

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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January 26, 2006 DEPUTY

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DPS Contracts for New Fingerprinting Service *Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas (FAST)*

Dear Judge:

The Texas Department of Public Safety has awarded Identix Identification Services an exclusive contract to provide electronic fingerprinting services throughout the state for the many persons who need to have their fingerprints taken for licensing, employment, volunteering, and many other "non-criminal justice" purposes. The attached flyer discusses this new service, which is named Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas (FAST). FAST offers convenient appointment scheduling by phone or on line, pleasant surrounding for the capture of the fingerprints, very high quality "live scan" fingerprints, and the efficiency of electronic submission to the DPS and FBI.

If you would like to offer FAST as an alternative for your petitioners who need to have their fingerprints taken for name changes, adoptions, or other non-criminal justice purposes, please direct them to follow the instructions on the attached flyer. It is our hope that FAST will provide increased service while reducing the fingerprinting burden on local law enforcement agencies. The fingerprinting fee through FAST is \$9.95, which is paid to Identix for providing the service. No funds come to DPS under the contract.

For the current manual submission process:

You can use FAST to simply replace the current manual fingerprinting process. The FAST operator will provide your petitioner with a printed card, just as at present. The prints will actually be captured on the "live scan" terminal, and then printed on a card.

For direct electronic submission to the DPS:

As an alternative, the person's fingerprints can be submitted electronically from the FAST location to the DPS (and FBI). The results will be provided back to your court electronically. Please contact us, as below, to establish that process on a court-by-court basis. This is a more efficient process, and results in faster response times.

Direct any questions regarding the program to Margie Kyser, Manager, Access and Dissemination Bureau, Crime Records Service at (512) 424-2078 or Margie.kyser@txdps.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

David Gavin, Assistant Chief
Administration



FAST

Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas

NEW SERVICE OFFERED BY DPS FOR THE ELECTRONIC CAPTURE OF FINGERPRINTS For Legal Name Change and Adoptions

To better serve applicants, agencies and employers, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has partnered with Identix Identification Services (IIS) to provide a new option in applicant fingerprint processing. Fingerprint Applicant Services of Texas (FAST) Centers are being established throughout the state to collect applicants' fingerprints using Live Scan technology.

Advantages of Electronic Capture and Submission

- Convenient locations throughout the state in safe, professional environments
- Quick, clean and accurate capture of fingerprints - no messy ink
- 98% guaranteed classifiable prints, preventing delays in processing and rejections
- Very fast response time on the criminal history check

Process Overview for the Applicant

1) **Why are you being fingerprinted?** Texas law provides for fingerprints of persons seeking a legal name change or adoption. **For name changes, courts will provide fingerprint cards with the ORI number that the individual can take with them to a FAST location. For adoption purposes, the individual should request a personal review in which the DPS criminal history record check results will be forwarded to the designated court.**

2) **How do I schedule an appointment?** Once notified of the fingerprint requirement, applicants can visit the IIS website at www.identix.com/iis or call the toll-free IIS telephone number, 1-800-467-2080, to schedule an appointment. When scheduling online, select **Option B-Fingerprint Cards**, or if scheduling via phone, please request "Print and Go". The applicant will be asked for several items including certain identifying information, the reason the applicant is being printed, and for whom they are being printed. An appointment time and location will be set.

3) **What if I just want a set of my fingerprints or a copy of my criminal history record?** FAST services are also available to individuals who just want a copy of their own fingerprints or a copy of their own criminal history record for any purpose.

4) **What do I need to bring to the FAST location?** At the scheduled appointment, IIS will verify identification of the applicant using a government issued photo ID, such as a Drivers License, passport, military ID, etc. If applying for a legal name change, you must also bring the fingerprint card that was issued to you from the court which will include the court agency ORI number. The applicant must be ready to pay the appropriate fee at the time of fingerprinting.

5) **Is that all?** The IIS agent will electronically capture the applicant's fingerprints during a 5-10 minute appointment. Criminal history responses will be delivered to the requesting agency. In most cases, a photo will also be captured.

Fees

Fingerprint acquisition \$9.95

A \$15 DPS fee and \$24 FBI fee may also be charged for employment, adoption, or legal name change purposes.

Suitability Determinations

DPS will never make a hiring determination. Employment or licensing will be at the discretion of the employer or licensing agency only, utilizing the results of the fingerprint check as one component of their decision.