



CASE STUDY


**Salt Lake County,
UT Sheriff's Office**

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BACKGROUND

The mission of the Salt Lake County, UT Sheriff's Office Processing Division is to provide services vital to the core of the Jail's primary functions - the intake and release of prisoners and their management while housed in the facility. They also extend this support to their criminal justice partners across the County and State, including both public and private attorneys, law enforcement agencies at all levels, and a wide variety of judicial venues.

The Intake Unit is responsible for receiving prisoners brought into the Jail by the various police authorities in Salt Lake County. The process begins with a medical pre-screening conducted by a registered nurse. If the prisoner is medically cleared, a Processing clerk conducts a criminal history check to verify the prisoner's identity and to serve any outstanding warrants. The prisoner's personal property is removed and secured in a sealed bag for safe keeping. A rub search is conducted on the prisoner in order to make sure all property is accounted for and no contraband enters the Jail.

Once a prisoner enters the booking area, a Corrections Specialist Clerk will verify the prisoner's personal information and add the charges and /or warrants to the prisoner file. The prisoner is then photographed, fingerprinted, and a DNA sample is obtained, if necessary. The prisoner also meets with Pre-Trial Services personnel where they are informed of their charges and what they need to do to be released from Jail. Prisoners are given ample opportunity to contact family members, attorneys, and bonding agencies to arrange for their release from Jail.

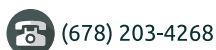
CHALLENGE

Previously, for those prisoners who Salt Lake County knew were chronic abusers of the identification process and were continually booked in using a new name each time, they maintained a series of notebooks containing snapshots to be used for visual comparison. These offenders were well known to staff but often it was difficult to recall under which names they had been booked previously.

SOLUTION

Salt Lake County now uses fingerprint biometric prisoner identification that is integrated into Global Tel Link's DSI Offender Management System (DSI OMS). From intake to release, information on aspects of an inmate's incarcerations are maintained - including initial intake, charges, sentencing, property, housing, scheduling, and temporary release. For increased security, Salt Lake County utilizes the DSI OMS digital fingerprinting to positively identify inmates, increasing accuracy in inmate movement, housing, release, and other areas.

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Salt Lake County currently uses one reader in Intake near their mug shot capture station and enrolls/checks prints at the same time for efficiency. They have two more at their Releasing station for use during that process. They have also deployed five mobile units with their Metro Gang Unit for use in making on the spot identification by officers in the field while at the scene of an incident.

BENEFITS

One of the goals was to improve security by ensuring more positive identification for all incoming and outgoing prisoners. By enrolling all incoming prisoners and checking their prints again at the time of release, they can ensure that the same person coming in under that name was the same person going out. At the same time, it has prevented some prisoners from successfully being booked using the identity of another, usually a close relative, because the prints simply don't match what is already in the system.

With over 60,000 prisoners enrolled in Salt Lake County's DSI OMS using M2SYS' patent pending Bio- PlugIn™ fingerprint recognition technology, the system has helped immensely in reducing the time involved in making a positive identification. They have saved a considerable amount of time that was previously spent attempting to identify those incoming prisoners who would deliberately conceal their true identity to try to avoid being charged with additional offenses or have existing warrants served upon them.

Likewise, by double-checking identity at the time of release, Salt Lake County no longer needs to expend resources trying to locate someone erroneously released due to a failure to make a positive ID before release. The small amount of time spent enrolling and checking pales in comparison to the amount of time spent correcting identification or releasing errors.

FUTURE

Salt Lake County plans to continue enrolling prisoners in the system as is currently the practice and expanding the use of readers to additional vehicles for law enforcement who access the jail management system remotely and can verify identification from their vehicle.

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