

## **APPENDIX J NONCRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL GUIDANCE**

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This appendix is not intended to be used in lieu of the CJIS Security Policy (CSP) but rather should be used as supplemental guidance specifically for those Noncriminal Justice Agencies (NCJA) with access to Criminal Justice Information (CJI) as authorized by legislative enactment or federal executive order to request civil fingerprint-based background checks for licensing, employment, or other noncriminal justice purposes, via their State Identification Bureau (SIB) and/or Channeling agency. Examples of the target audience for the Appendix J supplemental guidance include school boards, banks, medical boards, gaming commissions, alcohol and tobacco control boards, social services agencies, pharmacy boards, etc.

The CSP is the minimum standard policy used by both criminal and noncriminal justice agencies requiring access to CJI maintained by the FBI CJIS Division. The essential premise of the CSP is to provide appropriate controls to protect the full lifecycle of CJI, whether at rest or in transit. The CSP provides guidance for the creation, viewing, modification, transmission, dissemination, storage, and destruction of CJI. This Policy applies to every individual—contractor, private entity, noncriminal justice agency representative, or member of a criminal justice entity—with access to, or who operate in support of, criminal justice services and information.

For those NCJAs new to the CSP and Advisory Policy Board (APB) auditing process (all NCJAs will be periodically audited by the CJIS Systems Agency (CSA)/SIB and may be included in a sampling of triennial audits conducted by the FBI) it is strongly recommended that each system processing CJI should be individually reviewed to determine which CSP requirements may apply. In the interim however this supplemental guidance provides a minimum starting point that every NCJA processing CJI can immediately put into place. Once the broader array of security controls are gleaned for a specific system, agencies can then leverage the (already implemented) controls described in this appendix as a launching pad towards full policy compliance.

The following information is organized to provide the section and section title within the CSP, along with a brief summary and background on the guidance itself. For the specific “shall” statement please go to the referenced section within the main body of the CSP.

### **General CJI Guidance**

The following information provides NCJAs guidance to maintain security compliance when setting up any system capable of sending and/or receiving CJI:

a. **3.2.9 – Local Agency Security Officer (LASO)**

It is the responsibility of the CJIS Systems Officer (CSO) to ensure each agency having access to CJI has someone designated as the Local Agency Security Officer (LASO) per CSP Section 3.2.2(2e).

The LASO serves as the primary point of contact (POC) between the local NCJA and their respective CSA CSO or Information Security Officer (ISO) who interfaces with the FBI CJIS Division. The LASO actively represents their agency in all matters pertaining to information security, disseminates information security alerts and other material to their constituents, maintains information security documentation (including system configuration data), assists with Information Security audits of hardware and

procedures, and keeps the CSA (i.e., CSO or ISO) informed as to any information security needs and problems.

b. 5.1.1.6 – Agency User Agreements

When an NCJA (private or public) is permitted to request civil fingerprint-based background checks, with the full consent of the individual to whom a background check is taking place, for noncriminal justice functions as authorized pursuant to federal law or state statute approved by the U.S. Attorney General, the information received from the background check, such as criminal history record information (CHRI) or personally identifiable information (PII), must be protected as CJI. In order to receive access to CJI the NCJA must enter into a signed written agreement, i.e., an agency user agreement, with the appropriate signatory authority of the CSA, SIB, or authorized agency providing the CJI access. An example of a NCJA (private) is a local bank. An example of a NCJA (public) is a county school board.

*Note 1: The CSA, SIB, or authorized agency providing the CJI access term should be part of the agency user agreement.*

*Note 2: Any NCJA that directly accesses FBI CJIS must allow the FBI to periodically test the ability to penetrate the FBI's network through the external network connection or system.*

c. 5.1.3 – Secondary Dissemination

Secondary dissemination is the promulgation of CJI from a releasing agency to an authorized recipient agency that has not been previously identified in a formal information exchange agreement.

If CHRI is released to another authorized agency, that is not part of the releasing agency's primary information exchange agreement(s), the releasing agency must log such dissemination.

d. 5.2.1.1 – All Personnel (Security Awareness Training)

Basic security awareness training is required for all personnel who have access to CJI within six months of initial assignment, and biennially thereafter. CSP Section 5.2.1.1 describes the topics that must be addressed within baseline security awareness training for all authorized personnel with access to CJI.

