

**PROBLEM STATEMENT:** First, define the problem exactly as it exists in your particular community. Describe the nature and magnitude of the problem using valid, updated statistical data, and cite the source and date of your information. Prior data may be used to show changes in the magnitude or severity of the problem. Remember to document the problem and not the symptoms or solutions of the problem. Second, identify your existing efforts, current resources and programs being utilized to deal with the problem.

---

**PROBLEM STATEMENT:**

The City of Anderson Police Department provides fingerprint services to the City of Anderson Police Department, state law enforcement agencies, and all federal law enforcement agencies that make arrests in the City of Anderson or deliver arrestees from other areas to the city police department's detention center. State agencies that make arrests in the city of Anderson routinely bring their arrestee(s) to the City Police Department for booking.<sup>1</sup> Federal agencies routinely deliver arrestees to the police department's detention center because the police department has a federal holding facility in addition to its holding facility for city inmates. In addition to offering fingerprinting services related to criminal matters, the city police department also provides fingerprinting services for civil purposes. Examples of civil related matters are when persons are applying for a concealed weapons permit, and when individuals are applying for a job such as a daycare worker, schoolteacher, or a securities dealer. Plus, the City of Anderson requires that all applicants complete a background check prior to receiving a job offer. Finally, the fingerprinting service is provided for local agencies because the City of Anderson Police Department is the largest municipality in the county and the only department that houses federal prisoners.

At the present time, fingerprinting is conducted 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the detention center for criminal purposes. When someone is arrested and brought into the detention center, our booking officers complete the booking process for the arrestees. Information regarding the individual is typed into our jail management system, the mug shot is taken, and then the prints are rolled. At present, when a person is booked on general sessions (state) charges, three sets of fingerprints on each arrestee are rolled – one for our files, one for SLED and one for the FBI. Also, an additional “green” print card is rolled for our files. If a person is arrested solely on city charges, two print cards are rolled, one for the police department and one for the FBI, plus an additional green card. Since we keep a copy of all fingerprint cards we roll, we manually compare the cards for new arrestees known to have previously been arrested in City of Anderson. In doing so we are attempting to verify that the person is who they claim to be. The cards for SLED and the FBI are currently mailed to SLED for processing. SLED processes the cards and puts them into their system for verification and identification. If the fingerprints come

---

<sup>1</sup> The figures for charges and bookings in this paper do not include any prisoners who are processed for state agencies such as the Highway Patrol, SLED, or DHEC. Those types of bookings are “Professional Courtesies”. Figures also exclude Federal bookings.

back to a name different than the one we received from the arrestee, we do not find out about it until several days (at the earliest) later. This inability to confirm the identity of arrestees allows many wanted persons to lie about their identity and depart the detention center prior to the deception being detected. Many of these persons have been previously arrested here or in other parts of South Carolina under other names. In addition, if the rolled fingerprint cards are not of good quality, SLED will reject them. It takes approximately four weeks for rejected prints to be returned to us. By then, it is usually too late to re-print the person.

A LIVE SCAN Device would allow us to print arrestees faster. It would allow us to print multiple copies of the prints after rolling them only once. It would also provide a better quality print card so that fewer would be rejected by SLED. A LIVE SCAN device displays the print immediately after it is rolled and either confirms or rejects it, thereby letting the technician know immediately whether or not to re-roll the print for quality assurance purposes. Because the prints are electronically submitted to SLED (also immediately) postage costs and time will be saved. This would allow SLED to verify the prints more quickly so that we could hold persons wanted for other crimes and from other places.

It currently takes approximately 33 minutes to roll and type the set of three fingerprint cards and the green card for an individual who is arrested on state charges. It takes approximately 23 minutes to roll and type the identifying information on individuals arrested on city charges. In fiscal year 2001, 2,924 individuals were fingerprinted for criminal purposes.<sup>2</sup> In 2002, that number decreased to 2,316.<sup>3</sup> In fiscal year 2003, we fingerprinted 2,837 individuals for criminal purposes.<sup>4</sup> This means that our booking officers spent 1,241.4 man-hours just completing the fingerprint cards in fiscal year 2003. This does not include the time spent entering information into our jail management system about the arrestee. We also plan to interface our jail management system with the LIVE SCAN Device so that information does not have to be entered twice, thus eliminating the redundancy of "data capture". We have met with our jail management system vendor and understand that they and the LIVE SCAN vendor will both have to provide software changes to have the systems work together. We have asked for funds in the proposed budget of this grant proposal to cover the costs that each vendor would charge for their part in this interface.

