



## Press Release

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**For Immediate Release**  
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### EANE & SIR Team Up to Protect Employers

**Springfield, MA.** After a year of planning and development, Strategic Information Resources (SIR) and the Employers Association of the North East (EANE) have entered into an agreement that will enhance and expand the comprehensive background screening services available to New England companies. The move will provide a tool to help businesses make better hiring decisions and protect themselves from employee theft, violence, and fraud.

A bad hire, whose violent or harassing acts harm other employees, can put employers at risk for negligent hiring lawsuits. According to the FBI's report on workplace violence, 1.7 million violent victimizations occur in the U.S. workplace each year. Employers can protect themselves from serious liability through effective background screening.

Liability isn't the only reason. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, one third of employees steal from their employers. It's a \$40 Billion dollar problem that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce says is growing at a rate of 15% each year.

The Small Business Administration reports that for every dollar an employer invests in personnel screening, they save between five to sixteen dollars in reduced absenteeism, productivity, turnover, safety, insurance, and in employer liability.

EANE's Reference Checking service has long included services such as criminal checks, resume verification, and driving records. In early 2006, the two companies began exploring the potential advantages that members might realize if the firms worked together. "We wanted to see if a company that specializes in background screening could provide more value to our members", said Meredith Wise, President of EANE. "We discovered that SIR could in fact perform many of the services better, faster, and for less money."

"Our analysis revealed that SIR is large enough to have the resources necessary to perform superior work, but small enough to not lose sight of important details and to deliver close customer support. In our opinion, they are capable of providing advanced background investigations and we recommend them to our members," she said.

Under the agreement, SIR will now perform criminal records checks, driving records, and other related services like drug testing and credit checks. EANE will continue to provide core services like reference interviews and the verification of resume information such as employment history, education levels, and professional credentials.

“It’s a win-win situation for everyone,” said Maureen Devine, Senior Vice President of SIR. “EANE members will get quick access to the detailed information they need to make good hiring decisions.”

EANE has a proud history that dates back to the early 1900’s. Today, over 800 New England companies rely on EANE to assist them in the critical task of managing human resources productively, cost effectively, compliantly and ethically.

Strategic Information Resources is a New England based company with over 80 years of experience helping businesses make better decisions. Clients have come to rely on us for knowledgeable customer support and our comprehensive service offerings that include background screening services, credit reporting, and real estate settlement tools. For more information visit our website at [www.backgrounddecision.com](http://www.backgrounddecision.com).