

SEARCH Resolution 91-08

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

July 18, 1991

Interstate and Federal-State Compact on the Exchange of Criminal History Records

WHEREAS, In 1969, Project SEARCH, the predecessor of SEARCH Group, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, ("SEARCH"), was established for the purpose of demonstrating the feasibility of a state based, decentralized national pointer system for the interstate and state-federal exchange of criminal history records;

WHEREAS, SEARCH has vigorously supported the development of and participation in the Interstate Identification Index, including the implementation of the full National Fingerprint File concept ("III") from the inception of the III concept;

WHEREAS, SEARCH has worked in cooperation with the National Crime Information Center Advisory Policy Board ("APB"), the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") and other federal and state organizations and agencies in promoting the development of III;

WHEREAS, in order to further promote the establishment of the III, the Membership Group of SEARCH on July 20, 1989, approved an Interstate and Federal-State compact on the Exchange of Criminal History Records for Non-criminal Justice Purposes ("SEARCH Compact");

WHEREAS, in order to further promote the establishment of the III, the APB on December 6, 1989, approved an Interstate and Federal-State Compact on the Exchange of Criminal History Records for Non-criminal Justice Purposes ("APB Compact");

WHEREAS, the differences between the SEARCH Compact and APB Compact, and particularly the fact that the APB Compact does not address the III's use for criminal justice purposes, caused SEARCH on February 16, 1990, to propose to the FBI Director that the FBI adopt the SEARCH Compact;

WHEREAS, the FBI Director on May 17, 1991, approved the APB Compact;

WHEREAS, the overriding goal of SEARCH continues to be to encourage maximum and uniform state participation in the III on the most comprehensive and stable basis that can be achieved; and

WHEREAS, the decision of the FBI Director means that adoption of the APB Compact now appears to offer the promise of furthering SEARCH's overriding goal of promoting the establishment of III.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That SEARCH hereby urges every state to adopt the APB Compact as promptly as possible so as to provide a legal framework for the interstate and federal-state exchange of criminal history records for noncriminal justice purposes.