*Note: The CSO/SIB may accept the documentation of the completion of security awareness training from another agency. Accepting such documentation from another agency means that the accepting agency assumes the risk that the training may not meet a particular requirement or process required by federal, state, or local laws.*

e. 5.3 – Incident Response

CSP Section 5.3 assists agencies with response and reporting procedures for accidental and malicious computer and network attacks. The requirements within Section 5.3 will help NCJAs with:

- (i) Establishing an operational incident handling capability for agency information systems that includes adequate preparation, detection, analysis, containment, recovery, and user response activities; and,
- (ii) Tracking, documenting, and reporting incidents to appropriate agency officials and/or authorities.

CSP Section 5.3.1 describes the requirements for reporting security events and describes the responsibilities of the FBI CJIS Division and the CSA ISO.

CSP Section 5.3.2 describes the requirements for managing security incidents, to include: incident handling and the collection of evidence.

CSP Section 5.3.3 describes the requirement for an agency to ensure general incident response roles responsibilities are included as part of required security awareness training.

CSP Section 5.3.4 describes the requirement for an agency to track and document information system security incidents on an ongoing basis.

*Note 1: CSA ISOs serve as the POC on security-related issues for their respective agencies and must ensure LASOs institute the CSA incident response reporting procedures at the local level. The CSA ISO shall maintain completed security incident reporting forms until the subsequent FBI triennial audit or until legal action (if warranted) is complete; whichever time-frame is greater.*

*Note 2: CSP Appendix F contains a sample incident notification letter for use when communicating the details of an incident to the FBI CJIS ISO.*

f. 5.4 – Auditing and Accountability

CSP Section 5.4 assists agencies in assessing the inventory of components that compose their information systems to determine which security controls are applicable to the various components and implement required audit and accountability controls.

CSP Section 5.4.1 describes the required parameters for agencies to generate audit records and content for defined events and periodically review and update the list of agency-defined auditable events.

CSP Section 5.4.2 describes the requirement for agencies to provide alerts to appropriate agency officials in the event of an audit processing failure, such as software/hardware errors, failures in the audit capturing mechanisms, and audit storage capacity being reached or exceeded.

CSP Section 5.4.3 describes the requirements for audit review/analysis frequency and to designate an individual or position to review/analyze information system audit records for indications of inappropriate or unusual activity, investigate suspicious activity or suspected violations, to report findings to appropriate officials, and to take necessary actions.

CSP Section 5.4.4 describes the requirement to establish information system time stamp parameters for use in audit record generation.

CSP Section 5.4.5 describes the requirement to protect audit information and audit tools from modification, deletion and unauthorized access.

CSP Section 5.4.6 describes the requirement for an agency to retain audit records for at least one (1) year.

*Note: The agency will continue to retain audit records for longer than one (1) year until it is determined they are no longer needed for administrative, legal, audit, or other operational purposes - for example, retention and availability of audit records relative*

*to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, subpoena, and law enforcement actions.*

CSP Section 5.4.7 describes the requirements for logging National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and Interstate Identification Index (III) transactions. A log must be maintained for a minimum of one (1) year on all NCIC and III transactions. The III portion of the log will clearly identify both the operator and the authorized receiving agency. III logs must also clearly identify the requester and the secondary recipient. The identification on the log will take the form of a unique identifier that shall remain unique to the individual requester and to the secondary recipient throughout the minimum one (1) year retention period.

g. 5.8 – Media Protection

CJIS Security Policy Section 5.8 assists agencies to document and implement media protection policy and procedures required to ensure that access to electronic and physical media in all forms is restricted to authorized individuals for securely handling, transporting and storing media.

“Electronic media” is electronic storage media, such as memory devices in laptops and computers (hard drives) and any removable, transportable digital memory media, such as magnetic tape or disk, optical disk, flash drives, external hard drives, or digital memory card. “Physical media” refers to CJI in physical form, e.g. printed documents, printed imagery, etc.

CSP Section 5.8.1 describes the requirement for agencies to securely store electronic and physical media within physically secure locations or controlled areas and restrict access to electronic and physical media to authorized individuals. If physical and personnel restrictions are not feasible then the data must be encrypted per CSP Section 5.10.1.2.

CSP Section 5.8.2 describes the requirements for agencies to protect and control both electronic and physical media during transport outside of controlled areas and restrict the activities associated with transport of such media to authorized personnel. The agency is responsible for implementing controls to protect electronic media containing CJI while in transport (physically moved from one location to another) to help prevent compromise of the data. Encryption, as defined in CSP Section 5.10.1.2, is the optimal control; however, if encryption of the data isn’t possible then each agency must institute other controls to ensure the security of the data.

CSP Section 5.8.3 describes the requirements for agencies to maintain written documentation of the steps taken to sanitize or destroy electronic media. Agencies must sanitize (electronically overwrite the data at least three times) or degauss electronic media prior to disposal or release for reuse by unauthorized individuals. This sanitization or destruction needs to be witnessed or carried out only by authorized personnel. Inoperable electronic media must be destroyed (cut up, shredded, etc.).

