



For Immediate Release

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Prescription Monitoring Program Wins Excellence Award Exchange of Prescription Drug Information Serves as National Model

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The Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Information Exchange (PMIX) project has been selected as an award winner in the [2008 eC3 Excellence Awards](#). The PMP Information Exchange project, which helps states exchange dispensed controlled-substance prescription data, is a partnership effort of the [IJIS Institute](#) and the [Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice](#).

The Excellence Awards are presented each year by the [National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council \(eC3\)](#) at its annual conference. A committee of government and industry IT professionals reviewed the dozens of nominations received and identified California Department of Justice's PMIX program as an award winner because it clearly demonstrates the tremendous progress government agencies at all levels are accomplishing through collaboration and the innovative use of technology.

PMPs are systems controlled by authorized state agencies to collect controlled substance dispensing data in a centralized state database. Designed to help detect and prevent the diversion and abuse of these substances, the programs involve the cooperative efforts of law enforcement, health providers and communities in general.

Paul Wormeli, executive director, the IJIS Institute said, "The problem of multi-state doctor shopping has been identified as a serious national issue, and the means for state and local law enforcement and public health agencies to address the problem is currently not available on a national basis. Our work in information sharing is helping address this national problem."

The IJIS Institute is helping states exchange dispensed controlled-substance prescription data through a multi-phased process of developing baseline standards for automated information exchanges, implementing pilot exchange capabilities, and expanding successful pilot implementations into a multi-state solution.

In the second phase of the PMIX, the California Department of Justice developed a Web-based prescription monitoring service to identify and prevent drug diversion by improving exchange of data between California and Nevada and between the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement and the Nevada Board of Pharmacy, which could serve as a national model. This successful information exchange caught the attention of the eC3 Excellence Awards Committee, which considers the following criteria when making their selection: innovation, measurable results, reuse of



existing solutions, usefulness to customers and/or citizens, the potential for replication in other governments or organizations, and the use of Web 2.0 collaboration tools in the development of the project.

The 2008 Excellence Awards will be presented at an awards luncheon taking place on Thursday, December 11th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the W Hotel in Seattle, Washington as part of the eC3 Annual Conference. For more information on the conference and to view the current agenda, visit www.ec3.org.

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About the IJIS Institute—*The IJIS Institute serves as the voice of industry by uniting the private and public sectors to improve mission critical information sharing for those who protect and serve our communities. The IJIS Institute provides training, technical assistance, national scope issue management and program management services to help government fully realize the power of information sharing. Founded in 2001 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with national headquarters on the George Washington University Virginia Campus in Ashburn, Virginia, the IJIS Institute has grown to more than 240 member and affiliate companies across the United States. For more information visit www.IJIS.org.*

About National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council (eC3) – *eC3 is a governmental organization working to further discuss and create solutions for technology issues that impact the business of government. The organization is built on the principle that collaboration around public sector challenges can derive unanticipated benefits for many constituencies. As such, eC3 works across the boundaries of federal, state and local governments and consists of thought leaders from the public and private sectors. To further its vision of affecting strategic change in government, eC3 cuts across a number of disciplines, including but not limited to technology, finance and acquisition. For more information, visit <http://ec3.org/index.php>.*