

NEWS RELEASE

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April 13, 2009

Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center director one of 34 experts to present training this week at *Microsoft Public Safety Symposium*

International symposium to be held April 14-16 at Microsoft Worldwide Headquarters in Redmond, Washington

(Montgomery, Ala.) - Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center (ACJIC) Director Maury Mitchell has been selected by Microsoft to be a speaker at the inaugural *Microsoft Worldwide Public Safety Symposium*. One of 34 international experts presenting trainings at the international symposium, Mitchell will present a session on Thurs., April 16 on ***The CONNECT Project: Interstate Information Sharing*** to strategic and operational stakeholders from all over the world responsible for homeland or internal security, crisis & disaster management, law enforcement and criminal justice.

Designed to facilitate collaboration and information sharing, and to showcase international success stories and to build common and flexible strategies to address present and future priorities, the symposium is scheduled to be held April 14-16 at the Microsoft Worldwide Headquarters in Redmond, Washington.

“This is a great opportunity for Alabama to showcase its leadership in area of information sharing for our nation,” Mitchell said. “What an honor it is to be selected to represent Alabama in this international forum.”

Mitchell’s session is designed to assist criminal justice leaders with e-justice strategies to enable automated, streamlined and integrated case and records management systems to deliver significant improvements to both single agencies and the overall criminal justice system. The National CONNECT Project is an initiative spearheaded by Mitchell to establish the next generation method of interstate information sharing for criminal justice and public safety.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, in partnership with the National Criminal Justice Association and the National Governor’s Association, CONNECT allows law enforcement officers to use their own native

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computer systems to access rich information, such as state corrections records and driver license photos, from any contributing state through a complex and secure computing architecture. Currently in its pilot stage, the CONNECT project includes data from Alabama, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming.

Mitchell became director of ACJIC, the state technology agency primarily responsible for providing timely mission-critical data services to criminal justice agencies, in December 2003. He also serves as the national board chairman of the *Justice Information Sharing Practitioners (JISP)*, a U.S. Department of Justice-funded organization which provides peer network for justice technology professional and represents the practitioner community in national policy forums.

For more information on the Microsoft Symposium, visit www.mspublicsafetysymposium.com.

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