



## Agenda Item Summary

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**File #: 24-00036**

**Agenda Date: 1/9/2024**

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**Agenda Item Name:**

**State Attorney Request for Nice Justice Solution Software**

**Presenter:**

Brian S. Kramer, State Attorney 352-374-3670

**Description:**

NICE Justice Solution Software

**Recommended Action:**

Approve funding

**Prior Board Motions:**

N/A

**Fiscal Note:**

Proposal is for 3-year commitment. \$375,795 Year 1 Costs \$95,341 are available in account line 076.34.3400.713.52.31. Years 2 and 3 will be budget requests from the State Attorney's Office.

**Strategic Guide:**

Public Safety

**Background:**

Office of the State Attorney for the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (SAO8) receives and processes nearly 20,000 individual criminal cases every year. These items of evidence originate from over 25 different law enforcement agencies, victims, witnesses, governmental entities, and others. Every year the quantity of digital forensic evidence grows significantly. For example, in 2022, SAO8 downloaded 249,180 individual items of digital forensic evidence, averaging 20,765 items per month. In 2023, that average has increased to 28,607 items per month. Under the current software system, each item of evidence must be reviewed individually by a staff member and the meta-data to link that item of evidence to a case within the system must be entered manually. This practice is not sustainable. SAO8 seeks to purchase software that automates this process by encoding the evidence for processing at the originating entity.

SAO8 has reviewed multiple systems to modernize its practices to achieve the goal set out above. NICE Justice solution is the only proven product that meets our needs. The main function of this cloud-based, SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) software is to serve as a central point of collection, analysis and sharing of all types of digital evidence from all sources, enabling complete, fast, and secure information

exchange among users at SAO8, and its criminal justice system partners. This product will benefit the entire court system by creating increased efficiency in handling, processing, interpreting, delivering, and evaluating all forms of digital forensic evidence.

NICE Justice is a proven entity with a clear track record for success in operation and reliable service delivery. NICE solutions have proven reliability with over 3,000 government organizations, including prosecutors, courts, and public safety organizations, including some of the largest and most complex agencies in the world. NICE's expertise and dedication to innovation in managing evidence information spans over 35 years across many regions of the world.

NICE Systems, Inc. is the manufacturer and a sole provider of NICE Justice software - the first and only comprehensive digital evidence and justice solution. The proposed solution, NICE Justice, is a cloud-based, Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), hosted within the secure Microsoft's Azure Government cloud. It adheres to the highest security standards per CJIS specifications.

The below acts as a summary of capabilities in NICE Justice proposed for the 8th Circuit State Attorney's Office:

- NICE Justice leverages integrations with key systems in use by the 8th Circuit State Attorney's Office (ex. STAC) and partner law enforcement agencies to automate the ingestion of digital evidence. An upload portal will be provided as an option to all impacted agencies with the intention to eliminate converting digital evidence to physical media for sharing, viewing, and retention purposes. NICE will provide a methodology for any stakeholder to interact directly with the State Attorney's office to provide digital forensic evidence through both an automated email response and an outward facing web-based interface.
- NICE Justice provides automatic conversion of all file formats (video, audio, documents, images, and more) regardless of the source for instantaneous, universal, standardized viewing and playback of all evidence.
- NICE Justice provides a complete built-in set of digital evidence analysis and exhibit creation tools. Integrated tools include (but are not limited to) redaction for Marsy's law privacy and Sunshine law compliance, media compilation for the creation of video clips/snapshots, automatic audio/video transcription and translation, photobooks, and media compilations of exhibit presentation for court.
- NICE Justice provides detailed, customizable organization capabilities to easily sort, filter, and structure digital forensic evidence with case details/exhibits for court.
- NICE Justice provides discovery to Public, Regional Counsel, and private defense including simplified streaming and downloadable, uniform formats. This minimizes follow-up communications related to problems and delays in access and viewing of evidence.
- NICE Justice provides a robust chain of custody for both evidence items and cases are automatically generated, ensuring accountability, security, and admissibility of exhibits in courts as well as adherence to policies throughout its entirety.

- NICE Justice does not charge based on the quantity of data stored. Pricing is based on the number of unique cases active in the system. Nice Justice provides unlimited Storage of digital evidence for the SAO8's unique needs and retention periods. This replaces current server storage and redundancy costs. NICE Justice does not duplicate storage costs already incurring for county and state entities.

Through discovery sessions with NICE Justice, SAO8 has identified challenges that go far beyond the ability of any other solutions to resolve. With NICE Justice, significant time and process improvements are realized through the transformation of highly manual tasks and processes into rapid, automated, auditable workflows, ultimately streamlining processing of digital evidence from our LEO agencies and subsequent discovery efforts to the Defense and the Courts