



National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS)  
NICS Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP)

## **NICS Record Improvement Task Force**

### *Glossary of* **TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS** *as of 5/1/2012*

**ACTIVE RECORDS** - A record is considered “active” when the prosecution associated with an indictment, information or complaint (Category 2) has not been concluded or disposed of by the court. In the case of warrants (Category 3), “active” means the warrant has not expired or been removed and retains the authority for a law enforcement officer to perform an arrest. In the case of protection or restraining orders (Category 6), “active” means the order has not expired or been removed and retains the authority to be enforced by the court or law enforcement.

**AVAILABLE RECORDS** - A record is available if it exists and contains the minimum data for entry into the III, NCIC or NICS Index. A record may be considered “available” in paper or electronic form.

**AFIS** - Automated Fingerprint Identification System

**ASAP** - NCHIP Advanced State Award Program

**ATF** - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

**BEST** - Bureau of Enterprise of Systems and Technology within the Department of Administrative Services, formally the Department of Information Technology (DOIT)

**BJS** - Bureau of Justice Statistics

**BOPP** - Board of Pardons and Paroles

**BPR** - Business Process Reengineering

**CCH** - Computerized Criminal History

**CDR** - Central Data Repository

**CH** – Criminal History

**CIDRIS** - Connecticut Impaired Driver Records Information System

**CISS** - Connecticut Information Sharing System

**CITA** - Crime Identification Technology Act of 1998

**CJIS** - Criminal Justice Information System

**CJPAC** - Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission

**CMIS** - Case Management Information System, a database is maintained by Judicial’s Court Support Services Division, and utilized by Bail, Probation and Family Relations.

**COLLECT** - Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing. This is the database managed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (formally Department of Public Safety)

**CONVICTION** - A court's judgment and conviction order, whether single or multiple counts, represents a "conviction." When a defendant's criminal court case results in convictions on multiple counts of the same offense (e.g. burglary), it should be counted as one conviction. Alternatively, when a defendant's criminal court case results in convictions on single counts of multiple charges (e.g., burglary, assault and armed robbery); this should be counted as three convictions.

**CRC** – Criminal Record Check

**CRMVS** - Criminal Motor Vehicle System, a database maintained by the Judicial Branch and is the primary computer system for criminal and motor vehicle records utilized by court.

**CT SAVIN** - Connecticut's Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification

**DCJ** - Department of Criminal Justice

**DEMHS** - Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

**DESPP** - Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

**DMHAS** - Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

**DMV** - Department of Motor Vehicles

**DOB** - Date of Birth

**DOC** - Department of Correction

**DOIT** - Department of Information Technology, currently the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology within the Department of Administrative Services.

**DPS** - Department of Public Safety

**DSS** - Division of Safety Services

**ELECTRONICALLY AVAILABLE RECORDS** - A record is "electronically available" if it contains the minimum data required for entry into the III, NCIC or the NICS Index and currently resides in a database, spreadsheet, data file or other electronic structure from which an automated transfer of the relevant data can be made. Paper records are not considered electronically available. By statute, the only two categories that specify electronically available records are Protection and Restraining Orders (Category 6) and Convictions for Potential Misdemeanor Crimes of Domestic Violence (Category 7).

**Event** - An action by a government agency that results in the creation of one or more of specific categories of records pertaining to persons prohibited from purchasing a firearm pursuant to the Federal Gun Control Act of 1968, as amended, 18 U.S.C. 921 et. seq.

**FBI** - Division of Safety Services

**FFL** - Federal Firearms Licensee

**FOI** - Freedom of Information

**FOIA** – Freedom of Information Act

**FTA** - Failure to Appear

**FV Database** – Domestic/Family database maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

**GAN** - Grant Adjustment Notice

**GMS** - Grants Management System

**IAFIS** - Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System

**III** - Instant Identification Index, database maintained by the FBI

**IAFIS** - Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System

**IVR** - Interactive Voice Response

**JFS** - Judicial Firearms Systems, Judicial Branch computerized system of court records utilized in the regulation of firearms

**JAG** - Justice Assistance Grant

**MHGCS** - Mental Health Gun Control System, database utilized by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

**MCDV** - Misdemeanor Crimes of Domestic Violence, misdemeanor offenses such as battery, assault, disorderly conduct, breach of peace, family violence/domestic violence, family assault or batter/domestic assault or battery, staking, harassment, etc. This category utilizes a list of the most common offenses which may qualify as misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence. Inclusion of a record in a state count for estimation purposes only is *not* a determination that the subject of the record either is or is not prohibited from firearm possession under federal law. That determination requires additional research and analysis which typically is performed by FBI NICS and point of contact states.

