

CRIMINAL RECORDS AND IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

The Criminal Records and Identification Division of the Missouri State Highway Patrol was established August 1, 1934. The division was known then as the Bureau of Identification with a criminal records department. Patrolman Minter Wherritt was in charge of the bureau located in Missouri's Capitol building. The purpose of the bureau was to store fingerprints, disperse information, and publish a weekly bulletin titled "The Patrol Bulletin" which contained lists of escaped prisoners, fugitives, criminal apprehensions, penitentiary releases, and missing persons. The bulletin also contained articles written by officers regarding their field experiences and informational materials that would benefit the officers. The Patrol Bulletin continued to be published until February 28, 1975.

After being established as the Bureau of Identification for only six months, 12,000 fingerprint records were on file. Three employees were assigned the duties of filing and identifying fingerprint cards sent by Patrol members and Missouri sheriffs. Fingerprint cards were filed using the Henry classification and filing method. [Note: Sir Edward Henry developed the Henry classification system in the late 1890s. The Henry classification is the method of categorizing of ten-print fingerprint records into primary groupings. These groupings are based on fingerprint pattern types. Each finger is assigned a number according to the order in which it is located on the hand, beginning with the right thumb and ending with the left pinky. The right thumb would be number 1 and the left pinky would be 10. The system assigns each fingerprint record a primary grouping, which is broken down further by mathematical equations.] In a quarterly report to the governor covering January 1 to March 31, 1935, the Bureau reported 186 arrests for criminal offenses. These ranged in seriousness from stealing chickens to murder.

The Bureau of Identification and Records moved from the state's Capitol to the Broadway Building in December 1938. The department remained in the Broadway building from 1938 until 1963, when the new headquarters building was completed. The Bureau of Identification and Records was located on the ground floor, which is currently where the Safety Education Center is located.

January 1, 1970, a reorganization of the General Headquarters occurred, and the Bureau of Identification was renamed Criminal Division. The Criminal Division consisted of the Bureau of Identification and Records, the Scientific Laboratory, and the Intelligence and Investigation Section. Captain Ray Jenkins was the director of the Criminal Division.

June 1972 State Identification (SID) numbers started being assigned to all arrest fingerprint cards. The notorious Charles Floyd was issued SID number 1 and Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow, also famously known for their crimes, were

issued SID number 1768. Their case files are now displayed in the Patrol's Safety Education Center.

Captain Ray Jenkins retired November 30, 1974, and Captain Clarence Maddox was appointed the director of the Criminal Division. June 1975, the Criminal Division began hiring employees for a 4 p.m. to midnight shift. The focus for this shift was to prepare for computerized record keeping. The duties were to purge all traffic arrest cards from the card file with the exception of DWI arrests. August 13, 1976, the first criminal entry was entered in the computer system. On February 1, 1977, a back file conversion of all criminal indent cards began and was completed in November 1979.

A new fingerprint system was implemented on August 8, 1976 to aid law enforcement in the identification of suspects and individuals in emergency situations. The system consisted of a fingerprint transmitter, message receiver and fingerprint recorder. The system connected the criminal identification bureau electronically to designated law enforcement agencies. The fingerprint system provided identifications in minutes versus several days with the old system.

The Patrol reorganized again August 1, 1979. Captain Endicott was assigned to the Records Division as director, which consisted of Criminal Records, Traffic Records, and Auto Theft. The construction of the General Headquarters Annex was completed in October 1979, and once again, criminal records would be located on the ground floor. The move was completed November 1, 1979. It took five days for the employees of the division to move the fingerprint cards and two days to move the case files.

In 1981, Captain Endicott was promoted to major and Captain Norman Tinnin became director of the Criminal Records Division. Lt. Roy Fluegel was the director of the Criminal Records Section. Missouri's 83rd General Assembly passed House Bills 873 and 874 in 1986. These bills designated the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Criminal Records Division as the central repository for compiling, storing, and dissemination criminal history record information. The bills further required the mandatory reporting of all felony and serious or aggravated misdemeanor criminal arrest information by law enforcement personnel, prosecuting attorneys, courts and the Department of Corrections. The bills were signed and became law in August 1986.

Through a command transfer in several divisions Captain Robert Howard was assigned to the Criminal Records Division on October 1, 1987. The public window opened in January 1987. The general public, and private or government agencies, could conduct public record checks on individuals for personal or employment reasons. The window hours were 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Name checks were \$5 dollars and fingerprint checks were \$14 dollars.

The efficiency of criminal identification and fingerprint processing was enhanced with the installation of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). The AFIS system was purchased in 1988 from Sagem Morpho Inc. The computerized fingerprint matching system electronically captures and stores the characteristics of fingerprint patterns. A search could be completed in four

minutes, with a list of possible candidates for the operator to compare. During December 1989, AFIS became operational and was officially accepted January 1990. March 8, 1990, Governor John Ashcroft officially announced to the citizens of Missouri the benefits of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System located in the Criminal Records Division.

On November 1, 1991 the organizational structure was changed and Criminal Records Division was renamed the Criminal Records and Identification Division. It remained under the command of Captain Robert Howard until his retirement in 1994. Captain Robert Gartner became the sixth director of the Criminal Records and Identification Division on July 1, 1994.

The Revised Statutes of Missouri Sections 589.400 to 589.425 mandated the Missouri State Highway Patrol maintain the sex offender database. The Criminal Records and Identification Division began the sex offender registry program January 1, 1995. It was created to give the public access (through their local sheriff's department) to information concerning persons registered as sexual offenders.

