

Implementation of a Criminal Justice Forum for Technology Assessment

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The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute's Senior Leadership Program, Class 5 prepared the paper Technology, leadership, and criminal justice: A forum for success calling for the creation of a technology forum in the State of Florida. The basis for the technology group is the following premise:

Adaptation of existing products often drives advances in criminal justice technology. The products are adopted as-is and procedures written to incorporate the desired technology. Or, third-party vendors who resell the product as a customized item make modifications; often with a significant price increase. Specifically requested technological advances are rare. How can criminal justice agencies interest developers and manufacturers in our technological requests? The Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute's Senior Leadership Program, Class 5 has suggested the creation of a technology forum to identify and advocate the development of criminal justice technologies based on the needs of Florida agencies (Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute, 1997).

To accomplish what the Senior Leadership Program set in motion, this paper calls for the creation of a not-for-profit corporation to act as a technology forum, integrated into the Senior Leadership Program as a training tool, and details steps for implementation.