



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

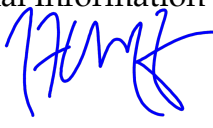
TATE REEVES, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MISSISSIPPI HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL
SEAN J. TINDELL, COMMISSIONER

COLONEL
RANDY C. GINN
DIRECTOR

LIEUTENANT COLONEL
CHARLES HAYNES
MBI DIRECTOR

To: All Terminal Agency Coordinators

From: Captain Rusty Clark, Criminal Information Center Director
MS CJIS Systems Officer 

Date: October 7, 2022

Re: Unauthorized Use of Criminal History Information

The Mississippi Criminal Information Center (CIC) is the state agency responsible for the collection, storage, and dissemination of criminal records and information to law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. CIC is also the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Systems Agency (CSA) for Mississippi and shares responsibilities with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in investigating unauthorized access to the Interstate Identification Index (III) and the misuse of III information.

Dissemination of III criminal history records information is restricted to official use by **Criminal Justice Agencies only for Criminal Justice Purposes** as outlined in Title 28, United States Code §534, Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations Part 20 and Mississippi Code Annotated §45-27-7. III information **is not for use in administrative personnel cases or any other non-criminal justice purpose**. Misusing III by an individual may constitute a federal and/or criminal violation. Further, the improper use of an MJIC terminal exposes the offending agency(s) to administrative sanctions.

Mississippi Code Annotated §45-27-13, penalties for misuse provide that:

- (1) Any person who knowingly requests, obtains, or attempts to obtain criminal history record information and other information maintained in the center's network under false pretenses or who misuses criminal history record information or information maintained in the center's network except in accordance with law or who knowingly communicates or attempts to communicate criminal history record information to any agency or person except in accordance with this chapter, or any member, officer, employee or agent of the center, or any participating agency who knowingly falsifies criminal history record

information, or any records relating thereto, shall for each such offense be fined not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or be imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both fined and imprisoned.

- (2) Any person who knowingly discloses or attempts to disclose the techniques or methods employed to ensure the security and privacy of information or data contained in criminal justice information systems, except in accordance with this chapter, shall for each such offense be fined not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) or be imprisoned for not more than two (2) years in the custody of the Department of Corrections, or both.

It is the hope of CIC that all misuse of III information is not intentional. However, improper use or dissemination of III information exposes individuals to **Criminal Prosecution**, the Agency to civil sanctions by the federal government, and the State of Mississippi to civil liability.

To ensure that all users are aware of the proper use of III, please have all individuals within your agency who have access to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) terminal read the attached information (excerpts from the CJIS Security Policy) and the documentation (III misuse information) and acknowledge this information has been read by signing the attached "III Acknowledgement Form," You should retain a copy in your agency's file. Please feel free to make as many copies as needed.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at rclark@dps.ms.gov. I thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.