Regional Information Sharing Systems® (RISS)

RISS COLLABORATION WEBSITES

Working Together To Enhance Collaboration

A Proven Resource for Law Enforcement

RISS

WSIN · RMIN · MOCIC · ROCIC · MAGLOCLEN · NESPIN

What is a RISS Collaboration Website?

In addition to the many online resources available to RISSNET users, RISS offers its partners the ability to establish secure, full-function collaboration websites on a nationwide, regional, local, or team level. These secure collaboration sites are hosted by RISS on RISSNET, in coordination with the in-region RISS Center, using the many built-in features of WordPress and HumHub. They are available, as approved by the in-region RISS Center Director, to any RISS law enforcement partner or prospective partner, regardless of RISS membership, who has a legitimate need for this service. Currently, there are dozens of established collaboration websites, and the number continues to increase.

Examples include:

» Southwest Missouri Investigators Group
» Vehicle Theft Investigators
» Rocky Mountain Regional Integration and Coordination

Who can establish a RISS Collaboration Website?

RISS offers RISS Collaboration Websites to nonprofit law enforcement associations, governmental organizations, and groups that meet one of the following eligibility criteria:
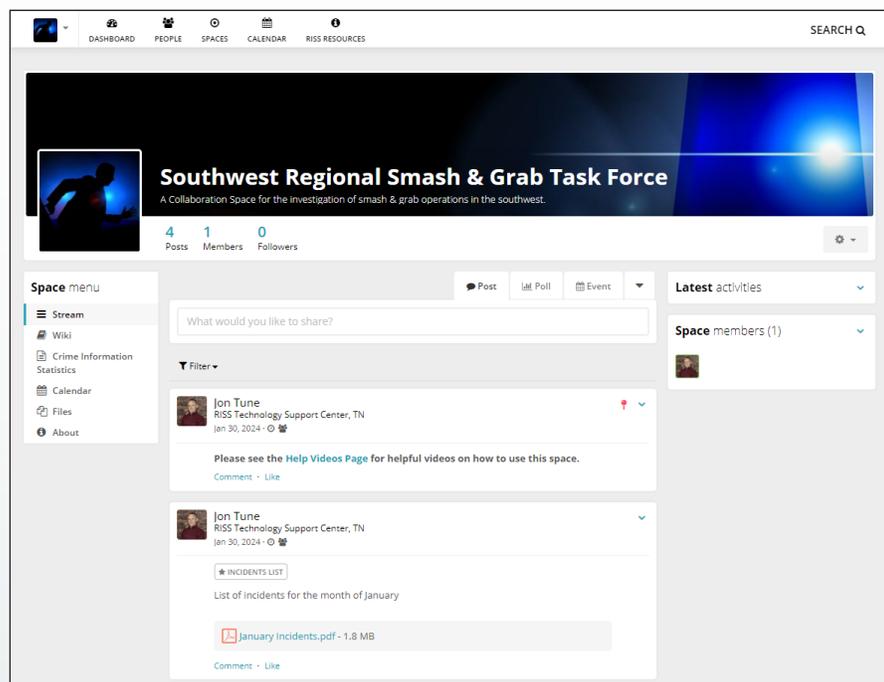
» Law enforcement organizations created with the express purpose of sharing intelligence information and furthering communication among law enforcement in a secure environment.
» Other organizations deemed appropriate by the in-region RISS Center Director or the RISS National Policy Group, as appropriate.

Eligible groups may not be political, religious, or social in nature.

What purposes are served by establishing a RISS Collaboration Website?

Many diverse organizations and associations use RISS Collaboration Websites. These partners collaborate and share information related to law enforcement and public safety. Examples of purposes served by RISS Collaboration Websites include:

» Sharing information and investigative techniques to address burglary and fraudulent check-cashing crimes across multiple jurisdictions.
» Providing a secure collaboration environment for exchanging information related to marijuana eradication.
» Hosting regional and state gang investigation association websites.
» Identifying, investigating, and prosecuting scrap metal theft cases.
» Increasing information sharing between criminal justice agencies and fusion centers.

Who can benefit from using RISS Collaboration Websites?

The RISS Collaboration Websites can be tailored to each group's needs. For example, small groups may collaborate on a specific crime type or share information on a single investigation that is multijurisdictional. Typically, these private group sites are utilized to collect, organize, and share information, intelligence, and even evidence among members. Larger groups may create collaboration sites for different law enforcement areas of concern or even specific topics that might be found in jurisdictions across the country. RISS Collaboration Websites can be used by law enforcement officers in many specialties including:

» Crime analysts
» Organized retail crime investigators
» Theft investigators
» Healthcare fraud investigators
» Human trafficking investigators
» Various other crime-specific investigators

A RISS Collaboration Website offers a communication stream for member comments, a calendar feature for creating events relating to the group's activity, such as meetings or conferences, and a directory for uploading files pertaining to the investigation. Other available features include polls, wikis, and page customizations. RISS Collaboration Websites are inherently responsive and are available for use on any size of platform from desktops and laptops to tablets and smartphones.

Who is responsible for establishing the RISS Collaboration Website?

The effective use of the RISS Collaboration Websites depends upon the existence of a close working relationship between the partner organization and RISS staff. Each party has specific responsibilities in this partnership. RISS provides the secure infrastructure, initial design assistance, and disaster recovery for each hosted website. The specific services provided by RISS are described below.

