EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 21

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama does not currently have a strategic plan for the integration and standardization of communications and data-sharing systems between law enforcement agencies within the state; and

WHEREAS, a statewide strategic plan for integrating information systems in the criminal justice community would promote greater efficiency of operations, greater accuracy of information, and greater economy in the use of public resources; and

WHEREAS, public safety can be improved by making more timely, accurate, and complete information concerning offenders available statewide to all criminal justice agencies and to individual decision makers in the system including police officers, judges, and corrections officers; and

WHEREAS, technical and administrative standards are needed to promote information sharing by addressing compatibility, interoperability, and integration issues for federal, state and local computer information systems; and

WHEREAS, productivity of criminal justice agencies can be improved by reducing redundant data collection and input efforts among the agencies and by reducing or eliminating paper-based processing; and

WHEREAS, better statistical measures for evaluating public policy will improve decision making by government officials relating to the reduction and control of crime problems; and

WHEREAS, a standardized communications system is needed to share routine and emergency information between law enforcement agencies and between jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, improved coordination is needed between criminal justice and social service agencies focusing on drug interdiction, child abuse, juvenile justice and domestic violence issues; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated plan within Alabama to improve information sharing among criminal justice agencies will establish eligibility for federal grant assistance under the Crime Identification Act of 1998, and it is in the public's interest for departments and agencies of government to work cooperatively and collectively to address these issues.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Don Siegelman, Governor of the State of Alabama, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and for other good and valid reasons, which relate thereto, do hereby create the Office of Law Enforcement Systems Integration and Standards hereinafter referred to as "LESIS".

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the purpose of LESIS shall be to address each of the above enumerated issues and develop a state-wide strategy for an integrated criminal justice system.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS shall establish liaison with law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies in Alabama to facilitate appropriate use of information sharing and other technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Alabama Law Enforcement Technology Alliance (ALETA) Board shall coordinate with and offer guidance to the LESIS office.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that this office should address data sharing and other technology issues and shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the following members:

1. Five members to be appointed by the Governor;
2. The Director of the Department of Public Safety or his designee;
3. The Director of Administrative Office of Courts or his designee;
4. The Director of Criminal Justice Information Center or his designee;
5. The Director of Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs or his designee;
6. The Director of the Department of Transportation or his designee;
7. The Director of the Department of Corrections or his designee; and
8. The Chief Information Officer or his designee; and
9. The Attorney General of the State of Alabama or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the director of LESIS shall execute the decisions of the LESIS Board and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Board of Directors shall, at the first meeting, elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS shall be a temporary office with an initial two year period of existence that begins once the office is fully staffed and begins operation.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS shall be staffed as determined by the director not to exceed six full-time persons on temporary assignment from state criminal justice agencies. These staff shall remain on their agency's payroll, but shall be assigned to this office for all duties.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS shall have the authority to enter into contracts as state law allows.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS may operate from facilities provided by the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center and the director of LESIS shall report quarterly to the Governor regarding progress of this office's initiatives.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that LESIS is empowered with the authority to develop funding requests from federal, state, and local government sources, as well as, private sources to further the purposes of this office, and coordinate any such requests with the Governor's Office.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, all state agencies that interact with the criminal justice system, including but not limited to; the Department of Alabama Economic and Community Affairs, the ABC Board, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Youth Services, the Department of Public Safety, Board of Pardons and Parole, Department of Human Resources, Department of Conservation, and the Revenue Department; shall cooperate fully with this office and provide information as necessary to meet the purposes of this office.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that this Executive Order shall become effective immediately upon the Governor's signature and shall remain in effect until amended or modified by the Governor.

DONE AND ORDERED this 14th day of March, 2000.

Don Siegelman
Governor

Attested:

Jim Bennett
Secretary of State