



The right information in the right hands right now

## Interstate N-DEX Success

An October 2011 criminal case out of Hodgeman County, Kansas involving the recovery of a stolen handgun illustrates the power and value of information sharing.

It began in 2010 when police officers in Killeen, Texas were notified by a local resident that his .45 caliber Glock handgun had been stolen from his home. The victim accused a former roommate of the theft. Police could not locate the suspect, who had left the area, and the case went dormant.

Smack dab in the middle of the country, an equal distance to either shore, is Hodgeman County, Kansas. In this small Midwestern county with only four full-time officers, an investigation was underway into a suspected felon, a parole absconder from Texas. The suspect's true identity had been concealed by his partner and things just weren't adding up. Their lifestyle didn't match the jobs they held, as they were clearly living far beyond their means. Suspicions about the two men dovetailed into a joint investigation with the Dodge City, Kansas Police Department involving the embezzlement of \$200,000 from a Dodge City business. As a result of the investigation, state and federal search warrants were executed.

During a search of the primary suspect's workplace, officers located a .45 caliber Glock handgun. It was suspected that the weapon was stolen; however it had never been entered as stolen in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) records system.

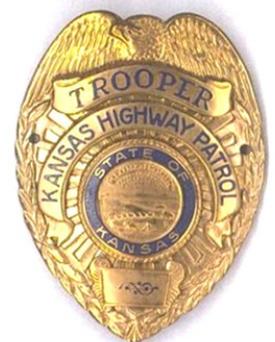
Sheriff Ron Ridley searched the suspects' names through N-DEX, the nation's investigative information sharing system. N-DEX returned information listing the primary suspect's name on that 2010 offense report from Killeen, Texas naming the Kansas suspect as the possible thief of a .45 caliber Glock. Sheriff Ridley contacted his investigative counterpart at the Dodge City Police Department, Detective Mike Robbins, who was in possession of the firearm. The firearm's serial number traced to the person from whom the Texas theft victim had purchased the .45 Glock. Since the Texas victim had accused the Kansas suspect of the theft, who had been in possession of that very weapon, the definitive link was established.

The stolen firearm will eventually be returned to its rightful owner, another case was closed in Texas, and a criminal now sitting in the Kansas State Penitentiary is facing additional criminal charges in Texas upon his release. Once again, a simple name check demonstrated the power of sharing information. ■

## N-DEX Plays Pivotal Role in Kansas Human Trafficking Incident

N-DEX proved itself invaluable in assisting a Kansas State Trooper in determining that the driver of a vehicle he stopped late one Friday evening was actually involved in human trafficking. After a routine traffic stop, the Trooper discovered that the vehicle in question contained 11 individuals who were not native English speakers. Based on his experience and the circumstances at the scene, the Trooper suspected that he was witnessing a case of human trafficking. The driver spoke very limited English, possessed a valid driver's license, and was unable to produce any immigration documents. He also denied any previous adverse immigration related events. The Trooper was able to conduct an on-site search of N-DEX through the state

information sharing system, utilizing the driver's name and date of birth. N-DEX quickly returned pivotal information about the driver to include records on his previous convictions for alien smuggling and other crimes, several aliases, and very importantly, booking photos that enabled the Trooper to positively identify the driver as the convicted human trafficker in the N-DEX records. With that information readily in hand, the Trooper was able to solicit the assistance of Special Agents with the Department of Homeland Security who subsequently charged the driver with human trafficking and aggravated re-entry. The passengers were safely returned to their country of origin. ■



Send your  
N-DEX In  
Action story to  
the Program  
Office

Email:  
[ndex@leo.gov](mailto:ndex@leo.gov)

## N-DEx Briefs

### Dept. of Homeland Security:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is now a searchable external data source within N-DEx. N-DEx users have access to over 38 million DHS records. The DHS interface can be found under the External Filters search area.

**Criminal Justice Agencies:** Beginning June 16, 2012, criminal justice agencies will be able to participate in N-DEx. N-DEx welcomes criminal justice agencies to contribute data and to participate as users.

**Build 12.0.0:** Significant system enhancements accompanied Build 12.0.0, which deployed June 2, 2012.

### User Satisfaction Survey:

Please give us your feedback in this short survey.

<http://ndexsurvey.notlong.com>

**New Data Sources:** The recent additions of two data contributors, Southwest Virginia Multi-Joint Drug Task Force and Nevada Attorney General’s Office, bring the total number of N-DEx Data Sources to 40.

Supervisory Special Agent Michael Haas has assumed the position of Unit Chief/Program Manager for the N-DEx Program Office. Mr. Haas entered sworn duty with the FBI in 1996. His areas of expertise include narcotics enforcement, counterterrorism and national security. He has been with the N-DEx program since September 2010. ■

## Introducing the N-DEx Participation Resource Center

In an effort to better serve the user community, N-DEx recently launched the Participation Resource Center (PRC), an N-DEx-specific website housed on the FBI’s website. The PRC is a collection of documents providing CSOs and criminal justice agencies the documentation necessary to facilitate activities required for participating in N-DEx. Within the PRC users will find helpful manuals, guides, and reference materials. Visit the PRC at:

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/n-dex>

*Email your suggestions,  
ideas or user tips to  
[ndex@leo.gov](mailto:ndex@leo.gov)*

## Simplified N-DEx Access

In an effort to continue to make N-DEx more accessible and easier to use, securing N-DEx Access has been simplified. The process is now much shorter with fewer steps. The new steps to access are:

1. Obtain a LEO membership. Applications can be found via the LEO website at [www.leo.gov](http://www.leo.gov).
2. Login to LEO.
3. Locate the N-DEx icon on the bottom right of the LEO homepage in the “Spotlights” section and click the “Request N-DEx Access” link.
4. Click the Federal, State or Tribal link corresponding to your agency.
5. Locate your sub-SIG (listed alphabetically) and click “Request Access.”
6. Click the “I Meet the Criteria” link.

In the text field, it is *mandatory* to enter **supervisor’s name, supervisor’s phone number and agency’s ORI**.

If you receive a message stating you do not meet the criteria for N-DEx access, please call LEO Technical Support at 888.334.4536 and provide your NCIC Originating Agency Identifier (ORI). You may then return to request access to N-DEx.

7. Click “Submit” to forward your request to the sub-SIG moderator.

The moderator will review your request. When your request access is approved, an email will be sent to your LEO account alerting you that your N-DEx account is now accessible. ■

## Contact N-DEx

N-DEx Program Office..... 304.625.4242

CJIS Help Desk..... 304.625.4357

N-DEx Webpage

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/n-dex>