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BCI Laboratory Database Searches NIBIN

Ohio BCI's participation in the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), is governed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

I. Database Entry Considerations

The BCI Laboratory Firearms Submission policy describes the counties whose submissions are currently entered in NIBIN.

In order to consider images from cartridge cases from a crime scene submitted from these counties for a NIBIN entry:

- The cartridge case must be suitable for comparison
- The cartridge case is from semi or full automatic firearms
- The cartridge case has not been associated with any known firearm

In order to consider a test fired cartridge case from a known firearm submitted from these counties for NIBIN entry:

- The cartridge case should have a known make, model, and serial number
- The cartridge case must have a termination date (i.e. the date when the firearm was recovered)

II. Database Entry Notification Practices

BCI laboratory reports notify law enforcement agencies if cartridge case entries from crime scene evidence were searched against NIBIN and/or if test fired cartridge case entries from a known firearm were entered in NIBIN.

III. Database Search Scope and Frequency

NIBIN searches are conducted during the examination of the evidence.

IV. Database Entry Retention

Cartridge case entries from crime scenes are retained in the database indefinitely and are automatically searched against new entries in subsequent searches.

Test fired cartridge case entries from known firearms are retained in the database indefinitely.