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# **The use of information technology in electronic investigation**

**Public Prosecution – Dubai Experience**

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# The nature of work of the public prosecution in the United Arab Emirates



- The Public Prosecution – Dubai was instituted in 1992
- The Public Prosecution is considered a part of the Judicial Authority
- Members of the Public Prosecution enjoy judicial immunity
- The Public Prosecution exercises the powers of investigation and indictment in all cases
- Members of the Public Prosecution must use the services of a clerk who writes down the complete investigation



## Stages of using electronic investigation in Public Prosecution - Dubai



Where were we?  
Where are we now?  
Our future vision

## Before the year 2000

- Technology was used in the Public Prosecution, but only in the database
- Writing down investigations was done manually
- Spelling mistakes
- Lack of clarity
- Difficulty of acquiring certain information
- Difficulty of following up with case proceedings



## After the year 2000

- Implementing the electronic system in investigations
- Storing all investigations and resolutions in the electronic system





## Results of using electronic investigation



## 1. Speedy investigations, through:

- The availability of basic data to public prosecutors at the beginning of the investigation
- The availability of a system and forms that help the public prosecutors in their investigations, especially in simple cases that are similar in facts and circumstances
- Few mistakes, clear investigations
- The average timeframe for investigations reached 7 days per case.

## **2. A database that includes everything related to the case:**

- Storing all investigations in the system, which facilitates checking them any time
- Listing all the resolutions related to the case after every investigation
- Connecting all the requests related to the case in the system, which provides updates
- Connecting all outgoing and incoming communication related to the case within the system
- Enabling the chief prosecutor, who is supervising the public prosecutor, to view all investigations conducted by the prosecutor



### **3. Providing laws and legal rules within the system**

- Federal and local laws, which makes it easier for public prosecutors to view and search all the laws
- Latest legal rules
- All treaties and agreements that the country is signatory to



## 4. Viewing the software from outside the Public Prosecution building

- The possibility to view the software and the investigations from home or anywhere else
- Public prosecutors can study their cases and manage them via the system while at home
- Viewing the case and the latest related resolutions



## Electronic investigation initiatives



## Provision of laws over public prosecutors' iPhones

The Penal code (law) has been provided in an electronic copy to operate on the iPhone. The upload of the rest of the laws shall follow

## Provision of the Public Prosecution software on the iPhone

The Public Prosecution – Dubai will be providing the Public Prosecution software on the iPhone, through which public prosecutors can use the software from anywhere



## Implementation of the updated electronic investigation system early 2010

- The electronic system is currently being updated and tested. It includes applications that help public prosecutors in their e-investigations, such as:
  - Multi-options for using the system
  - Possibility of providing e-signatures for investigations
  - Directly connecting issued resolutions to investigations
  - Possibility of including indictment list in the system
  - Possibility of writing journals in the system
- If the endorsement of the Chief Prosecutor to the public prosecutor's action is required, the file is transferred to the Chief Prosecutor electronically, and is also endorsed electronically.



## Future vision

- Replacing paper files
- Referring files to the court via the electronic system



## Vision of the Public Prosecution

Enhancing the role of law in Dubai through  
world-class performance



**Thank you!**