



The State Controller is North Carolina's chief fiscal officer. The Office of the State Controller ensures the financial integrity of the State by providing accounting, disbursing, payroll, internal control and financial reporting systems that serve state agencies, employees and the public and maximizing financial return through its statewide cash management plan. The OSC issues numerous financial reports including: Financial Highlights, General Fund Monthly Financial Report, IT Expenditures Report, Statewide Accounts Receivable Report, the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as well as the short, easy-to-read version of the CAFR known as the "popular" report.



OSC AR

Office of the State Controller Activity Report

David McCoy, State Controller

Spring 2009

Criminal Justice Data Integration Pilot Kicks Off

The criminal justice data integration pilot project began the internal testing phase May 1.

The pilot is integrating data found within the state's various criminal justice applications and will provide up-to-date criminal information in a centralized location via a secure connection for use by state and local government criminal justice professionals. The pilot, referred to as CJLEADS (Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Automated Data Services), will establish the framework for the statewide integration of criminal justice data.

"CJLEADS will be another tool for criminal justice professionals to use in making quicker and more effective decisions," said State Controller David McCoy. "Information about an offender's involvement in the criminal justice system is now maintained in a number of databases located in many different agencies. To get a comprehensive view of an offender, criminal justice professionals currently must check multiple sources. CJLEADS, when fully implemented, will allow law enforcement, magistrates, prosecutors, judges and other criminal justice professionals to make better informed decisions more quickly since the information will be in one place."

CJLEADS has two primary objectives. First, it will provide a comprehensive criminal history of an offender through a single application in an easy to use format. This will help law enforcement officers, magistrates, prosecutors, judges and other criminal justice professionals who rely on the information in making decisions that impact public safety. Second, CJLEADS will provide an "offender watch" capability to alert criminal justice professionals when an offender has a change in status within the criminal justice system so that they may take appropriate action.

Initially, CJLEADS will provide integrated court, warrant, incarceration and probation information. During the next few months, OSC and its partners will conduct a series of



Interagency Leadership Council members and other guests gather for a demonstration of the Wake County Criminal Justice Data Integration pilot project.

tests on CJLEADS to include: validation of the integration of data, system and role-based security, application objectives, business rules, and ease of use. When CJLEADS has met the acceptance test criteria defined by the internal state project team, the pilot will be made available to a select set of Wake County users for testing in normal work situations.

While CJLEADS is being tested, additional data such as juvenile court, sex offender, concealed handgun permits, local jail booking, wildlife, DMV, federal and other states' information will continue to be designed and developed for incorporation into the pilot.

Session Law 2008-107, H.B. 2436 recognized the need for state-of-the-art integrated criminal justice information and directed the Office of the State Controller, among others, to develop and implement a statewide criminal justice data integration pilot program for Wake County. Project team members from numerous agencies have been engaged for months in project development activities with SAS Institute, Inc., the vendor selected to design, build and implement the pilot.

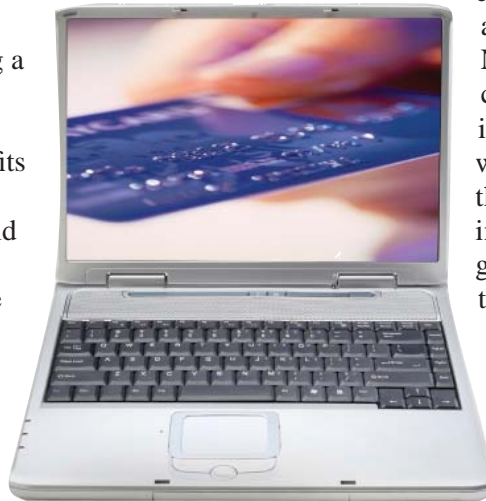
For more information about CJLEADS, to include FAQs and system screenshots, visit www.osc.nc.gov/cjleads/cjleads.html.

More Online Payment Options Offered to Citizens

The Office of the State Controller has enhanced its existing contract with First Data Merchant Services, the State’s vendor for processing credit cards, to allow even more citizens the opportunity to make payments to state agencies using a credit card or bank draft.

“Electronic payments offer several benefits to both our citizens and the State,” said Director of E-Commerce Initiatives David C. Reavis. “Citizens will get a quick and efficient way to make a payment, and the State will get its money more quickly. Furthermore, electronic payments generally cost less to process than paper transactions so expanding our current online payment service is a prudent and practical step to take, especially given the current budget situation.”

