



ARIZONA



RISS IMPACT IN FY2025

The **Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program**

assists local, state, federal, and tribal criminal justice partners by providing adaptive solutions and services that facilitate information sharing, support criminal investigations, and promote officer safety and wellness.

The Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN), one of the six RISS Centers, began providing services to its regional member agencies in 1977. The RMIN region consists of:

- Arizona
- Colorado
- Idaho
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- Utah
- Wyoming
- Three Canadian Provinces

More than 11,150 criminal justice agencies benefit from RISS services.



174

Member Agencies



58

Analytical Cases
Opened



47

Digital Forensic
Cases Opened



880

Requests for
Intelligence
Research



13,753

RISS Officer Safety
Event Deconfliction
System (RISSafe)
Submissions



24,755

Sworn Personnel
Served



1,007

Analytical Products
Developed



7,188

Digital Forensic
Products Developed



13,283

Intelligence
Database Records
Available



2,835

RISSafe Conflicts
Identified and
Resolved

RMIN EXECUTIVE POLICY BOARD

In addition to federal monitoring, RMIN is governed by a policy board composed of one state and one local representative from each member state. In Arizona, these board positions are held by the following RMIN members:

Director Jeffrey Glover
Arizona Department of Public Safety

Sheriff David Rhodes
Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

www.riss.net/impact



Examples of Shared Successes in **Arizona**

Homicide: The Phoenix Police Department requested RMIN analytical support in a drive-by shooting case that ended in a fatality. The deceased victim and several others were standing outside a residence when a white sedan with two passengers drove by and started shooting. Officers processing the scene found a .45-caliber casing and a 7.62 x 39mm casing, as well as bullet strikes on the walls and sidewalk curbs. Officers also acquired security footage from a nearby gas station that showed the suspect vehicle shortly before the shooting, with one of the occupants appearing to carry a rifle. From the footage, officers were able to identify the driver of the car, and another rifle casing was found in the vehicle. RMIN analytical staff created cell site maps to show the suspects' location during the shooting. The analyst also scoured social media records and created a link chart to aid in identifying the second shooter. They created more than two dozen maps and identified seven persons of interest to the investigation. The analyst was also set to testify in court about their work, but the driver of the car pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of reckless manslaughter.

Assault: The Glendale Police Department (GPD) requested RMIN forensic audio/video analysis in an assault case involving a criminal motorcycle gang. Six members of the gang corralled a small group of sport bikers into a turn lane and prevented them from leaving. After one of the bikers stood up from his motorcycle, the criminal gang members—both full members and prospects—assaulted him. The victim had a 360-degree camera recording the incident. The RMIN digital forensics staff processed the video and clarified the sections showing the gang members, which enabled the GPD police officers to identify five of the attacking gang members. Four of the suspects were arrested, and officers recovered one firearm, valued at \$400. One of the arrested gang members was convicted of aggravated assault and was sentenced to 13½ years in prison.

Burglary: The Surprise Police Department (SPD) requested assistance from the RMIN analytical staff in a case of rampant burglary. The suspect burglarized homes in several neighborhoods under construction and stole circuit breakers. The damage done by the thefts was estimated to be \$47,490. As part of the investigation, the SPD acquired call detail and geolocation records for the dates of interest. RMIN was asked to assist with mapping the suspect's location, along with creating a communication timeline to show where the suspect was during the dates of interest. With the sheer amount of evidence, the RMIN analyst was able to create the communication timeline and match it with 28 geolocation graphics highlighting the areas the suspect was in, which matched the neighborhoods that had been burglarized. The RMIN analyst spent 400 hours working on the case, which enabled the SPD to investigate other leads in the meantime. This information was then given to prosecutors, who secured a plea deal in which the suspect pleaded guilty to two counts of second-degree burglary. The suspect was sentenced to 2½ years in prison.

