



# State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement

This Agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Department of Public Safety on behalf of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension ("BCA"), and the County of Ramsey on behalf of its Sheriff's Office ("Governmental Unit"). The BCA and the Governmental Unit may be referred to jointly as "Parties."

## Recitals

Under Minn. Stat. § 471.59, the BCA and the Governmental Unit are empowered to engage in agreements that are necessary to exercise their powers. Under Minn. Stat. § 299C.46, the BCA must provide a criminal justice data communications network to benefit political subdivisions as defined under Minn. Stat. § 299C.46, subd. 2 and subd. 2(a). The Governmental Unit is authorized by law to utilize the criminal justice data communications network pursuant to the terms set out in this Agreement. In addition, BCA either maintains repositories of data or has access to repositories of data that benefit authorized political subdivisions in performing their duties. The Governmental Unit wants to access data in support of its official duties.

The purpose of this Agreement is to create a method by which the Governmental Unit has access to those systems and tools for which it has eligibility, and to memorialize the requirements to obtain access and the limitations on the access.

## Agreement

### 1 Term of Agreement

- 1.1 **Effective Date.** This Agreement is effective on the date the BCA obtains all required signatures under Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subdivision 2.
- 1.2 **Expiration Date.** This Agreement expires five years from the date it is effective.

### 2 Agreement Between the Parties

- 2.1 **General Access.** BCA agrees to provide Governmental Unit with access to the Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network (CJDN) and those systems and tools which the Governmental Unit is authorized by law to access via the CJDN for the purposes outlined in Minn. Stat. § 299C.46.

- 2.2 **Methods of Access.**

The BCA offers three (3) methods of access to its systems and tools. The methods of access are:

- A. **Direct access** occurs when individual users at the Governmental Unit use the Governmental Unit's equipment to access the BCA's systems and tools. This is generally accomplished by an individual user entering a query into one of BCA's systems or tools.
- B. **Indirect Access** occurs when individual users at the Governmental Unit go to another Governmental Unit to obtain data and information from BCA's systems and tools. This method of access generally results in the Governmental Unit with indirect access obtaining the needed data and information in a physical format like a paper report.
- C. **Computer-to-Computer System Interface** occurs when the Governmental Unit's computer exchanges data and information with BCA's computer systems and tools using an interface. Without limitation, interface types include: state message switch, web services, enterprise service bus and message queuing.

For purposes of this Agreement, Governmental Unit employees or contractors may use any of these methods to use BCA's systems and tools as described in this Agreement. Governmental Unit will select a

method of access and can change the methodology following the process in Clause 2.10.

- 2.3 Federal Systems Access.** In addition, pursuant to 28 CFR §20.30-38 and Minn. Stat. §299C.58, BCA may provide Governmental Unit with access to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Crime Information Center.
- 2.4 Governmental Unit Policies.** Both the BCA and the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Systems (FBI-CJIS) have policies, regulations and laws on access, use, audit, dissemination, hit confirmation, logging, quality assurance, screening (pre-employment), security, timeliness, training, use of the system, and validation. Governmental Unit has created its own policies to ensure that Governmental Unit's employees and contractors comply with all applicable requirements. Governmental Unit ensures this compliance through appropriate enforcement. These BCA and FBI-CJIS policies and regulations, as amended and updated from time to time, are incorporated into this Agreement by reference. The policies are available at <https://bcanextest.x.state.mn.us/launchpad/>.
- 2.5 Governmental Unit Resources.** To assist Governmental Unit in complying with the federal and state requirements on access to and use of the various systems and tools, additional information on appropriate use is found in the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Policy on Appropriate Use of Systems and Data, available on the CJIS Launch Pad using the link above in section 2.4.
- 2.6 Access Granted.**
- A. Governmental Unit is granted permission to use all current and future BCA systems and tools for which Governmental Unit is eligible. Eligibility is dependent on Governmental Unit (i) satisfying all applicable federal or state statutory requirements; (ii) complying with the terms of this Agreement; and (iii) acceptance by BCA of Governmental Unit's written request for use of a specific system or tool.
  - B. To facilitate changes in systems and tools, Governmental Unit grants its Authorized Representative authority to make written requests for those systems and tools provided by BCA that the Governmental Unit needs to meet its criminal justice obligations and for which Governmental Unit is eligible.
- 2.7 Future Access.** On written request from the Governmental Unit, BCA also may provide Governmental Unit with access to those systems or tools which may become available after the signing of this Agreement, to the extent that the access is authorized by applicable state and federal law. Governmental Unit agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement that when utilizing new systems or tools provided under this Agreement.
- 2.8 Limitations on Access.** BCA agrees that it will comply with applicable state and federal laws when making information accessible. Governmental Unit agrees that it will comply with applicable state and federal laws when accessing, entering, using, disseminating, and storing data. Each party is responsible for its own compliance with the most current applicable state and federal laws.
- 2.9 Supersedes Prior Agreements.** This Agreement supersedes any and all prior agreements between the BCA and the Governmental Unit regarding access to and use of systems and tools provided by BCA.
- 2.10 Requirement to Update Information.** The parties agree that if there is a change to any of the information whether required by law or this Agreement, the party will send the new information to the other party in writing within 30 days of the change. This clause does not apply to changes in systems or tools provided under this Agreement.

