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| NCSClogo2  The National Center for State Courts was supported by grant number **2001-LD-BX-0003**, awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Opinions or points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. | **Technology Services**  300 Newport Ave (23185)  PO Box 8798  Williamsburg, VA 23187-8798 |
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**Dependency Petition**

**Information Exchange Package Documentation (IEPD)**

**V 1.0**

July 8, 2008

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## Metadata

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| IEPD Creation Date | April 7, 2008 |
| IEPD Version | 1.0 |
| NIEM Version | 2.0 |
| Last Revision Date | April 7, 2008 |
| Maturity | Entry Level |
| Document Namespace | http://ncsc-childwelfare/1.0/doc/DependencyPetition |
| Extension Namespace | http://ncsc-childwelfare/1.0 |

Purpose:

This IEPD is part of a broader project being managed by the National Center for State Courts to develop a comprehensive set of data standards for exchanges involving juvenile abuse and neglect. This effort, collectively known as the Child Welfare Roadmap has identified a number of operational exchanges between the court and child welfare agencies. The primary objective of this project is to define and help facilitate implementation of information exchanges with the goal of improving overall performance and helping children achieve permanency. This can be accomplished by ensuring that all parties to a case have timely and accurate information to facilitate better decision making.

Sharing of data between courts and child welfare agencies requires an exchange protocol and data exchange standards. The NCSC has experience in developing national standards for the exchange of critical data that is independent of any specific operating system. Because this is a national effort based upon the Global Justice XML Data Model and the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), NCSC has obtained funding from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance to convene a meeting of the Data Exchange Working Group to extend the model to child welfare data. That meeting was held in NCSC’s Denver Office on October 23-24, 2007 and consisted of representatives from six states and the federal government.

At that meeting, the Working Group concluded that data exchange in the child welfare area was a necessary and worthwhile effort that should be expedited so that each state was not left to develop its own system. With data exchange standards in place, not only will it be easier for courts and child welfare agencies to exchange data elements required to generate performance measures for child abuse and neglect cases, but it will be easier for private vendors to produce software that will contain the data elements necessary to produce performance standards.

In order to expedite the work of data exchange, the Working Group created three interrelated committees:

1. Data Modeling Committee to do data mapping, definition and specification of the data exchanges. That committee has met by phone several times and face to face in Denver on February 20-21 to develop an inventory of operational exchanges and to set priorities among them. *Chair: Aaron Gorrell*
2. Implementation Committee will offer guidance to pilot jurisdictions and gather documentations that can be added to the data exchange repository. *Chair: Paul Embley*
3. Outreach Committee is charged with the goals listed first in the minutes, essentially a marking committee for data exchange to inform people of the importance of data exchange for operations and performance measures. *Chair: Gene Flango*

## Development Schedule

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date | Topic |
| October 23-24, 2007 | Exchange Modeling/Data Modeling |
| December 18, 2007 | Data Modeling Conference Call |
| January 3, 2008 | Data Modeling Conference Call |
| February 20-21, 2008 | Exchange Modeling |