CSP Section 5.8.4 describes the requirements for physical media to be securely disposed of when no longer required, using established formal procedures. Physical media must be destroyed by shredding or incineration. This disposal or destruction needs to be witnessed or carried out only by authorized personnel.

h. 5.9 Physical Protection

CSP Section 5.9 explains the physical protection policy and procedures that are required to ensure CJI and information system hardware, software, and media are physically protected through access control measures.

CSP Section 5.9.1 details the requirements for establishing a Physically Secure Location - a facility, a criminal justice conveyance, an area, a room, or a group of rooms within a facility with both the physical and personnel security controls sufficient to protect CJI and associated information systems. Sections 5.9.1.1 – 5.9.1.8 describe the physical control requirements that must be implemented in order to establish a physically secure location.

CSP Section 5.9.2 details the requirements for establishing a Controlled Area. The controlled area is an area, a room, or a storage container established for the purpose of day-to-day CJI access, storage, or processing in the event an agency is unable to meet all of the controls required for establishing a physically secure location. Access to the controlled area needs to be restricted to only authorized personnel whenever CJI is processed. The CJI material needs to be locked away when unattended to prevent unauthorized and unintentional access. Additionally, the encryption standards of CSP Section 5.10.1.2 apply to the electronic storage (i.e. data “at rest”) of CJI.

i. 5.11 – Formal Audits

CSP Section 5.11 explains the formal audit process to help agencies understand the audit procedures.

CSP Section 5.11.1 details the requirements for compliance and security audits by the FBI CJIS Division. The FBI CJIS Division is authorized to conduct audits, once every three (3) years as a minimum, to assess agency compliance with applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

The CJIS Audit Unit (CAU) will conduct triennial audits of each CSA in order to verify compliance with applicable statutes, regulations and policies. This audit includes a sample of Criminal Justice Agency (CJA) and NCJAs, in coordination with the SIB.

*Note 1: Audits may be conducted on a more frequent basis if the audit reveals that an agency has not complied with applicable statutes, regulations and policies.*

*Note 2: The FBI CJIS Division has the authority to conduct unannounced security inspections and scheduled audits of Contractor facilities.*

CSP Section 5.11.2 describes the requirements for the CSA to triennially audit all CJAs and NCJAs with direct access to the state system, establish a process to periodically audit all NCJAs with access to CJI, establish the authority to conduct unannounced security inspections and scheduled audits of Contractor facilities.

CSP Section 5.11.3 describes the requirement that all agencies with access to CJI must permit an inspection team to conduct an appropriate inquiry and audit of any alleged security violations. The inspection team, appointed by the APB, will include at least one representative of the CJIS Division. All results of the inquiry and audit will be reported to the APB with appropriate recommendations.

*Agencies located within states having passed legislation authorizing or requiring civil fingerprint-based background checks for personnel with access to criminal history record*

*information for the purposes of licensing or employment need to follow the guidance in Section 5.12 (referenced below).*

j. 5.12 – Personnel Security

CSP Section 5.12 provides agencies the security terms and requirements as they apply to all personnel who have unescorted access to unencrypted CJI, including individuals with only physical or logical access to devices that store, process or transmit unencrypted CJI.

CSP Section 5.12.1 details the minimum screening requirements for all individuals requiring unescorted access to unencrypted CJI.

CSP Section 5.12.2 describes the requirement for an agency to immediately terminate CJI access for an individual upon termination of employment.

CSP Section 5.12.3 describes the requirement for an agency to review CJI access authorizations and initiate appropriate actions (such as closing and establishing accounts and changing system access authorizations) whenever personnel are reassigned or transferred to other positions within the agency.

CSP Section 5.12.4 describes the requirement for an agency to employ a formal sanctions process for personnel failing to comply with established information security policies and procedures.

*Agencies located within states that have not passed legislation authorizing or requiring civil fingerprint-based background checks are exempted from this requirement until such time as appropriate legislation has been written into law.*

**The following scenarios are intended to help the reader identify areas within the CSP that NCJAs may often come across. Each scenario should be reviewed for applicability in conjunction with the above General CJI Guidance section. The specific requirements found with the CSP are not shown; however specific sections are referenced along with a requirements summary.**

**Hard Copy CJI Storage and Accessibility**

When an NCJA receives CJI via a paper copy from a CJA and stores the paper within a locked file cabinet, the NCJA should, in addition to the General CJI Guidance, focus on compliance with policy section:

a. 4.2.4 – Storage

When storing CJI, appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards must be implemented to ensure the security and confidentiality of the information.

