

## SEARCH Resolution 07-43

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

July 19, 2007

### **Support for the National Criminal Justice Record Infrastructure**

**WHEREAS**, the nation's system for exchanging criminal history records, the Interstate Identification Index (III), is administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI);

**WHEREAS**, the use of III data for noncriminal justice purposes is under the auspices of the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact;

**WHEREAS**, III is a successful partnership between the States and the FBI that provides vital services and information to support a multitude of public safety needs, including criminal justice, noncriminal justice background checks, homeland security, immigration, and other services;

**WHEREAS**, 92 percent of the system's records have been provided by State and local law enforcement agencies through State criminal record repositories, and under the III concept, responsibility for 67 percent of indexed record has been assumed by State criminal record repositories;

**WHEREAS**, criminal records held by the State central repositories are generally understood to be more complete than the counterpart records held by the FBI; further, some States make these records available for national record checks through participation in the National Fingerprint File, and the majority of States respond to inquiries from the FBI and States under what is known as Purpose Code I for noncriminal justice screening purposes;

**WHEREAS**, this national criminal history record exchange system has reached its high level of capability through significant funding at both the State and Federal levels, along with the hard work and dedication of countless criminal justice professionals at State agencies and the FBI;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Membership Group of SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, that:

"SEARCH recognizes and supports the successful and irreplaceable partnership between the States and the FBI and the many valuable contributions it has made to public safety in the United States.

(More)

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the SEARCH Membership Group that:

Congress is urged to provide requisite and appropriate funding for both State agencies and the FBI to continue this essential partnership and to maintain and expand the critical national criminal history record exchange system during a time when unprecedented demands are being placed upon this system.”