Human Trafficking: The Yavapai County Sheriff's Office requested RMIN intelligence research assistance in an operation against human trafficking. The operation coincided with a rodeo event, as the county expected a large influx of tourists. While the sheriff's office was unable to apprehend any suspects during the operation, RMIN's analysts contributed greatly to the operation and provided excellent work ethic and professionalism.

Offenses Against Minor: The Apache Junction Police Department requested assistance from the RMIN intelligence research staff in an operation targeting online sexual predators. The operation was a collaboration between several federal, state, and local agencies that took place over 2 days. RMIN sent two analysts to assist with identifying the suspects. By using facial recognition software, potential matches on several suspects were provided. The tentative results were then compared to several databases before the information was provided to officers in the field. As a result of the multiagency cooperation, 14 suspects were arrested on 39 felony charges.

Fraud: An officer with the Queen Creek Police Department remotely queried RISSIntel after conducting a traffic stop. Searching multiple variations of a name and date of birth, Queen Creek officers were able to identify their subject as a known fraudster wanted out of Las Vegas, Nevada, and who also had an active warrant from Nevada for absconding from parole. Police realized that the subject was using multiple aliases in an attempt to conceal his identity. The use of RISSIntel facilitated communication between both agencies and contributed to the arrest of the individual for felony probation warrants.



Homicide: The Phoenix Police Department (PPD) requested assistance from the RMIN analytical staff in a cold case homicide. The incident involved two suspects entering an apartment and shooting both inhabitants before fleeing in a white sport utility vehicle. While responding to the scene, PPD officers noticed the suspect vehicle and followed it to a group of townhomes. The people inside jumped out; they matched the description of the suspects given by witnesses at the original scene, with one still holding a handgun. While fleeing, the suspect holding the handgun ran out of his slippers and dropped his cell phone. The other suspect left his phone inside the vehicle. The PPD requested RMIN's assistance with the investigation. The RMIN analyst created a presentation with maps of several key areas, such as the crime scene, where the suspects fled from their vehicle, and their route of travel during the pursuit. They also created an aerial map of the townhouses and the abandoned vehicle location where the PPD recovered a handgun. This analysis took 160 hours to complete. One suspect pleaded guilty to lower charges and was sentenced to 3 years of probation.

Armed Robbery: The Phoenix Police Department requested RMIN analytical assistance in an armed robbery case. Police were aware of a series of armed robberies involving three suspects. They were able to determine one suspect connected to the first three robberies but could not confirm the involvement of the other two. A fourth robbery involved two suspects who used online marketplaces to lure a victim under the pretense of purchasing a gaming console. The suspects' suspicious behavior during an initial meeting prompted the victim to arm himself before a second meeting. When they met again, the suspect brandished a firearm, prompting the victim to draw his own weapon. A struggle followed, and the suspects fled the scene. During the investigation, officers thought these two suspects might also be involved in the first three robberies. RMIN was tasked with determining whether these suspects were involved in all four robberies. The RMIN analyst quickly reviewed social media and phone records. There was little to no evidence of the two suspects' involvement with the first three robberies, but there was evidence of their involvement in the fourth robbery. The analyst created a 68-slide PowerPoint presentation, which included cell maps and communication timelines to illustrate how the suspects interacted with each other leading up to the robbery. The analysis helped demonstrate that one suspect was acting under the direction of the other. The assistance provided by RMIN enabled prosecutors to secure a guilty plea from the primary suspect for attempted armed robbery with a deadly weapon, and he was sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Homicide: The Snowflake-Taylor Police Department requested RMIN analytical assistance in a double homicide case. Police learned of two people who were murdered in their home and developed two investigative leads early in their investigation. During the investigation, officers collected data from the suspects' phones. They requested RMIN assistance in analyzing the phone information to establish communication timelines, link charts, and the location of the suspects around the time of the murders. An analysis was needed in an expedited manner, as officers learned that one suspect was killed by police in another state and the other was attempting to flee the country and obtain citizenship from Mexico. The RMIN analyst created two communication timelines and 14 cell site and round trip time location maps for the phones associated with the suspects. This assistance was invaluable to officers, as it enabled them to focus their attention on other parts of the investigation and reinforced the limited resources available within the agency.