This requirement to give notice additionally applies to changes in the individual or organization serving the Governmental Unit as its prosecutor. Any change in performance of the prosecutorial function must be provided to the BCA in writing by giving notice to the Service Desk, [BCA.ServiceDesk@state.mn.us](mailto:BCA.ServiceDesk@state.mn.us).

- 2.11 Transaction Record.** The BCA creates and maintains a transaction record for each exchange of data utilizing its systems and tools. In order to meet FBI-CJIS requirements and to perform the audits described in Clause 7, there must be a method of identifying which individual users at the Governmental Unit conducted a particular transaction.

If Governmental Unit uses either direct access as described in Clause 2.2A or indirect access as described in Clause 2.2B, BCA's transaction record meets FBI-CJIS requirements.

When Governmental Unit's method of access is a computer-to-computer interface as described in Clause 2.2C, the Governmental Unit must keep a transaction record sufficient to satisfy FBI-CJIS requirements and permit the audits described in Clause 7 to occur.

If a Governmental Unit accesses data from the Driver and Vehicle Services Division in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and keeps a copy of the data, Governmental Unit must have a transaction record of all subsequent access to the data that are kept by the Governmental Unit. The transaction record must include the individual user who requested access, and the date, time and content of the request. The transaction record must also include the date, time and content of the response along with the destination to which the data were sent. The transaction record must be maintained for a minimum of six (6) years from the date the transaction occurred and must be made available to the BCA within one (1) business day of the BCA's request.

- 2.12 Court Information Access.** Certain BCA systems and tools that include access to and/or submission of Court Records may only be utilized by the Governmental Unit if the Governmental Unit completes the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment, which upon execution will be incorporated into this Agreement by reference. These BCA systems and tools are identified in the written request made by the Governmental Unit under Clause 2.6 above. The Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment provides important additional terms, including but not limited to privacy (see Clause 8.2, below), fees (see Clause 3 below), and transaction records or logs, that govern Governmental Unit's access to and/or submission of the Court Records delivered through the BCA systems and tools.
- 2.13 Vendor Personnel Screening.** The BCA will conduct all vendor personnel screening on behalf of Governmental Unit as is required by the FBI CJIS Security Policy. The BCA will maintain records of the federal, fingerprint-based background check on each vendor employee as well as records of the completion of the security awareness training that may be relied on by the Governmental Unit.

### **3 Payment**

The Governmental Unit currently accesses the criminal justice data communications network described in Minn. Stat. § 299C.46. Under the BCA's CJDN Fee Structure, the BCA will bill the Governmental Unit annually in the amount of Fifty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty and 00/100 Dollars (\$52,320.00). The annual charge may be modified to reflect the appropriate charges required under the BCA's CJDN Fee Structure, including applicable fees for VPN access.

The Governmental Unit will identify its contact person for billing purposes, and will provide updated information to BCA's Authorized Representative within ten business days when this information changes.

If Governmental Unit chooses to execute the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment referred to in Clause 2.12 in order to access and/or submit Court Records via BCA's systems, additional fees, if any, are addressed in that amendment.