» RISS Collaboration Websites are created by staff at the in-region RISS Center in conjunction with the RISS Technology Support Center (RTSC) and in consultation with the partner for which the site will be created. RISS will present available collaboration tools and website template layouts.
» Based on the information provided by the partner to the in-region RISS Center, the in-region RISS Center will create

the website and provide secure access to the administrative portion of the site to those persons identified by the partner as site administrators.
» The RISS logo, in-region RISS Center logo, and applicable disclaimer are required on each site. The in-region RISS Center will collaborate with the site administrator on choosing appropriate features for the site template.
» To help ensure consistent use of the RISS Collaboration Websites across all partner instances, the sponsoring RISS Center will provide initial training and reference material to the site administrators that will enable them to:
  » Manage users.
  » Monitor and manage document repositories.
  » Monitor discussion forums.

How Secure are the RISS Collaboration Websites?

An important feature of every RISS Collaboration Website is site integrity. Important aspects of site integrity are security and resilience. Sites are protected within the RISSNET infrastructure. Site access is controlled by RISSNET account sign-in and permissions.

How do I request a new RISS Collaboration Website be established?

To request a new RISS Collaboration Website, an authorized user can navigate to the RISS Collaboration Website Request Form (https://forms.riss.net/riss-collaboration-website/). You can also contact your in-region RISS Center for more information. Access to these websites is only for officers with approved RISSNET accounts and logon permissions.

About RISS

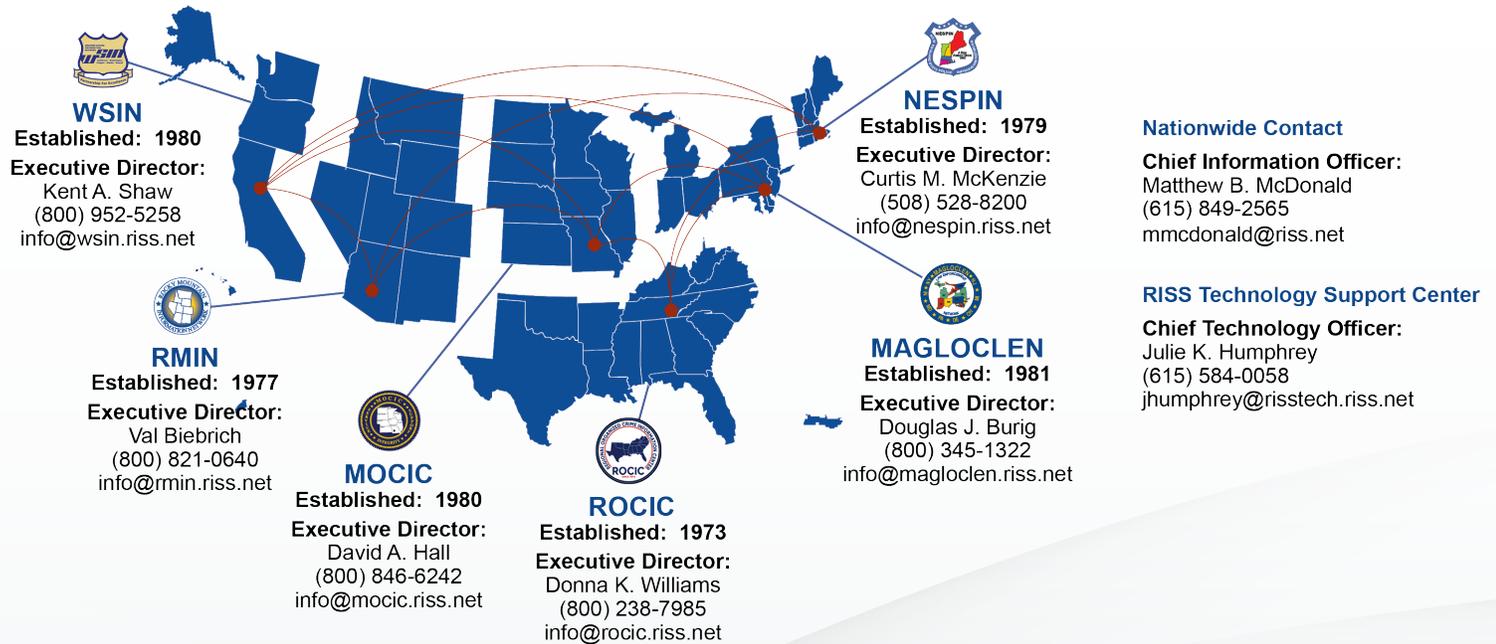RISS is a proven, trusted, and evidence-based program that supports the needs of thousands of local, state, federal, and tribal criminal justice and public safety professionals while helping advance the nation's criminal justice strategy. RISS is composed of six regional centers and the RTSC. RISS focuses on three priorities: investigative case support; secure information and intelligence sharing; and officer safety, deconfliction, and law enforcement wellness. RISS services and resources impact investigative efforts and operations daily. This is evident in the hundreds of shared success stories agencies and officers submit to RISS each year. To read these, as well as access information regarding statistics and quotes from each state visit www.riss.net/Impact.

RISS offers full-service delivery, from the beginning of an investigation to the ultimate prosecution and conviction of criminals. An officer can simultaneously query multiple intelligence databases, retrieve information from investigative systems, obtain assistance from intelligence research staff, borrow equipment, receive training, and use analytical resources to help prosecute criminals. RISS is congressionally funded and administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), through grant awards. BJA provides funding oversight and program management for the RISS Program.

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