



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA


DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory

NOTICE OF DFS POLICY CHANGE

700 NORTH 5TH ST.
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219
(804) 786-2281 FAX (804) 786-6857

To: All Agencies served by DFS

From: Linda Jackson, Department Director 

Date: March 11, 2019

RE: **NIBIN Potential Association Notification**

The Firearms & Toolmarks Section utilizes the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to potentially associate criminal events through the search of digital images of cartridge cases and shotshell cases recovered from crime scenes and test fired firearms. To provide investigative leads as quickly as possible, effective immediately, the Firearms & Toolmarks Section has implemented the following notification approach:

For the initial NIBIN search:

- A Certificate of Analysis will be issued (this is not a change).

For subsequent potential associations:

- A NIBIN system screen-print containing agency and case information will be issued.
 - Agencies are encouraged to identify one point of contact to receive these subsequent notifications.
 - If no agency point of contact is designated, the notification will be sent to the investigating officer listed on the initial request.

The following page contains an example of a NIBIN system screen-print. The "Reference Exhibit" column on the left provides the agency, case and exhibit information for one of the cases involved in the potential association, and the "Test Exhibit" column on the right provides the agency, case and exhibit information for the other case.

This approach allows DFS to expeditiously report investigative leads. If confirmation of the potential association becomes necessary, the evidence from both cases will need to be submitted. For questions about this policy, please contact the Firearms & Toolmarks Section Supervisor at the DFS Laboratory that provides service to your agency:

- Central (Richmond) – Stephen Atkinson (804) 588-4141
- Eastern (Norfolk) – Allison Milam (757) 355-5965
- Northern (Manassas) – Cara McCarthy (703) 334-9723
- Western (Roanoke) – Wendy Gibson (540) 283-5932

IBISTRAX HD3D MATCHPOINT

Cartridge Case Image Comparison Exhibit Information



Reference Exhibit

Case Details

Case Number: T18-XXX
Site Name: VA-NORFBR2
Originating Agency: VA-CHESAPEAKE CITY PD
Ori. Agency Ref.: 18-1234
Ori. Agency Contact: Officer & Phone #
High Profile:
Event Type: Weapons Violation
Supervisor:
Occurrence: 1/28/2018
Creation: 12/21/2018 7:52:54 AM
Created By: Allison A. Milam
Modification: 12/21/2018 7:52:54 AM
Modified By: Allison A. Milam
Comments: 3 hit(s)

Test Exhibit

Case Details

Case Number: T17-YYY
Site Name: VA-ROANBR1
Originating Agency: VA-CHESAPEAKE CITY PD
Ori. Agency Ref.: 17-9876
Ori. Agency Contact: Officer & Phone #
High Profile:
Event Type: Shooting at Occupied Building/Vehicle
Supervisor: Laura S. Hollenbeck
Occurrence: 10/18/2017
Creation: 9/20/2018 10:06:15 AM
Created By: Laura S. Hollenbeck
Modification: 9/20/2018 10:06:15 AM
Modified By: Laura S. Hollenbeck
Comments: 4 hit(s)

Potential Association - Unconfirmed
Correlation review indicated a potential association between the cases listed on this page.
Please contact the examiner listed for assistance in facilitating the submission of evidence
if confirmation of any potential associations is necessary.

Cartridge Case Exhibit Details

Exhibit Number: 1A
Caliber: 357 SIG
Make: SIG
Firing Pin Shape: Elliptical (Glock)
Composition:
Double-Cast Comp.:
Category: Crime Evidence
Firearm Exhibit:
Occurrence: 1/28/2018
Creation: 12/21/2018 7:53:23 AM
Created By: Allison A. Milam
Modification: 12/21/2018 8:00:47 AM
Modified By: Allison A. Milam
Last Acq.: 12/21/2018 8:00:46 AM
Last Acq. By: Allison A. Milam
BF Class Char.: Parallel
Firing Pin Outline ø: 0.087 inch
BF Inner Outline ø: 0.068 inch
BF Outer Outline ø: 0.150 inch
Comments: 1 hit(s)

Cartridge Case Exhibit Details

Exhibit Number: 14
Caliber: 357 SIG
Make: SIG
Firing Pin Shape: Elliptical (Glock)
Composition: Nickel Primer / Nickel Case
Double-Cast Comp.:
Category: Crime Evidence
Firearm Exhibit:
Occurrence: 10/18/2017
Creation: 9/20/2018 10:09:26 AM
Created By: Laura S. Hollenbeck
Modification: 9/20/2018 10:26:33 AM
Modified By: Laura S. Hollenbeck
Last Acq.: 9/20/2018 10:26:33 AM
Last Acq. By: Laura S. Hollenbeck
BF Class Char.: Unknown
Firing Pin Outline ø: 0.059 inch
BF Inner Outline ø: 0.065 inch
BF Outer Outline ø: 0.139 inch
Comments: 2 hit(s)