

SEARCH Resolution 03-37

Of the Membership Group of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics

January 2003

Criminal History Record Checks for Purposes Related to Homeland Security

WHEREAS, the SEARCH Membership Group recognizes the vital importance of effective and efficient background screening of persons who have access to secured areas or who have jobs in which they could pose national security, including homeland security, threats;

WHEREAS, SEARCH believes that criminal history checks conducted for such employment screening purposes are noncriminal justice searches governed by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact; and

WHEREAS, SEARCH believes that employee screening in exigent situations related to homeland security can be effectively and efficiently accomplished under the approach of the Compact Council rule providing for delayed fingerprint submissions in exigent situations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Membership Group of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, that SEARCH urges the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council to approve a proposal pursuant to the delayed fingerprint submission rule specifically authorizing the delayed submission of fingerprints (and interim III name checks) in exigent background check situations arising from homeland security needs. The proposal should be applicable to federal, state and local agencies with duties or responsibilities relating to homeland security. The circumstances in which delayed fingerprint submissions by particular agencies may be permitted and the time frame for fingerprint submissions in such circumstances shall be approved by the FBI Compact Officer.