In addition to criminal fingerprinting, we also fingerprint people for civil/job application purposes. These purposes include: concealed weapons permit applications, law enforcement employment applicants, all City of Anderson (Incorporated) applicants, sex offender registry, U.S. citizenship applicants, teacher certification applicants, etc. The police department conducts Civil/application fingerprinting five days a week during nor-

---

<sup>2</sup> City of Anderson Police Department fiscal year 2001 Annual Report. Page 2. Figure does not include federal inmates printed or bookings for state agencies.

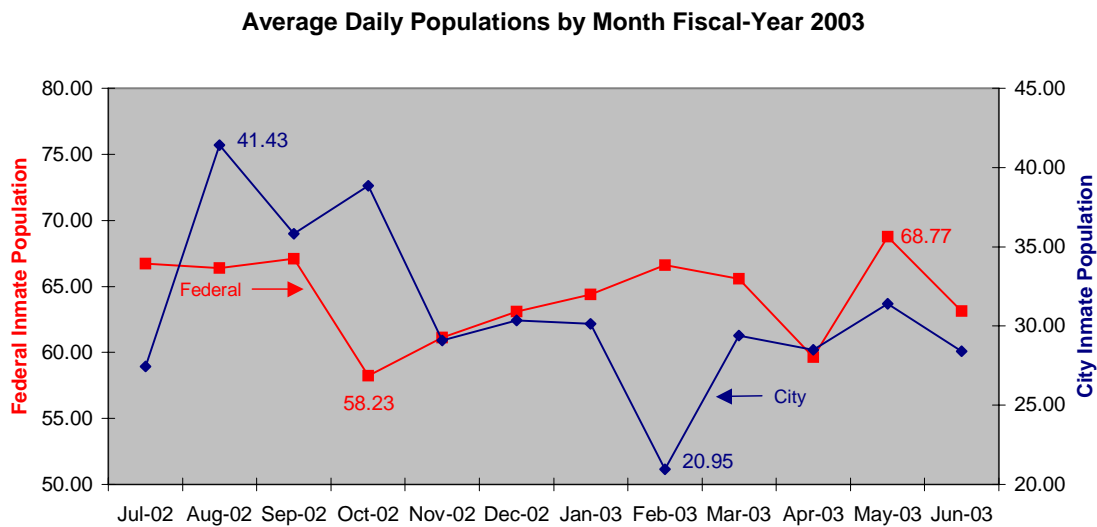
<sup>3</sup> City of Anderson Police Department fiscal year 2002 Annual Report. Page 3. Figure does not include federal inmates printed or bookings for state agencies.

<sup>4</sup> In fiscal year 2003 there were 1,914 city and 923 state. Figure does not include federal inmates printed or bookings for state agencies.

mal business hours. However, if manpower permits and someone comes in asking for printing outside of normal business hours, the on-duty supervisor has discretionary authority to permit an available officer to print them. In 2003 approximately 1,079 civil/application fingerprints were rolled and typed by the police department.<sup>5</sup>

## Detention Center

The City of Anderson Police Department maintains a full-service detention center. The detention center houses federal prisoners for both the United States Marshal’s Service and the Bureau of Prisons. During FY03 average daily population of the city’s detention center was 95.21. Federal inmates accounted for an average of 64.23 and city inmates averaged 30.98. The population fluctuated dramatically among city inmates, from an average daily high of 41.43 in August 2002 to a low of 20.95 in February 2003. Federal deviations were less severe, ranging from an average daily low of 58.23 in October 2002 to a high of 68.77 in May 2003 (a 30% swing from high to low). February 2003 had the lowest overall average daily population of 87.58. The month with the highest daily average was August 2002 with a total of 107.82 inmates in-house each day. The following chart illustrates the average daily populations per month along with the highest and lowest monthly figure for each category in FY03:



When inmates are received into the detention center they are finger printed and booked into the system, regardless of whether or not they are city, state, or federal status. The maximum amount of time that an inmate can be sentenced to city detention is 90 days. The average sentence is approximately 30 days. Therefore, with an average daily population of 30.98 city inmates per month, it appears that the population of city inmates turns over approximately one time per month. The average stay for federal inmates is roughly

<sup>5</sup> Approximately 1,004 were for CWPs and outside job applicants. Seventy-five were for persons applying for employment with the City of Anderson.

