

Rap Back – Frequently Asked Questions

What is the FBI Next Generation Identification (NGI) Rap Back Service?

Rap Back (Record of Arrest and Prosecution Back) is an optional Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) service that allows authorized government agencies to receive notifications based on changes in criminal history record information (CHRI) on individuals who hold positions of trust (e.g. school teachers, daycare workers, police officers, etc.) or who are under criminal justice monitoring.

How does Rap Back work?

With the legal authority, when an individual's fingerprints are submitted through an approved NGI connection and retained in the NGI System, they can be enrolled in the Rap Back Service. The submitter (VSP) must have the statutory or appropriate authority to:

1. Submit the individual's fingerprints to the NGI System.
2. Allow the individual's fingerprints to be retained within the NGI System.
3. Allow the individual's fingerprints to be searched by future submissions in the NGI System to include latent fingerprint searches.

Once enrolled, the individual's fingerprints will be subject to future searches in the NGI System. It puts the individual's criminal history in a state of being continuously monitored. With Rap Back, an electronic notification will be generated if some time later an enrolled applicant, employee, volunteer, or licensee engages in criminal activity where fingerprints are taken and submitted to the NGI System. A notification will also be generated if previously unreported criminal activity is updated to the Identity History Summary (IdHS).

What problem does Rap Back solve?

Without Rap Back, employers depend on their employees to self-report their own criminal activity, or have it discovered as a result of re-fingerprinting, possibly years later. In fact, since the evaluation is continuous, Rap Back reduces the requirements and the need to re-fingerprint for the same position, saving time and money.

The Noncriminal Justice Rap Back Service can make a tremendous difference in the case of a nursing home employee arrested for selling stolen medications or a day care employee arrested for child pornography. Rap Back protects the vulnerable populations served by coaches, teachers, law enforcement officers, and government employees.

What happens when a person leaves their position of trust?

The government agency that enrolled the individual is required to notify the Virginia Department of State Police (Department) of the need to remove the enrolled individual from Rap Back.

What privacy safeguards will the Department use?

The Department intends to implement a pre-notification system. Rap Back alerts received from the FBI will first go to the Department. The Department will then reach out to the enrolling government agency for confirmation that the enrolling government agency is still eligible, based on the enrolled individuals continuing position of trust, to receive the Rap Back notification. Only after receiving the required confirmation will the Department release the notification.

The Department intends to require enrolling agencies to verify their enrolled individuals no less than annually.