**MNI/CCH** - Master Name Index/Computerized Criminal History

**MCDV** - Misdemeanor Crimes of Domestic Violence

**MHGCS** - Mental Health Gun Control System

**MNI** – Master Name Index

**MOU** - Memorandum of Understanding

**NARIP - NICS** Act Record Improvement Program, a program to improve the records utilized by NICS through the provision of assistance to states to enhance the completeness, automation and transmittal of records to state and federal systems.

**NCHIP** - National Criminal History Improvement Program

**NCIC** - National Crime Information Center, a database maintained by the FBI

**NCPA** - National Child Protection Act of 1993

**NFF** - National Fingerprint File

**NGA** - National Governor's Association

**NGRI** - Not Guilty By Reason Of Insanity

**NIAA** - NICS Improvement Amendment Act

**NIAA Estimates** - NICS Improvement State Records Estimates Collection

**NICS** - National Instant Criminal Background Check System, a database maintained by the FBI.

**NIEM** - National Information Exchange Model

**NLETS** - National Law Enforcement Telecommunication System

**NPOF** - National Protection Order File

**NRI** - NICS Record Identifier

**NSOR-AP** - National Sex Offender Registry – Assistance Program

**OBIS** - Offender Based Information System, utilized by the Department of Correction

**OBTS - Offender** Based Tracking System

**OJP** - Office of Justice Programs

**OPM** - Office of Policy and Management

**ORI** - Originating Record Identifier

**ORIGINATING AGENCY** - The entity that makes arrests, issues warrants, files indictments or information, enters convictions or other orders into local, state or national record systems. These agencies will typically have “original” records about these events, although other agencies involved may also have records of the event. For example, a court will have a record of a conviction it enters, but so may the arresting agency or prosecutor’s office involved in the case. In this instance, the court would be considered the originating agency.

**OTI** - Order to Incarcerate

**PCA** - Probate Court Administration

**PCMS** - Probate Case Management System

**PD** - Police Department

**PEC** - Physician Emergency Certificate

**POC** - Information Technology Point of Contact

**POR** - Protection Order Registry

**POR-ARM** - Protection Order Registry (POR) Administrative Reporting Module (ARM)

**PRAWN** - Paperless Arrest Warrant Network

**PSRB** - Psychiatric Security Review Board under DESPP

**RAP SHEET** - Record of Arrest and Prosecution.

**RECORD REPOSITORY** - Each state has a central record repository for criminal justice information and some may have central record repositories for mental health adjudications and commitments. It is through the state central record repositories that automated information about these events is electronically entered into the national repositories maintained by the FBI and used for NICS checks. Estimates are requested for records available at the state repository in each record category.

**RECORDS THAT IDENTIFY A PERSON** - A record is considered to “identify a person” if it is a fingerprint-based record which may be made available to the Interstate Identification Index (“III”) or a name-based record which may be made available to the files in either the National Crime Information Center (“NCIC”) or the National Instant Criminal Background Check system (“NICS Index”). Such records may be available in a state repository or in local originating agency files and systems.

**RMS** - Records Management System

**SDVRIP** - Stalking and Domestic Violence Records Improvement Program

**SID** - State Identification Number

**SIS** - State Identification System

**SLFU** - Special Licensing and Firearms Unit, also known as the State Firearms Unit, under DESPP.

**SPBI** - State Police Bureau of Identification (Bureau of Identification under DESPP)

**SWRS** - Special Licensing and Weapons Registration System

**UAR** - Uniform Arrest Report

**USDOJ** – United States Department of Justice

**VOP** - Violation of Probation

**VPN** - Virtual Private Network