



National Governors Association
444 North Capitol Street
Suite 267
Washington, D.C. 20001-1512

Phone (202) 624-5300
www.nga.org/center

September 12, 2007

Board of Directors
NGA Center

Edward G. Rendell
Governor of Pennsylvania
Center Chair
NGA Vice Chair

Mitch Daniels
Governor of Indiana

Ernie Fletcher
Governor of Kentucky

John Baldacci
Governor of Maine

Tim Pawlenty
Governor of Minnesota
NGA Chair

Raymond C. Scheppach
NGA Executive Director

John Thomasian
NGA Center for Best
Practices Director

TO ALL GOVERNORS:

I invite your state to apply to participate in a National Governors Association Center for Best Practices Policy Academy on *Utilizing the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) to Improve Justice Information Sharing*. This technical policy academy will help state policymakers conduct a pilot project that enables existing justice information systems to communicate with each other through the use of NIEM 2.0 data standards. State teams will have the opportunity to learn about current research and promising state practices from peers in other states. They will also have access to a national faculty of government officials, researchers, and experts.

Five states will be selected to participate in this policy academy, which will begin November 1, 2007. These state teams will:

- Participate in two two-day policy academy workshops.
- Receive customized, in-state technical assistance.
- Receive up to \$50,000 to support their efforts based on the scope of work submitted with their application.

How to Apply

Application guidelines for the *Utilizing the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) to Improve Justice Information Sharing* are attached. **Proposals are due by 5:00 pm EST, October 12, 2007.** If you have any questions, please contact Erin Lee at the NGA Center for Best Practices at 202/624-5392 or via email at elee@nga.org, or Will H. Ware at 202-624-5311 or via email at wware@nga.org.

Sincerely,

John Thomasian
Director, NGA Center for Best Practices

Enclosure: Application Guidelines