

# **KANSAS BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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### **Kansas Online Criminal History Record Searches Enhanced**

TOPEKA, Kan. - The Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) and accessKansas, the state's official Web site, have enhanced the online search capabilities for Kansas criminal history records at [www.accesskansas.org/kbi/criminalhistory](http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi/criminalhistory) <<http://www.accesskansas.org/kbi/criminalhistory>>. The enhancements allow users to conduct one search for the criminal records of an adult who uses two last names and to receive a confirmation number via e-mail to help track non-automated, or 'offline' searches.

The option to search two last names is helpful when users are searching for records of an individual who has a maiden name or uses an alias. Previously online users were required to conduct and pay for two searches for such an individual, while people conducting a mail-in search were not. Now online searches provide exactly the same options as mailed-in searches, but online is much faster.

An offline search occurs if a non-automated record is selected and the KBI Records Section staff intervenes to complete the automation of the record. The user will now receive a confirmation number via e-mail for this offline search. The user should receive notice of the results within two working days and may then return to the criminal record site to obtain the record.

The confirmation numbers improve both the users' and the help center staff's ability to track offline transactions. This will improve the level of customer service the help center can provide, if needed, by more directly linking a user to a specific transaction.

The online Kansas criminal history records are used for non-criminal justice purposes. Kansas statutes allow the public to request and obtain adult criminal conviction records by specific name. These records are known as "rap sheets" and the Central Repository contains Kansas rap sheets from 1939 to present.

Individuals and organizations request criminal history records for conducting background checks on employees and potential employees, verifying personal histories, certifying and licensing, genealogical research, qualifying persons for positions of trust, visa applications, adoptions and other personal endeavors.

This online service, which was created without the use of any additional tax dollars, makes non-criminal justice record checks available in real time.

Previously record checks were submitted by mail and handled manually by the KBI staff. These mailed checks took about two to three weeks from request to response.

The fee for online searches is \$17.50 per record check, with a discount available for agencies providing direct care to children, the elderly and the disabled. These agencies must be pre-approved by the KBI and they are charged \$12.50 per record check. The user-friendly system accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express charges, and all payments are processed through the accessKansas secure payment server.

### **About accessKansas**

accessKansas is the official Web site of the state of Kansas ([www.accessKansas.org](http://www.accessKansas.org)) and a service of the Information Network of Kansas, the agency providing electronic solutions for the state. Kansas Information Consortium, a wholly owned subsidiary of eGovernment firm NIC, Inc. (Nasdaq: EGOV), is the network manager for accessKansas.

### **About NIC**

NIC manages more eGovernment services than any provider in the world. The company helps government communicate more effectively with citizens and businesses by putting essential services online. NIC provides eGovernment solutions for 1,400 state and local agencies that serve more than 71 million people in the United States. Additional information is available at [www.nicusa.com](http://www.nicusa.com).