The Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System, more commonly known as the IAFIS, is a national fingerprint and criminal history system maintained by the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division. The IAFIS provides automated fingerprint search capabilities, latent search capabilities, electronic image storage, and electronic exchange of fingerprints and responses, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The electronic submission of fingerprints allows agencies to receive electronic responses to criminal tenprint fingerprint submissions within two hours and within 24 hours for civil fingerprint submissions.

Today's FBI

- More than 80 years of experience collecting, maintaining, and analyzing fingerprints and criminal history identification records
- More than 59 million criminal history records
  - More than 210 million criminal arrest cycles
  - Approximately 9,000 new records established per day
  - Approximately 29,000 updates to the criminal history file per day
  - More than 104,000 fingerprint submissions per day

The FBI CJIS Division's Biometric Services Section (BSS):

Mission - To provide person-centric identification services that support law enforcement communities and their partners in safeguarding the public against terrorist and criminal activities

- Manages the FBI’s fingerprint and criminal history program
- Staffs approximately 1,000 employees
TENPRINT FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

The IAFIS tenprint services are fingerprint-based identification and image exchange services provided for law enforcement agencies and authorized non-criminal justice agencies. A tenprint fingerprint submission contains ten rolled fingerprint impressions and the corresponding flat fingerprint impressions.

The FBI receives fingerprints as a result of an arrest or through a background check for employment, licensing, or other non-criminal justice purposes. The fingerprints are processed locally and forwarded to a state or federal agency, which then sends the fingerprints to the FBI’s IAFIS for processing. For more information regarding taking legible fingerprints for tenprint fingerprint submissions, visit the FBI’s Web page at www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/takingfps.html.

IAFIS PHOTO SERVICES

The IAFIS allows criminal justice agencies to submit facial photos, as well as photos of scars, marks, and tattoos, with arrests which can be electronically retrieved. Agencies can submit up to four photos (a photo set) for each arrest; IAFIS allows up to 10 photo sets per FBI record. If a subject has a photo(s), the phrase “PHOTO AVAILABLE” appears on the FBI record following an arrest.

Guidelines regarding the submission and retrieval of photos can be found in the Electronic Biometric Transmission Specification (EBTS) manual. The EBTS not only contains electronic interface specifications but expands to include additional biometric identification services and modalities in recognition of the rapidly developing biometric identification industry. The EBTS is available online at www.fbibiospecs.org.

LATENT FINGERPRINT SERVICES

The IAFIS provides authorized agencies with the ability to search and compare latent fingerprints against a national fingerprint repository. The IAFIS returns a list of potential candidates with the corresponding images and other relative information for comparison purposes. Questions regarding latent search capabilities can be directed to ltdt@leo.gov.

CRIMINAL HISTORY SERVICES

The FBI processes criminal history updates received by electronic input, hard copy, or machine readable data format (CD or DVD). These updates include arrest dispositions, expungements, wanted notices, and other miscellaneous updates.

For more information on criminal history document submissions, visit the FBI’s Web page at www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/arrestdispositions.htm.

TRAINING SERVICES

Up-to-date training can be provided to authorized agencies on a variety of topics including:
- Obtaining and submitting legible fingerprints and palmprints
- Classifying fingerprints
- Collecting and submitting criminal history record data
- Understanding the criminal history record

To request a catalog and/or register for a class, please send a facsimile on your agency’s letterhead to (304) 625-2337 or e-mail the Training and Records Testimony Team at fingerprint_training@leo.gov.

For more information visit the training group’s Web site at www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/fingerprint_training.htm.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

phone: (304) 625-5590
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time
e-mail: liaison@leo.gov

IAFIS Web page: www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/iafis.htm