Centralized Firearm Background Checks for Washington State

Current Process - Decentralized State



In the 2020 legislative session, a bill was passed laying the groundwork for Washington State to become a centralized point of contact state for all background checks being completed for firearms. The Washington State Patrol (WSP) was named the agency that would conduct all of those checks.

The WSP built an Implementation Plan - https://www.wsp.wa.gov/legislative-reports. The plan was published to the legislature in December 2020. The plan is a roadmap for the technology needed for the background checks and how to put together a new division within the WSP.

KEY DATES

January 2021	Hired a Project Manager, Technical Architect and Quality Assurance personnel for the
	technology need and building a new division.
March 2021	Start the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to find a technology vendor.
September 2021	Have a contract in place with the top technology vendor building the required system.
September 2021 –	
March 2023	Technology vendor will build the required system.
2022 - 2023	Testing with Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Health Care Authority (HCA),
	Department of Licensing (DOL) and Federal Firearm License (FFL) dealers.
July 2023	Soft Launch of the system with a few FFL's at a time.
January 2024	Statewide implementation of the system.

Future Process - Centralized State

