



Ultimate Access for Law Enforcement

PREPARATION

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Preparation

- ▶ Before you build
 - ▶ KNOW the purpose of the database
 - ▶ KNOW your data sources
 - ▶ KNOW how to get to the end
- ▶ Basically, plan for the END GAME

Purpose

- ▶ Data collection?
 - ▶ Contact lists, record keeping (RMS and CAD)
- ▶ Intelligence gathering?
 - ▶ Collection of who, what, when, where, how, and possibly why
- ▶ Hub of various sources?
 - ▶ Spreadsheet imports, ODBC connections, etc pooled into a single space to query and report data
- ▶ Full base of operations?
 - ▶ Is it all of the above...? Most likely.

Data Sources

- ▶ Spreadsheets
- ▶ Other databases
- ▶ ODBC (Open DataBase Connectivity)
- ▶ Email correspondence
- ▶ Others?

Direction/End Game

- ▶ Plan the path for your data
- ▶ Data should be in the smallest chunks possible
 - ▶ Example: Names should be broken down into first, middle, last, and suffix (such as JR or SR or IV)
 - ▶ Example: Addresses should be broken into numeric, street name, street suffix, apt/suite number, etc.
 - ▶ All of these can later be merged into easier to read information but are difficult to find and pull out data if they are already merged into one field
- ▶ Data should be broken into appropriate tables
 - ▶ Example: Data related to people should be in its own table (address, phone number, physical descriptors, etc). Vehicle data should be stored in a separate table. If we wish to show vehicles associated with people, we would make another table so that we can forge the many to many relationship that would follow (more on this later)>

Recap

- ▶ Plan, then execute
- ▶ There are many data sources that can be added to your database
- ▶ Don't worry, data can be added along the way