Taylor County, TX

TANGIBLE RESULTS FOR ALL...
Evidence Automation has Tremendous Impact

Achieved goals and more...

- Significant Time Savings
- Effortless Evidence Entry/ Capture
- Powerful & Easy to Use Search Tools
- Purging in Seconds...
- Reliable and Secure Chain of Custody
- Unlimited Report Options Instantly
- Endless Customization Options
- Significant Benefits for Prosecutors, Officers and more...

THE TAYLOR COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PINPOINTED THE CHIEF BENEFITS OF AUTOMATING IT'S EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT, they included tremendous time savings and maximum productivity for every possible task. Such benefits translate to better accountability, security and integrity of evidence—all critical for this sheriff's office which has 30 patrol officers, ten of whom are in the narcotics division, and all involved with turning in evidence.

> " I had four times the volume of evidence normally processed and was done entering it into the software in just a fraction of the time it would have required using our older program. "

What has made all of this possible is the EvidenceOnQ software package which the sheriff's office acquired after years of wrestling with a more cumbersome evidence management program that was part of a comprehensive records management system. "It (the replaced system) was fairly easy to use, but very time consuming," said Hailey Wilder, evidence technician for Taylor County Sheriff's Office. Not long after Wilder had taken control of her agency's property room, one of the detectives brought in just over 100 evidence items. "It took me about three days to get all of the evidence entered into the older system," Wilder said.

Now, entering evidence into EvidenceOnQ is fast and effortless. For example, just days after the software was installed a huge amount of evidence had been seized. "We stopped a truck that had 7,000 pounds of marijuana on it, and there were 454 bundles," Wilder said. "The narcotics officer wanted me to tag each evidence item." Startled by this task, Wilder that morning called her EvidenceOnQ trainer who walked her through a few simple steps in the software for entering evidence. Consequently, "It was real quick entering the evidence items, and by lunchtime I was

done," Wilder said. "I had four times the volume of evidence normally processed (with the marijuana seizure) and was done entering it into the software in just a fraction of the time it would have required using our older program."

Data Entry Flexibility

Not only is the ability to enter evidence faster with EvidenceOnQ, but Taylor County Sheriff's property room can give any description to evidence items it desires, plus create new sections. "Before the new program, I had to use what was already in the older evidence system," Wilder said. "I could not add new sections. I could not customize at all."

One of the features of EvidenceOnQ that Wilder prizes most is the software's "clone" feature. When an evidence case record is created and the user has, say, three more items to add to the record, a click on the clone button in EvidenceOnQ transfers all of the additional evidence to the next page. "As you're entering each evidence item for one case record, you just change the item number and the description of that item," Wilder explains. "Everything else, such as the category, the officer, etc., stays the same."

> **EvidenceOnQ lets the user search any field to find what they need quickly...**

Simple Queries - Searching Made Easy

> **Now, I can run a monthly report in less than three minutes!**

Most manual evidence management systems do not allow adequate searches in fields. EvidenceOnQ lets the user search any field. "Let's say I have 25 fields," Wilder offers. In EvidenceOnQ, "you can put something into any one of those 25 fields. For example, if someone using the software wanted to know everything about someone with the last name of Samson, EvidenceOnQ will pull up every record with that last name. "You can do this with any point of reference---the case number, the evidence item number, or the date," Wilder said. This capability of the software proves particularly advantageous for Taylor County Sheriff's property room since most officers do not recall when a specific incident occurred, where it happened, or what the case number is.

Wide Range of Reports

Generating reports with the older evidence system once was the bane of Wilder's job. "Reports used to kill me," Wilder said. "It took me between a half day and entire day to run a monthly report with our old system." No longer.

"Now, I can run a monthly report in EvidenceOnQ in less than three minutes!" Reports are produced on monthly evidence intake, what evidence goes out, and any retention records that need to be reviewed each month.

Other Stakeholders Also Benefit

Prior to the adoption of EvidenceOnQ, Wilder remembers getting calls from the district attorney's officer, for example, asking about a certain case number and evidence associated with it, and wanting to visit the property room

to view it. "I'd have to tell them sometimes that I'll call them back once I find it," Wilder said. EvidenceOnQ has short-circuited this process, too. Now, Wilder happily reports, "I can tell them if they start heading to our evidence room I can have the evidence out for them when they arrive."

Purging Within Seconds

Purging evidence is a rigorous task for most property room personnel. Taylor County Sheriff's Office must retain evidence until the person with whom it's associated is paroled or deceased. When evidence finally qualifies to be destroyed, Wilder says her evidence room places it in a certain location. If there was a lot of evidence awaiting destruction under the old evidence management system, Wilder could spend up to a full day removing each evidence item from the program. With EvidenceOnQ, she says it takes only a matter of seconds to, say, show 300 items destroyed or whatever has been done with them.

EvidenceOnQ has significantly reduced the time it takes to receive, enter, process and track evidence while making these steps far easier and rapid compared to Taylor County Sheriff's older evidence management system. What has helped make the software such a vital tool is FileOnQ, Inc.'s commitment to improving EvidenceOnQ, according to Wilder. "FileOnQ continually takes ideas from users on how to improve its software," Wilder said. "If they get enough requests for a particular change, they make this change and include it in the next upgrade." No wonder that Wilder sees such a vast improvement with evidence management with EvidenceOnQ in place.

> " FileOnQ continually takes ideas from users on how to improve its software. "

About the FileOnQ Inc. (Developers of EvidenceOnQ)

Formed in May 1996 as Integrated Software Solutions, we have specialized—from the beginning—in the development of products focused on lifecycle records management for the corporate, departmental, and workgroup user. For the past nine years, we have dedicated ourselves to powerful and customizable solutions for Law Enforcement to track and manage their property and evidence from the crime scene to the court room. Police and sheriff departments, district attorneys, and prosecutors value the ability to access, view, manage, and track evidence and associated documents, media instantly using a web browser. Allowing them to communicate and work together on cases and evidence like never before.

Agencies at the local, state, and federal level have successfully implemented our system to not only manage evidence but also officer equipment, assets, critical incident scenes, fleet vehicles, case management, and more. Agencies have discovered that what we offer is much more than a software system. It is a powerful platform with the tools needed to increase efficiencies throughout their entire jurisdiction.

May be reached at:
sales@fileonq.com - 1.800.603.6802

Website:
www.evidenceonq.com