## Participants

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name | Organization |
| Aaron Gorrell | Waterhole Software |
| Alicia Davis | Court Programs Manager,  Colorado State Court Administrator's Office |
| Bill Stanton | Consultant to the children’s Bureau |
| Bruce Hermes | Texas Office of Court Administration |
| Carl Reynolds | Director of the Office of Court Administration, Texas |
| Chad Cornelius | Colorado State Judiciary |
| David Baker | Division of State Systems/Children's Bureau. |
| Don Will | California Administrative Office of the Courts |
| Emily Cooke | Special Assistant for Court Improvement, Children’s Bureau, ACYF |
| Felice Hamilton | Project Coordinator  CIP Program, Oklahoma Administrative Office of the Courts |
| Gene Flango | Executive Director, Program Resource Development, NCSC |
| Joseph Castro | Children’s Bureau |
| Lynda Arnold | Director, National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology |
| Makeisha Davis | CIP Data Analyst Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts |
| Mark Hardin | Director, National Child Welfare Resource Center, ABA Center on Children and the Law |
| Nancy Miller | Director  Permanency Planning for Children Department National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges |
| Paul Bowen | Nevada Dept of Health & Human Services Child and Family Services |
| Paul Embley | Director, Court Technology, NCSC |
| Richard Van Duizend | Principal Court Management Consultant, NCSC, liaison to Pew Charitable Trust Project |
| Judge Robert Hofmann | Child Protection Court of the Hill Country |
| Robyn Sweet | Robin Sweet, Deputy Director  Judicial Programs & Services  Nevada Administrative Office of the Courts |
| Ron Ozga | Deputy Chief Information Officer , Colorado Department of Human Services |
| Scott Jones | Texas Office of Court Administration |
| Scott Sosebee | MC-IJIS Application Manager  Judicial Branch Technology Support  Nevada Supreme Court - AOC |
| Sheryl Overstreet | Court Improvement Project Coordinator, Nevada |
| Sophie Gatowski | Assistant Director  Permanency Planning for Children Department National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judge |
| Terry Watt | Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families |