6 ½ weeks (46 days). With an average monthly population of 64.23 federal inmates, it appears that the federal population turns over approximately 42 inmates per month. The 42 federal inmates who are booked into the city detention center per month are in addition to all previous bookings that are listed in this paper – i.e. the federal bookings listed in this section are in addition to the 2,837 listed for fiscal year 2003, the 2,316 listed for fiscal year 2002, and the 2,924 listed for fiscal year 2001 because those figures are derived from city court dockets and therefore represent only the city and state charges filed by city officers.

### **EXISTING EFFORTS and CURRENT RESOURCES**

The City of Anderson Police Department is in the process of implementing a first year project to develop a National Incident Based Reporting System / South Carolina Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS/SCIBRS<sup>6</sup>). The project is funded by a grant through the SCDPS. The system will permit patrol officers who have access to a laptop computer to enter data regarding criminal incidents “in the field”. Subsequently, these reports can be downloaded and electronically submitted to SLED. The department has trained three support personnel to serve as “Quality Control” persons on the new system. Those personnel will ensure that the data that is entered into the system is concise, complete, accurate, and appropriate for the program.

Despite the mechanization of the incident reporting process, at present, all print cards that are processed at the City of Anderson Police Department must be individually rolled and separately hand typed. When booking officers are finished with the printing and typing process, they place the print cards into a case file that pertains to the subject. After the case file makes its way through the court system, the print cards are processed through the front office where they are forwarded to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division via the mail. However, the existing system is incapable of providing any type of positive identification of arrestees. It is limited to simply “documenting a set of prints for a person who claims to be somebody”. In short, the current system is useless for identifying seasoned criminals and has no practical application to proactive law enforcement activities. This could be corrected by implementing a LIVE SCAN project.

### **CONCLUSION:**

The City of Anderson Police Department is moving forward and improving efficiency by automating the law enforcement process via implementation of a SCIBRS incident reporting system. This is the initial step in the department’s long-range plan to fully automate its reporting, booking, management, and resource allocation process. A LIVE SCAN device can be made fully compatible with the SCIBRS program under development. In those departments utilizing LIVE SCAN programs, the finger printing process is more efficient because printing is “done right the first time” due to the fact that these programs prohibit officers from submitting incomplete or improperly rolled prints. In

---

<sup>6</sup> The abbreviations NIBRS and SCIBRS may be used interchangeably when referring to the National and South Carolina Incident Based Reporting System.

addition, LIVE SCAN computer generated print cards can be completed much faster than manually performing the service because LIVE SCAN allows the importation of data from other sections of the program (or from legacy data), it utilizes “drop down” menus (which anticipate and limit an officer’s options during the data entry phase of any section), and exercises an “auto fill” feature which significantly cuts the time required for typing by automatically filling in sections that are redundant across (and throughout) the process.

The LIVE SCAN project has a practical application in that it will allow the City of Anderson Police Department to become more proactive in it’s efforts toward crime prevention via community oriented policing, rather than simply maintaining our current levels. This project enables the City of Anderson Police Department to generate and electronically transmit print cards. By spending less time in the booking department in the course of their arrestee’s booking process, and getting “back in service” sooner, officers will be enabled to spend more time on patrol apprehending criminals.

Police Department funding through the general revenue is projected to stay at its current level for at least two more years thus precluding the department from adding additional personnel or equipment without outside funding. Internal analysis indicates that the department can increase arrests and apprehend criminals more efficiently by installing and utilizing a LIVE SCAN device. In short, if the proposed project can be funded, it will permit the police department to put more criminals in jail, at a faster pace, and keep them there longer.

