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★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

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OHIO DEPT. OF AGING

June 28, 2013

Director Bonnie K. Burman
Ohio Department of Aging
50 W. Broad St.
9th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Director Burman,

As necessary, the Ohio Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) will issue criminal record check reports for individuals whose fingerprints are not readable. BCI currently has policies and procedures in place to address concerns created when fingerprints submitted for a criminal record check are unreadable or indistinct.

Various factors, including age, may affect the ridge detail of an individual's fingerprints, which may render the impressions unusable for purposes of conducting criminal record checks. If BCI determines that submitted fingerprint impressions are not suitable for running the check, BCI will complete the criminal record check by conducting a search with the individual's name, date of birth, and social security number. This name search carries the same weight as if the check were completed using the individual's fingerprints. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has similar processes in place to conduct a criminal record check by using the individual's name when fingerprint impressions are illegible.

This procedure has been accepted both statewide and federally as a suitable alternative when fingerprint impressions are not practicable. Since checks processed using a name, date of birth, and social security number have the same weight as those done by fingerprint impressions, these results will satisfy all legal background check requirements.

Sincerely,

Emily Davidson
Assistant Attorney General
Bureau of Criminal Investigation

cc: Michael Lambert, General Counsel, Department of Aging
Ara Mekhjian, OAG Health & Human Services Section
Greg Trout, Chief Counsel, Bureau of Criminal Investigation