#### 4 Authorized Representatives

The BCA's Authorized Representative is the person below, or her successor:

Name: Katie Meiers, Deputy Superintendent  
Address: Minnesota Department of Public Safety; Bureau of Criminal Apprehension  
1430 Maryland Ave E St. Paul, MN 55106  
Telephone: 651-793-2425  
Email Address: [Kathryn.Meiers@state.mn.us](mailto:Kathryn.Meiers@state.mn.us)

The Governmental Unit's Authorized Representative is the person below, or his successor:

Name: Bob Fletcher, Sheriff  
Address: 425 Grove St St. Paul, MN 55101  
Telephone: 651- 266-9333  
Email Address: [bob.fletcher@ramseycountymn.gov](mailto:bob.fletcher@ramseycountymn.gov)

#### 5 Assignment, Amendments, Waiver, and Agreement Complete

- 5.1 Assignment.** Neither party may assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Agreement.
- 5.2 Amendments.** Any amendment to this Agreement, except those described in Clauses 2.6 and 2.7 above must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been signed and approved by the same parties who signed and approved the original agreement, their successors in office, or another individual duly authorized.
- 5.3 Waiver.** If either party fails to enforce any provision of this Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or the right to enforce it.
- 5.4 Agreement Complete.** This Agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the BCA and the Governmental Unit. No other understanding regarding this Agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

#### 6 Liability

Each party will be responsible for its own acts and behavior and the results thereof and shall not be responsible or liable for the other party's actions and consequences of those actions. The Minnesota Torts Claims Act, Minn. Stat. § 3.736 and other applicable laws govern the BCA's liability. The Minnesota Municipal Tort Claims Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 466 and other applicable laws, governs the Governmental Unit's liability.

#### 7 Audits

- 7.1** Under Minn. Stat. § 16C.05, subd. 5, the Governmental Unit's books, records, documents, internal policies and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Agreement are subject to examination by the BCA, the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this Agreement.
- Under Minn. Stat. § 6.551, the State Auditor may examine the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of BCA. The examination shall be limited to the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices that are relevant to this Agreement.
- 7.2** Under applicable state and federal law, the Governmental Unit's records are subject to examination by the BCA to ensure compliance with laws, regulations and policies about access, use, and dissemination of data.
- 7.3** If the Governmental Unit accesses federal databases, the Governmental Unit's records are subject to examination by the FBI and BCA; the Governmental Unit will cooperate with FBI and BCA auditors and make any requested data available for review and audit.

- 7.4 If the Governmental Unit accesses state databases, the Governmental Unit's records are subject to examination by the BCA: the Governmental Unit will cooperate with the BCA auditors and make any requested data available for review and audit.
- 7.5 To facilitate the audits required by state and federal law, Governmental Unit is required to have an inventory of the equipment used to access the data covered by this Agreement and the physical location of each.

## 8 Government Data Practices

- 8.1 **BCA and Governmental Unit.** The Governmental Unit and BCA must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, as it applies to all data accessible under this Agreement, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Governmental Unit under this Agreement. The remedies of Minn. Stat. §§ 13.08 and 13.09 apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Governmental Unit or the BCA.
- 8.2 **Court Records.** If Governmental Unit chooses to execute the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment referred to in Clause 2.12 in order to access and/or submit Court Records via BCA's systems, the following provisions regarding data practices also apply. The Court is not subject to Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 but is subject to the *Rules of Public Access to Records of the Judicial Branch* promulgated by the Minnesota Supreme Court. All parties acknowledge and agree that Minn. Stat. § 13.03, subdivision 4(e) requires that the BCA and the Governmental Unit comply with the *Rules of Public Access* for those data received from Court under the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment. All parties also acknowledge and agree that the use of, access to or submission of Court Records, as that term is defined in the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment, may be restricted by rules promulgated by the Minnesota Supreme Court, applicable state statute or federal law. All parties acknowledge and agree that these applicable restrictions must be followed in the appropriate circumstances.

## 9 Investigation of Alleged Violations; Sanctions

For purposes of this clause, "Individual User" means an employee or contractor of Governmental Unit.