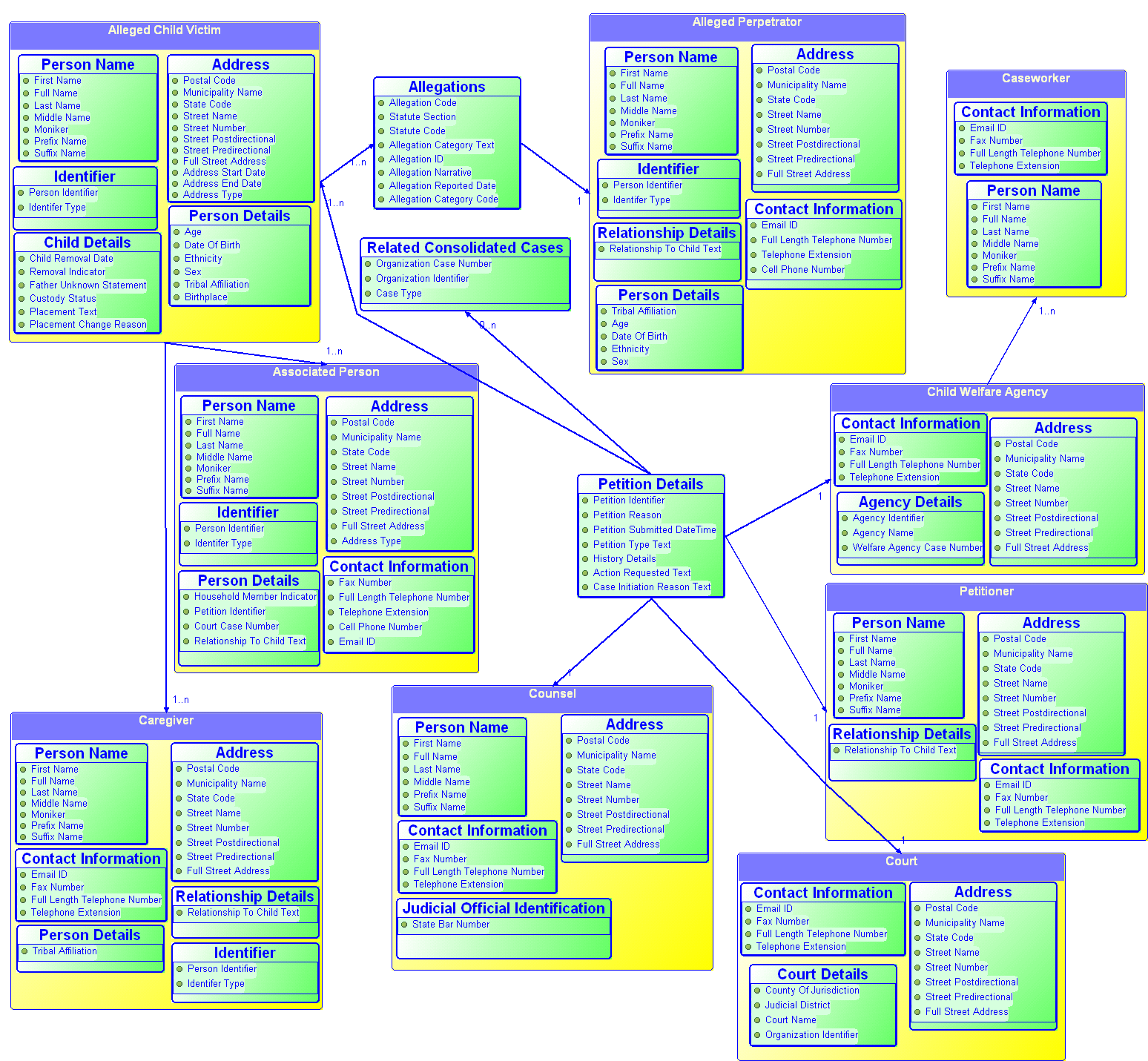
## Methodology

During two meetings, the group met and modeled exchanges using Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN). From this effort, we identified the Dependency Petition as a high priority exchange to drill into and determine the business data requirements. The logical model was developed in conjunction with the group members and vetted during that meeting and a later webinar in December 2007. A physical model representing how the data requirements would generally be modeling using NIEM was then developed from the logical model. The physical model was mapped to NIEM 2.0 with new elements and complex types added as needed. Exchange360, a software tool developed by Waterhole Software was used for all modeling and mappings activities. Final schema development, validation testing and instance document development were performed using XML Spy 2008.

