

# USE CASE: LOCAL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## CJIS Compliance with FIPS 140-2 Certified Technology

### SITUATION ANALYSIS

A local County Sheriff's office located in Maryland was initially contacted by the Certes Network inside sales team in order to discuss Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) data security compliance. These CJIS requirements are mandated for all U.S. local, state and federal agencies in criminal justice and law enforcement. CJIS comprises the largest division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The FBI Security Policy states that organizations under this mandate must use multi-factor authentication as a key policy area on their CJIS checklist along with data encryption. Encrypting files and emails add one more layer of complexity for criminals trying to gain access to criminal justice information (CJI) and other vital data. The compliance also governs proper ways to handle the challenges of sending email that won't compromise CJI.

The Certes inside sales team discovered over a number of months of ongoing correspondence that the County Sheriff's office recently failed their CJIS Audit due to the transmission of unencrypted data outside of their network boundaries. In addition, any data transmitted outside of their network boundaries must also be encrypted using FIPS 140-2 validated technology.

The County Sheriff's office recognized that it was not in compliance with CJIS mandates and had been evaluating their options since mid-2018.

However, budget constraints caused a delay in implementing a solution and it wasn't until early 2019 that they entered into serious discussions with Certes Networks.

Through ongoing teleconferences, and a live demo of the Certes Layer 4 solution, the County Sheriff's office began to understand how they could deploy an encryption management solution that would immediately solve their problems.

### CHALLENGE

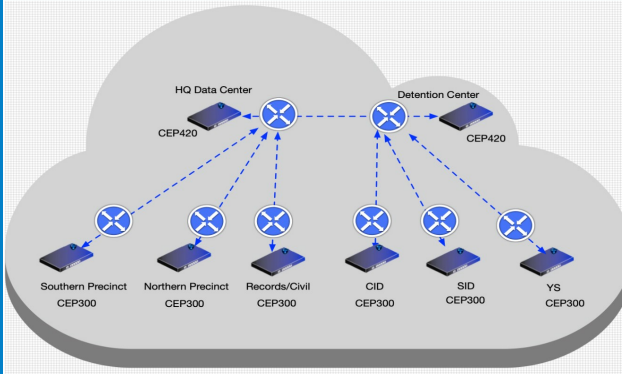
The challenge facing the County Sheriff's office is how to safely transmit CJIS data from the HQ Data Center to two precincts, the Records Department as well as to/from a Detention Center which also transmitted data to three independent, satellite locations that were separate from the HQ Data Center.

Deploying and maintaining encryption can be time consuming, complex and costly. The local County Sheriff's office was searching for a simple and uncomplicated encryption management solution that would not burden their staff, resources or budget. More importantly, the need to be CJIS compliant was of paramount importance.

## SOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

Certes Networks was required to respond to a three-bid RFP process with the winning bid to be chosen at an upcoming County board meeting. It was important that we highlight our unique Layer 4 encryption solution, which we believed would set us apart from the other bidders and help us to win the contract.

### FIPS 140-2 COMPLIANCE CONFIGURATION



## THE SOLUTION

Certes Networks will provide the FIPS 140-2 validated encryption technology necessary to fulfill the CJIS requirement to encrypt data transmitted "outside the boundary." Certes Enforcement Point (CEP) appliances, along with our CryptoFlow® Net Creator (CFNC) software ensures, based on defined policies, that data is transmitted only to the centers and users that need to see the data, including those outside of the County Sheriff's network boundaries.

## THE RESULT

Certes Networks is able to provide a simple, scalable and uncomplicated encryption solution through their Layer 4 technology, which includes placing Certes Enforcement Point (CEP) appliances between Data Centers. This technology can be employed without having to disrupt, move or replace the County Sheriff's current network infrastructure.

As a result of implementing the FIPS 140-2 validated equipment and the Certes Networks Layer 4 solution, the County Sheriff's office will meet their compliance objectives for the next audit cycle. Moreover, the policies and keys deployed through CFNC, will strengthen the County's security posture and their compliance with the CJIS requirements.



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We offer an encryption solution that is simple, scalable and uncomplicated.