**Electronic CJI Storage and Accessibility – Controlled Area**

When an NCJA creates an electronic copy of CJI (e.g. scanning a document or creation of a spreadsheet) and subsequently stores this static CJI on either a local hard drive or shared network drive in a controlled area for indirect access by Authorized Recipients, the NCJA should, in addition to the General CJI Guidance, focus on compliance with policy section:

a. 5.5.2.4 (3) – Access Control – Encryption

CSP Section 5.5.2.4 item 3 – Encryption describes the requirement for utilizing encryption as the primary access control mechanism which is necessary in this situation. Encrypted information can only be read by personnel possessing the

appropriate cryptographic key (e.g., passphrase) to decrypt. Refer to Section 5.10.1.2 for specific encryption requirements.

### **Electronic CJI Storage and Accessibility – Physically Secure Location**

When an NCJA receives or creates an electronic copy of CJI and subsequently stores this CJI within a Records Management System (RMS), located within a physically secure location that may be queried by Authorized Recipients, the NCJA should, in addition to the General CJI Guidance, focus on compliance with policy sections:

a. **5.5 – Access Control**

CSP Section 5.5 describes the requirements and parameters for utilizing access control mechanisms for restricting CJI access (such as the reading, writing, processing and transmission of CJIS information) and the modification of information systems, applications, services and communication configurations allowing access to CJI to only authorized personnel.

b. **5.6 – Identification and Authentication**

CSP Section 5.6 describes the requirements and parameters agencies must implement to validate and authenticate the identity of information system users and processes acting on behalf of users the identities prior to granting access to CJI or agency information systems/services that process CJI.

c. **5.7 – Configuration Management**

CSP Section 5.7 describes the requirements for implementing access restrictions that will only permit authorized and qualified individuals access to information system components for purposes of initiating changes, including upgrades, and modifications.

CSP Section 5.7.1 describes the requirements for implementing the concept of least privilege (5.7.1.1) and for developing and maintaining network diagrams (5.7.1.2) that detail how the RMS is interconnected and protected within the network. See Appendix C for sample network diagrams.

CSP Section 5.7.2 details the requirement for agencies to protect the system documentation from unauthorized access consistent with the provisions described in Section 5.5 Access Control.

d. **5.10 – System and Communications Protection and Information Integrity**

CSP Section 5.10 details the requirements for network infrastructures within physically secure locations through establishment of system and communication boundary and transmission protection safeguards that assist in securing an agency’s environment, even when virtualized. In addition, this section describes the requirements for providing the capability to ensure system integrity through the detection and protection against unauthorized changes to software and information for applications, services, and information systems.

### **Use Case Scenarios**

#### **1. Indirect Access to Criminal Justice Information (CJI) Stored on a Network Server**

A county board of education is converting all employee records, including background check information containing CJI, to an electronic format. The records will be scanned from hard copy to electronic files and placed on network server that has indirect access to CJI and is located in a secure data center within the board of education offices. The data center meets all the requirements to be labeled a physically secure location as defined in Section 5.9.1 of the CSP.

Keeping in mind the scenario as described, an authorized user needs access to an employee's electronic record. This user is not located in the secure data center and will have to use remote access to access the file. The user is therefore required to provide identification and authentication credentials to prove they are an authorized user. To access the record, the user is prompted to enter their unique username and password. Because the record resides on a system with indirect access to CJI (does not allow the user to query a state or national criminal record repository), AA is not required to access the record.

*NOTE: If the Authorized User has direct access to CJI (the ability to query a state or national criminal record repository) in the above scenario, AA would be required.*

## 2. Encryption for Data at Rest (Exemption for FIPS 140-2 Certified Encryption)

A county board of education is converting all employee records, including background check information containing CJI, to an electronic format. The records will be scanned from hard copy to electronic files and placed on network server that is not located in a secure data center. Because the data center does not meet the requirements of a physically secure location, as defined in Section 5.9.1 of the CSP, the files, at rest (in storage) on the server, are required to be encrypted.

To prevent unauthorized access, the IT staff has decided to encrypt the entire folder that contains the files. They will use a product that provides an advanced encryption standard (AES) encryption algorithm at 256 bit strength to comply with the CSP and employ a CSP compliant passphrase to lock the folder's encryption. When an authorized user needs to access an employee's record, they access the folder on the server and are prompted to enter the designated passphrase to decrypt (unlock) the folder. The user can then access all files within the folder.

*NOTE: Whenever authorized personnel no longer require access to the encrypted folder, the passphrase must be changed to prevent future access by that user.*