Agencies that currently offer online payments include the Division of Motor Vehicles, the Secretary of State, the Department of Revenue, the Department of Health and Human Resources, the Wildlife Resources Commission, and several universities. OSC’s new service is available to agencies that citizens must make frequent payments to but which do not currently offer online payment options.



The Department of Labor, which has already expressed its interest in the service, has indicated that inspection fees for elevators, amusement rides, and boilers are conducive to being made online. Not only would the online process be convenient for the company needing the inspection, but would benefit the State with a more efficient way of collecting the funds. “We’re glad to participate in any process designed to make government more efficient and responsive to our citizens,” Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry said. “I commend the State Controller for identifying these opportunities.”

The Office of the State Controller oversees the development of the State’s electronic commerce efforts.

This program works with and encourages agencies to replace paper checks with the electronic transfer of funds and to expand the use of credit/debit cards. With this new service, more agencies should be able to offer online payments as early as this summer.

For more information, visit www.osc.nc.gov/SECP/SECP_PayPoint.html.

Virtual Classroom Courses Developed for HR/Payroll

As part of its efforts to find more innovative and cost effective ways to serve its constituents, the North Carolina Office of the State Controller recently began offering virtual classroom sessions on select human resources and payroll courses. State employees who use the human resources and payroll system will be able to participate in virtual classes simply by having access to a phone line and a computer with an internet connection.

“These virtual classrooms will eliminate travel costs, as well as the time it takes employees to travel to OSC’s training facility,” said Deputy State Controller Jim Dolan. “We believe virtual classes are a viable alternative for those who cannot travel due to budget constraints.”

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– Deputy State Controller Jim Dolan

“Unlike webinars and other web-based training courses, OSC’s virtual classroom sessions are instructor-led and allow students to participate in hands-on exercises,” said Dolan. “Our virtual classes have been designed to be as interactive as our traditional courses.”

Course participants can sign up for these virtual courses just like they currently sign up for traditional instructor-led courses. Feedback from those who participated in the pilot program has been extremely positive.

Although not every instructor-led course is a candidate to be converted to a virtual course, Dolan explained that close to half of the traditional courses are being converted to virtual classes. He said that most of the longer courses that last between six and 16 hours will not be converted because they are not conducive to being taught in a virtual classroom environment.

Dolan said the OSC is making good progress stabilizing the human resources and payroll system by ensuring that employees are properly trained. “My number one goal when it comes to training is that employees learn how to operate the State’s HR/payroll system and apply what they’ve learned at their respective agencies,” said Dolan.

OSC Unveils HR/Payroll System-Wide Improvements

As part of the ongoing efforts to improve the State's human resources and payroll system, the Office of the State Controller rolled out the first of three 2009 system-wide enhancements in April. This first round of improvements includes more than 20 system enhancements, fixes and new functions.

In January 2009, State Controller David McCoy created a "Change Control Board" made up of representatives from each agency that uses the State's HR/Payroll system. This group helps determine what

improvements will be made to the system and ensures that every agency's concerns and suggestions are heard.

Along with numerous technical changes, some highlights of the improvements include the rollout of a statewide organizational charting tool, the development of a new job report so agencies can more easily compare employee salary information, as well as improvements to help managers with employee leave requests.

Other improvements currently are being prioritized to be included in

this year's September and November releases.

"Through the Change Control Board we have created an organized approach for receiving suggestions and prioritizing improvements to the system," McCoy said. "I want our agency partners to know that this office is listening to them, and we will continue looking for ways to improve the system and increase customer satisfaction."

For more information, visit www.osc.nc.gov/BEST/change_control.html

Ask the Controller

In response to feedback we received from the OSCAR survey included in the Winter 2009 issue, we have created an *Ask the Controller* function that allows you to submit questions to State Controller David McCoy. Go to www.osc.nc.gov/contact/contact_form.php to enter and submit your question. Upcoming issues of OSCAR will contain a section devoted to the Controller's responses.

Help Us Improve OSC's Website

OSC's communications team has begun making changes to OSC's website, but to ensure we are meeting our stakeholders needs, we would like your input. Please take a few moments by entering the following link –

www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB2292D7WQ88R

– in your web browser and answering some website specific questions. We appreciate your participation.

Subscribe to the New OSCAR Distribution List

If you would like to continue receiving the OSCAR newsletter, we request that you visit www.osc.nc.gov/Newsletter/subscribe.html and sign up again. Our current list is outdated and contains many bad e-mail addresses. We will send out another reminder prior to distributing the summer edition.

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