Capturing fingerprints took on new procedures and a new look with electronic fingerprinting. Electronic fingerprinting in Missouri by livescan began 1998. The Missouri Department of Corrections was the first agency to submit electronically to our agency in February 1998. Criminal Records also began using livescan for MSHP employees in 1998. By March 1999, Criminal Records was fingerprinting all fingerprint requests by livescan.

Captain Tim McGrail became the division's seventh director when Captain Bob Gartner retired July 1, 2000. The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program started August 28, 2001. Its purpose is to reduce crime, inform private citizens, and measure the efficiency and effectiveness of crime prevention and crime intervention programs. The UCR program also assists law enforcement in police operations. The UCR program is a statewide report-based program. Criminal Records was certified to send UCR summary statistics to the FBI on January 1, 2001. Criminal Records repository became FBI certified and compliant as a National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) July 2005. The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) section was established in Criminal Records January 2004. This section consisted of the Access Integrity Unit, Mules/NCIC, UCR/NIBRS section, UCR trainers, and MULES auditors.

Criminal records completed an interface August 12, 2003, which linked the criminal history database with the Automated Fingerprint Identification System database. The interface also allowed electronic fingerprint submission to the FBI. On January 20, 2005, the first electronic latent submission was sent to the FBI. Within three months of electronically submitting latent fingerprints to the FBI, the division received a "hit" on an unsolved latent print. The unsolved latent case was entered into AFIS and 10 hours later, results were received from the FBI with a hit on a homicide case from 1999.

On May 18, 2004, the sex offender registry was placed on the Internet for the public to view convicted sex offender information. The information was

displayed as a spreadsheet and listed the name, current address, and criminal offense committed by the sex offender. On September 4, 2005, the website included photos of the sex offender, and allowed the public to view the offenders as well as see where they reside in the state. This registry provided the ability to search by name, street, city, county, and zip code. In September 2006, enhanced search capabilities were added to the Internet registry. The sex offender files now show alias names, date of birth, identifiers (tatoos), vehicle information, home location, and work location. In October 2006, a mapping feature was added.

Through the competitive bid process, L1 Identity Solutions (formerly Identix) was selected as the sole source vendor to provide for electronic capture and submission of fingerprint-based applicant background checks for the state of Missouri. The first submission from L1 was in July 2005. Electronic submissions of applicant fingerprint-based background checks now account for approximately 80 percent of the total submissions.

On September 1, 2005, the division began full coverage--seven days a week, 24 hours a day--including holidays. The 24-hour coverage enables the division to keep criminal history information current and provide assistance to law enforcement agencies with information regarding criminal history or the AFIS fingerprint system. In the past, designated supervisors and latent technicians carried a pager/cell phone to cover shifts for emergency identifications. On January 1, 2006, the pager/cell phone was reassigned permanently to the manager of the AFIS section to respond to emergencies.

Criminal Records and Identification Division has grown considerably since August 1, 1934. The division has grown from four employees in 1934 to 107 full-time employees. The division consists of three uniformed members and 104 full-time civilian employees. The division also employs 13 civilians in temporary positions.

As a direct result of the passage of House Bill 1698, which was signed into law on June 6, 2006, the Missouri Sex Offender Registry received several enhancements. In addition, the ability to obtain registry information through a new toll-free number--1-888-SOR-MSHP (1-888-767-6747)--was implemented on October 1, 2006. Employees of the Criminal Records and Identification Division handle the calls received on this line.

CRID implemented the MetaMorpho upgrade to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) on November 2, 2006. The newest and most advanced technology in fingerprint comparison, MetaMorpho, is designed to increase the accuracy of fingerprint comparisons. MetaMorpho also provides the ability to interface with other systems (i.e., mugshot and palm print), and adds the ability to integrate with other state fingerprint systems. The upgrade allows CRID to provide real-time identification of subjects and to better serve all law enforcement agencies.

Grants provided by the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) in 2006 and 2007 allowed for 144 Livescan fingerprint devices to be implemented

across the state. With these additional devices, Missouri has over 200 entities submitting fingerprints electronically.

With the ever increasing demand for criminal history record checks CRID saw a dramatic increase in the number of people requesting services at the division's public window. In November 2007, a new public access area opened, which included a larger area for seating, a designated fingerprinting workspace, public restroom, and provided better access to the public while maintaining security within the division.

The AFIS system was upgraded in 2008, to include a palmprint matching database. This allowed for palmprints to be searched electronically rather than by a manually. Even though the submission of palmprints by law enforcement personnel is voluntary, the Patrol encourages each agency to take advantage of every opportunity to capture palmprints. There are approximately 100,000 sets of palmprints on file at the Missouri Central Repository.

The Missouri Volunteer & Employee Criminal History System (MoVECHS) program is authorized by the National Child Protection Act (NCPA), Volunteers for Children Act, and the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act. This initiative allows for criminal record checks to be processed through the Criminal Records and Identification Division enabling both a state and national background search of an individual's criminal history record.

The MoVECHS program provides the opportunity for private employers, who as a part of their businesses or organization provide services to children, the elderly, or disabled, a means to thoroughly screen their current or prospective employees and volunteers. The first qualified entity was approved in August 2008.

Much of the information gathered for the history of the Criminal Records and Identification Division was made available from information Leonard Schmid had collected and had given to the division. Leonard kept a small, black binder and in it, he hand wrote all activities that occurred in the division when he was employed as the director of the Identification and Records Section. His first documentation was June 1972, stating that all criminal arrest cards would be issued state identification numbers (SIDS). When Leonard retired January 1, 1988, he passed the book to Rose Ann Talken. She made entries in the book until she retired on March 1, 2001. Rose Talken then gave the responsibility to Shirley Talken. Upon Shirley's retirement August 1, 2006, it was passed to Carla Doll, who will be trusted to keep the tradition of the handwritten document.