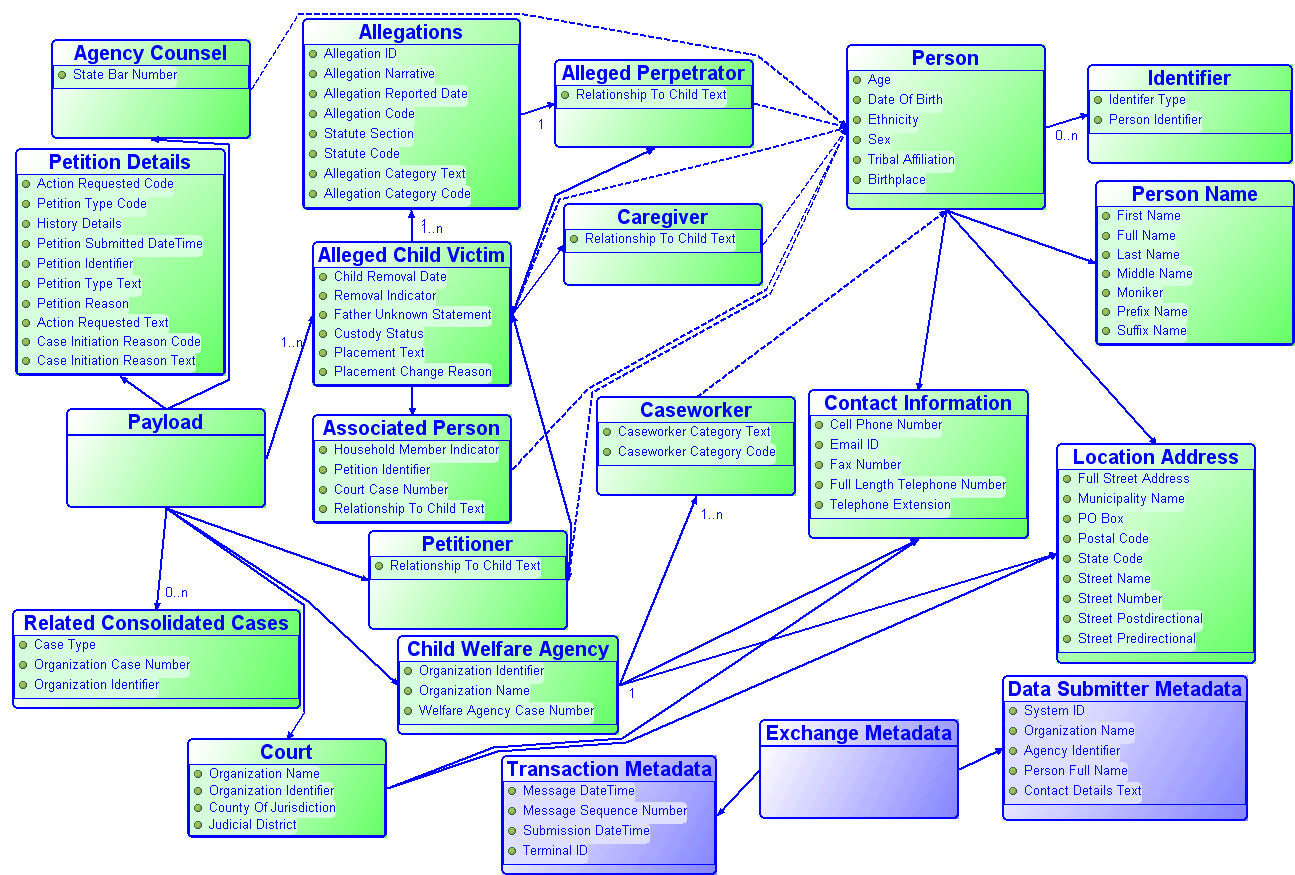
## Testing and Conformance

The quality assurance process involves developing comprehensive instance documents that will validate against the schema. The dual benefit of this is first to ensure that all business requirements have been met and second to provide another source of documentation for implementers of the IEPDs. A style sheet was also developed to further ensure compliance with data requirements.

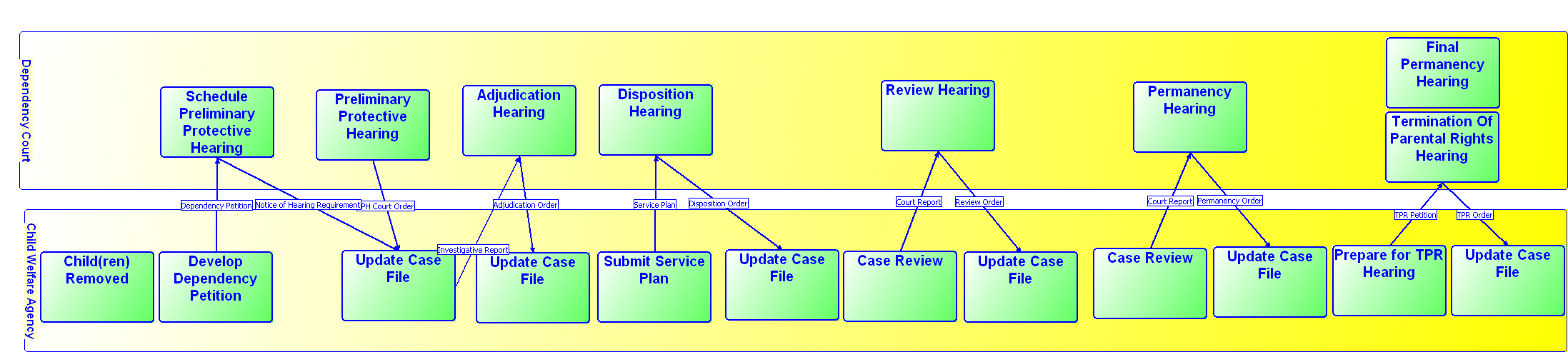
## Logical (Business) Model



## Physical (Technical) Model



## Use Case Model



## Schema Components

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Document Schema | /Schema/DependencyPetitionDocument.xsd |
| Extension Schema | /Schema/extension.xsd |
| NIEM Schema Subset | /Schema/niem/… |
| Instance Document | /Schema/SamplePetition.xml |
| Stylesheet | /Schema/DependencyPetitionStylesheet.xsl |
| Child Welfare Enumerations | /Schema/cw-codes.xsd |
| CMT Mapping Spreadsheet | /Supporting Documents/excel mapping.xls |
| Logical Domain Model | /Supporting Documents/Business Model.png |
| Physical Domain Model | /Supporting Documents/Technical Model.png |