- 9.1 **Investigation.** The Governmental Unit and BCA agree to cooperate in the investigation and possible prosecution of suspected violations of federal and state law referenced in this Agreement. Governmental Unit and BCA agree to cooperate in the investigation of suspected violations of the policies and procedures referenced in this Agreement. When BCA becomes aware that a violation may have occurred, BCA will inform Governmental Unit of the suspected violation, subject to any restrictions in applicable law. When Governmental Unit becomes aware that a violation has occurred, Governmental Unit will inform BCA subject to any restrictions in applicable law.
- 9.2 **Sanctions Involving Only BCA Systems and Tools.**

The following provisions apply to BCA systems and tools not covered by the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment. None of these provisions alter the Governmental Unit internal discipline processes, including those governed by a collective bargaining agreement.

  - 9.2.1 For BCA systems and tools that are not covered by the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment, Governmental Unit must determine if and when an involved Individual User's access to systems or tools is to be temporarily or permanently eliminated. The decision to suspend or terminate access may be made as soon as alleged violation is discovered, after notice of an alleged violation is received, or after an investigation has occurred. Governmental Unit must report the status of the Individual User's access to BCA without delay. BCA reserves the right to make a different determination concerning an Individual User's access to systems or tools than that made by Governmental Unit and BCA's determination controls.
  - 9.2.2 If BCA determines that Governmental Unit has jeopardized the integrity of the systems or tools covered in this Clause 9.2, BCA may temporarily stop providing some or all the systems or tools

under this Agreement until the failure is remedied to the BCA's satisfaction. If Governmental Unit's failure is continuing or repeated, Clause 11.1 does not apply and BCA may terminate this Agreement immediately.

### **9.3 Sanctions Involving Only Court Data Services**

The following provisions apply to those systems and tools covered by the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment, if it has been signed by Governmental Unit. As part of the agreement between the Court and the BCA for the delivery of the systems and tools that are covered by the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment, BCA is required to suspend or terminate access to or use of the systems and tools either on its own initiative or when directed by the Court. The decision to suspend or terminate access may be made as soon as an alleged violation is discovered, after notice of an alleged violation is received, or after an investigation has occurred. The decision to suspend or terminate may also be made based on a request from the Authorized Representative of Governmental Unit. The agreement further provides that only the Court has the authority to reinstate access and use.

**9.3.1** Governmental Unit understands that if it has signed the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment and if Governmental Unit's Individual Users violate the provisions of that Amendment, access and use will be suspended by BCA or Court. Governmental Unit also understands that reinstatement is only at the direction of the Court.

**9.3.2** Governmental Unit further agrees that if Governmental Unit believes that one or more of its Individual Users have violated the terms of the Amendment, it will notify BCA and Court so that an investigation as described in Clause 9.1 may occur.

## **10 Venue**

Venue for all legal proceedings involving this Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

## **11 Termination**

**11.1 Termination.** The BCA or the Governmental Unit may terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the other party's Authorized Representative.

**11.2 Termination for Insufficient Funding.** Either party may immediately terminate this Agreement if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source; or if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services covered here. Termination must be by written notice to the other party's authorized representative. The Governmental Unit is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the BCA will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that funds are available. Neither party will be assessed any penalty if the agreement is terminated because of the decision of the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source, not to appropriate funds. Notice of the lack of funding must be provided within a reasonable time of the affected party receiving that notice.

## **12 Continuing Obligations**

The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this Agreement: Liability; Audits; Government Data Practices; 9. Investigation of Alleged Violations; Sanctions; and Venue.

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**The Parties indicate their agreement and authority to execute this Agreement by signing below.**

**1. GOVERNMENTAL UNIT**

Name: Rafael Ortega  
(PRINTED)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Board Chair, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jason Yang  
(PRINTED)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Chief Clerk, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Bob Fletcher  
(PRINTED)

Signed: Bob Fletcher

Title: Ramsey County Sheriff

Date: 7/1/2026

**2. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINTED)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
(with delegated authority)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION**

As delegated to the Office of State Procurement

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ADMIN ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved as to form:**

Name: Bradley Cousins  
(PRINTED)

Signed: Bradley Cousins

Title: Senior Assistant County Attorney

Date: 7/01/2026