



CJIS INFORMATION LETTER

September 2019

Face Comparison and Identification Training offered to law enforcement agencies



Staff of the FBI's CJIS Division is offering a three-day Face Comparison and Identification Training (FCIT) at its campus on October 15 through 17, and November 6 through 8.

Each class is limited to 25 individuals. The training is free, but agencies are responsible for travel expenses. The classes are open to law enforcement and

intelligence community members who work in the field of facial recognition and facial comparison.

FBI staff will provide training materials, including an FCIT workbook. Topics covered will include facial components, face comparison methods, facial comparison issues, and presenting face comparison results.

Individuals interested in participating must send a written request on their agency's letterhead and include the type of training requested, the ways the agency could benefit from the training, and the dates requested. Requests may be sent via facsimile to the CJIS Division Training and Advisory Process Unit trainers at 304-625-2337 or via e-mail to face-trng@leo.gov.

The class will also be offered throughout 2020. Those training dates will be available at <https://www.fbi.gov>.

Update on the FBI's transition to the National Incident-Based Reporting System

To support the growing need for more comprehensive information, the FBI is modernizing its data collection to reflect the way the nation's law enforcement agencies want to receive and analyze crime data. To accomplish this, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is retiring its Summary Reporting System (SRS) as of January 1, 2021, in favor of the more comprehensive National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). For agencies that aren't already NIBRS-compliant, the FBI urges agencies to:

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CJIS Information Letters available on the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal

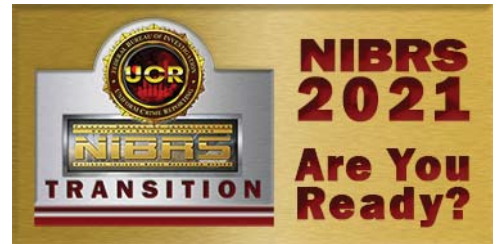
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Users with questions concerning access to LEEP should contact the LEEP Help desk by telephone at (888) 334-4536.

In addition, this *CJIS Information Letter* will be sent to CJIS Systems Officers, State Identification Bureaus, and Compact Council members via e-mail and will be posted in the Highlights section upon its initial release.

- ❖ Name a NIBRS transition manager/UCR contact at the agency to work with the state UCR Program.
- ❖ Identify necessary funding.
- ❖ Secure devices for building or upgrading NIBRS-compliant systems.
- ❖ Map local and state statutes to NIBRS offenses.
- ❖ Establish a state technical specification (if the state collections require additional data elements).
- ❖ Begin and complete the NIBRS certification process to comply with the NIBRS Technical Specification, Version 3.0, or newer.
- ❖ Submit NIBRS data.



The FBI implemented NIBRS to improve the overall quality of crime data reported by law enforcement. NIBRS captures incident-level details about crime, including multiple offenses within the same incident. This incident-level detail contains information on victims, known offenders, relationships between victims and offenders, arrestees, and property involved in crimes. Unlike data reported through the UCR Program’s traditional SRS—which is an aggregate monthly tally of crimes—NIBRS goes much deeper to provide information about circumstances and context for crimes, such as locations, times of day, and relationships between victims and offenders.

An example of the superiority of NIBRS over SRS

An offender who is a gang member kidnaps and robs his cousin at her residence. SRS would only count the offense of robbery, because SRS categorizes kidnapping under “All Other Offenses” below robbery in the SRS Hierarchy Rule. NIBRS would count the kidnapping and the robbery, plus data about the offender’s gang affiliation, the residential location, and the relationship of the victim to the offender.

This superior level of data about details of offenses, counts of offenses, and links between multiple offenses in an incident makes NIBRS a potentially much more useful tool for understanding crime.

In December 2015, the Criminal Justice Information Services Advisory Policy Board passed a recommendation to transition all federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies from SRS to NIBRS. The FBI Director approved this recommendation in February 2016. The transition to NIBRS is a top priority because its implementation will improve the nation’s crime statistics. Major law enforcement associations have declared their support for the decision to transition to a NIBRS-only data collection. To assist with this transition to NIBRS, the FBI has engaged with law enforcement agencies and organizations, partnered with the Bureau of Justice Statistics through the National Crime Statistics Exchange, coordinated efforts with state UCR Programs, published numerous articles and pieces of Web content, and dedicated resources to advising law enforcement agencies in their NIBRS transition efforts.

Efforts of the FBI and law enforcement partners have produced positive results. In the 2017 reporting year, NIBRS participation was approximately 7,000 agencies representing about 106 million Americans.

The number of participating and committed agencies has increased as of May 2019, with well over 4,000 additional agencies committed to participating by 2021. The FBI continues to engage with the law enforcement community to increase commitment and participation.

Agencies that wish to learn more about NIBRS participation can visit the FBI’s NIBRS website at www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr/nibrs to find annual NIBRS publications, helpful resources like a NIBRS implementation playbook and readiness assessment guide, news updates, a NIBRS 101 video, and answers to frequently asked questions. For guidance or assistance, local law enforcement agencies should contact their state UCR Program. FBI personnel can also be reached by telephone at 304-625-9999 or by e-mail at UCR-NIBRS@FBI.gov.