Justice Assistance  
Emory Williams, Institute for Intergovernmental Research