Homicide: The Phoenix Police Department requested RMIN analytical support with a series of armed robberies that ultimately resulted in a homicide. The investigation was initiated following a National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) lead related to one of the robberies. One of the suspects was identified and subsequently arrested. During an interview, the individual admitted to involvement in the robbery and voluntarily provided access to their social media accounts. The accounts assisted in identifying additional suspects and linking them to other related robberies. The group had previously been victims of an armed robbery and began targeting the individuals responsible. The group identified two locations associated with the suspect responsible for the armed robbery. The group went to both locations and discharged firearms at each, with the second shooting resulting in the death of an unrelated individual. RMIN was requested to develop a timeline of the events and communications between the suspects, as well as a link chart showing how each person was involved in the series of crimes leading up to the homicide. Due to the large amount of evidence, the RMIN analyst spent 300 hours on the case creating an event timeline, 3 link charts, 22 communication timelines, and an analytical report summarizing the findings. Ten of the suspects were arrested and charged with crimes from attempting to commit second-degree intentional homicide to disorderly conduct with weapons. All 10 pleaded guilty and were sentenced to a combined 93 years and 6 months, with the average sentence being 7 years.



Assault: The Mesa Police Department requested RMIN analytical assistance with an assault case involving food tampering at a grocery store. A man had entered the grocery store, removed a can of bug spray from the shelf, and proceeded to the produce section, where he sprayed the chemical on both produce and prepared food items, including rotisserie chickens. The incident was recorded and posted by the man on his social media accounts. Police investigators located the videos online and subsequently contacted the man, who turned himself in and admitted to the crime during an interview. RMIN was tasked with conducting a comprehensive review of the suspect's social media activity and phone records, as well as organizing other relevant case data. Over the course of 170 hours, the analyst utilized specialized software to extract and analyze data from the suspect's phone. Open source intelligence methods were also employed to verify and expand upon the findings. The analysis revealed a consistent pattern of behavior: the man regularly produced and shared prank videos online, many of which focused on controversial or disruptive acts designed to generate income and attention. The results of the analysis culminated in a 70-slide presentation, which included 14 location maps illustrating the man's movements during key social media-related events. An 18-page report was also created to summarize the analytical findings. The compiled information was shared with the prosecution, which used it to reach a plea agreement. The man pleaded guilty to adding a poison or harmful substance to food and was sentenced to 1 year in prison, followed by 3 years of probation.

Burglary: The Surprise Police Department requested RMIN intelligence research in a burglary case. Over the span of 3 years, the suspect in the case burglarized lockers in gyms and stole credit cards and other items. Police requested assistance in identifying the suspect and sent photos to RMIN. The analyst used the photos to perform a facial recognition search and found a possible match of the suspect. The analyst also searched databases to find additional information on the possible match before sending all of it back to the officer. The officer confirmed that the possible match was, in fact, their suspect and was able to use this information to make an arrest. The suspect was recently arraigned on charges of burglary and theft due in part to RMIN's assistance.

Crimes Against Children: The Avondale Police Department, as lead agency in a collaborative operation of several Arizona agencies, requested RMIN intelligence research assistance in a 2-day operation fighting crimes against children. RMIN sent two analysts to aid in providing potential identities and leads for officers to use before making arrests. This assistance included facial recognition and social media searches to verify and match information to the suspects. This assistance led to the successful completion of the operation, as the information provided by RMIN's analysts enabled four arrests.

Other: RMIN intelligence research staff noticed that the Tempe Police Department posted on a listed server that it was looking for a subject. A RMIN intelligence research staff member noticed this and found a hit on the subject in RISSIntel with a neighboring agency. The staff member then immediately reached out and placed both officers in contact with each other to assist their investigations.