

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
CRIMTRAC

Question No. 107

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 27 May 2009:

For the Australian National Child Offender Register, the National Fingerprint Identification System, the National Criminal Record Checking System, the National Names Index and the National Criminal Investigation DNA Database, identify the information held on each database and the purpose of it.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR)

Purpose

The Australian National Child Offender Register (ANCOR) was created in 2004 to provide cross jurisdictional information to police services around Australia on persons convicted of an offence against children. The Inter-Governmental Agreement of 2000 establishing the CrimTrac Agency required that this be one of the Agency's key projects. ANCOR holds information on persons who have been convicted of an offence against a child (sexual or otherwise), where the offence is considered a 'registrable offence'. State and Territory legislation defines what convictions constitute a 'registrable offence'. Each State and Territory currently uses ANCOR to manage convicted offenders of 'registrable' offences

Information held by system

A registered offender is required to provide the following information to police:

- Names
- Alias/Pseudonym
- Physical Description
- Physical Addresses
- Children of Interest
- Employment
- Education
- Vehicles
- Affiliations
- Offences
- Travel
- Reporting Period

Registered persons may also be asked to provide the optional information on ID document details, special needs and associations

National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS)

Purpose

NAFIS is a finger and palm print database, and matching system hosted by CrimTrac, which provides police services with the ability to manage fingerprint records, confirm the identity of persons of interest and resolve major and minor crime nationally.

Information held by system

NAFIS contains fingerprints, palm prints and basic demographic information obtained from individuals by the various police services (this is commonly referred to as Tenprint data).

The system also contains unsolved crime images against which jurisdictions can search new or existing Tenprint records.

National Criminal History Record Checking (NCHRC)

Purpose

CrimTrac delivers National Criminal History Record Checking (NCHRC) services for and on behalf of Australian police services to third-party agencies (Commonwealth, state and territory government agencies and non-government entities) that meet accreditation criteria.

The NCHRC utilises a system called External Agency Management System (EAMS) in order to hold information on Applicants and to manage results.

Information held by system

The Accredited Agency will provide CrimTrac with the following information for each Applicant, these personal details will then be captured and stored in EAMS:

- a. Surname (including all names under which the Applicant has been known)
- b. Given Name(s) (including all names under which the Applicant has been known)
- c. Date of Birth
- d. Gender
- e. Place of Birth
- f. Current Residential Address
- g. Confirmation that Informed Consent for the NCHRC has been obtained
- h. Confirmation of identity in accordance with the 100-point check prescribed under the *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988* (Cth) and the *Financial Transaction Reports Regulations 1990* (Cth), available from <http://www.austrac.gov.au/guidelines/forms/201.pdf>.
- i. Previous Residential Address(es) (if applicable)
- j. Driver's Licence Number (if applicable)
- k. Passport Number (if applicable)

National Names Index (NNI)

Purpose

The NNI comprises multi-jurisdictional indexed data on criminal histories, missing persons, warrants, domestic violence orders, adverse firearms history and other related information on persons of interest for police nationally.

The system provides an early warning for police by flagging information on those persons who may not be known on local jurisdictional databases but have a record in other states or territories. CrimTrac uses the NNI to initiate national criminal history checking for accredited agencies.

Information held on system

Information held on NNI includes physical identifiers, licensing and other documentation information, names and aliases, and behavioural indicators and warnings.

National Criminal Investigation DNA Database (NCIDD)

Purpose

The National Criminal Investigation DNA Database (NCIDD) provides Australia's police with the ability to match inter-jurisdictional DNA profiles.

It enables police and forensic scientists to:

- continually and automatically compare DNA profiles from crime scenes with profiles of convicted offenders throughout Australia, immediately identifying or eliminating them as potential suspects where matches occur;
- compare DNA profiles from convicted offenders, and where legislation allows, suspects, with profiles from unsolved crime scenes;
- match DNA profiles from two or more unsolved crime scenes, thereby linking seemingly unrelated police investigations;
- eliminate persons from crime scene investigations; and
- identify missing persons, unknown deceased persons and disaster victims.

Information held on system

NCIDD contains DNA profiles from all Australian police jurisdictions, however, it does not hold identifying information and only the state or territory forensic laboratory that supplied the DNA profile can identify the person to whom the profile belongs. The DNA profiles on NCIDD cannot be used to build up a physical picture of an individual, identify their race, age or any pre-existing medical conditions.

The profiles are derived from samples collected at crime scenes and from convicted offenders, suspects, missing persons and unknown deceased persons. In some circumstances, volunteers' profiles may be compared with other profiles on the database.