

Criminal and Infraction Public Records Search (CIPRS) Fact Sheet

- Criminal and Infraction Public Records Search (CIPRS) is a new search tool that is part of the larger initiative to modernize the North Carolina court system. The application delivers a modern, intuitive, and user-friendly public records access experience.
- CIPRS is user friendly and intuitive because it provides the public with a search experience consistent with what they're used to in other browser-based tools.
- CIPRS provides summary and in-depth case information in easy to read screens and reports. Users can email case reports at no cost.
- The Case Details view contains all the information – up to 377 fields – shown in the legacy system. CIPRS includes all data available in ACIS.
- Criminal and infraction cases cover infractions, misdemeanors, and felonies. Cases range from minor traffic violations to serious crimes, with details like warrants for arrest, orders for arrest, citations, criminal summonses, and magistrate orders.
- Currently, more than 47 million records are in the system (roughly 42.7 million criminal cases and 4.5 million infraction cases). Other records are added daily as they are processed.
- CIPRS was designed with the public in mind and is available to everyone on public access terminals in county courthouses.
- Use of CIPRS is already growing steadily, and as awareness of CIPRS increases among the general public, we expect use and users to expand significantly. Already in Wake County, use of CIPRS has increased 89% from October 2015 through January 2016.
- Use of the legacy system was primarily by professionals in the media and legal fields, with common uses being criminal background checks, checking on the status of court cases, or historical research. With CIPRS' user-friendly interface, users and uses of the system will greatly expand and diversify.
- The total cost for CIPRS was \$1,117,000, with \$1,034,000 for development and \$83,000 for statewide implementation.

- NCAOC provides information technology to a wide user base across the state. The development and implementation of CIPRS was dependent on matching available resources with appropriate, sometimes competing priorities.
- The cost and time required to make CIPRS accessible on the Internet is cost prohibitive at this time. The scope of the initial CIPRS project was to upgrade the public access terminals in the criminal clerks' offices across the state. The NCAOC is able to provide this service to judicial staff and at public terminals using the existing infrastructure and computing capacity. In the future, and as financial resources allow, online availability will be reassessed.
- CIPRS took 14 months to develop and began the statewide rollout in November 2015. The pilot phase from April 2015 to the start of the statewide rollout included four counties: Forsyth, Moore, Wake, and Wilkes. CIPRS is available in all 100 counties statewide as of March 2016. In the future, the NCAOC hopes to make CIPRS available to some other state and local agencies.



About North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts

The North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC) is the administrative agency for the North Carolina Judicial Branch, providing administrative services to help the North Carolina court system operate more efficiently and effectively, taking into account each courthouse's diverse needs, caseloads, and available resources. Among the many programs and services that it provides to courts statewide, NCAOC uses technology to improve the delivery of services to the public and to provide greater and more convenient access to court personnel.