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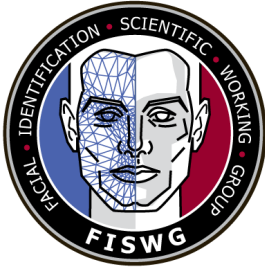
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Guide for Use of Facial Comparison Investigative Leads

1 1. Scope

2 1.1 The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for the use of investigative
3 leads resulting from facial comparisons, including comparisons involving Facial
4 Recognition System (FRS) searches. It identifies procedures with the goals of ensuring
5 rigorous review, fair operations, and operator accountability while leveraging valuable
6 forensic processes.

7 1.2 This document does not supersede any organizational policies and procedures.

8 2. Referenced Documents

9 2.1 *ASTM Standards:1*

10 E2916-13 Standard Terminology for Digital and Multimedia Evidence Examination

11 2.2 *FISWG Standards:2*

12 FISWG Glossary

13 FISWG Minimum Guidelines for Facial Image Comparison Documentation

¹ For referenced ASTM standards, visit www.nist.gov/osac/astm-launch-code, or the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

² For referenced FISWG documents, visit www.fiswg.org

14 FISWG Facial Comparison Overview and Methodology Guidelines

15 FISWG Physical Stability of Facial Features of Adults

16 **3. Terminology**

17 3.1 Investigative Lead- information which may help identify a person of interest

18 3.2 Facial Comparison Investigative Lead- information from a one-to-one comparison
19 or FRS search which may help identify a person of interest

20 **4. Summary of Practice**

21 4.1 This document provides guidelines for anyone tasked with vetting investigative
22 leads provided by a facial comparison or FRS search result.

23 4.2 The intended audience of this document is producers and recipients of facial
24 comparison investigative leads, with or without the use of a FRS.

25 **5. Significance and Use**

26 5.1 Facial comparison investigative leads are not positive identifications.

27 5.2 Agencies conducting facial comparisons should include a disclaimer based on
28 their policies and procedures regarding facial comparison investigative lead
29 communications. (Example disclaimer provided in Appendix.)

30 5.3 Investigative leads should be used in conjunction with additional information. Not
31 all investigative leads are weighted equally.³ Therefore, common investigative steps
32 should be used to appropriately vet the lead.

³ OSAC 2022-S-0001 Standard Guide for Image Comparison Opinions

33 5.4 The receiving agency's policy and laws govern the investigative process.

34 5.4.1 Best practices for developing or vetting facial comparison investigative leads.

35 5.4.2 The requirements for a search warrant.

36 5.4.3 Reasonable suspicion for detention or probable cause for arrest.

37 5.5 Upon receiving a facial comparison investigative lead, the investigator **SHALL**:

38 5.5.1 Include the lead in casework documentation for transparency.

39 5.5.2 Compare the lead to the results of other available evidence including forensics.

40 5.5.3 Perform additional investigative activities typical for vetting leads when
41 applicable.

42 5.6 Upon receiving a facial comparison investigative lead, the investigator **SHALL**
43 **NOT**:

44 5.6.1 Arrest an individual based solely on a facial comparison investigative lead.

45 5.6.2 Use the lead image in a photo lineup without vetting the lead through additional
46 investigative steps.

47 5.6.3 Share the lead or personally identifiable information publicly without lawful
48 authority.

49 5.6.4 Share the lead with other agencies, investigators, or courts without including
50 the complete disclaimer.

51 5.7 See Table 1 in Appendix for Example Optional Insert for Investigative Lead
52 Reports including investigator Shall/Shall Nots.

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Appendix

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Nonmandatory Information

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X1. Example of facial investigative lead disclaimer.

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X1.1 This facial image comparison is not a positive identification. This is an

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investigative lead only. Any possible connection or involvement of any subject

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must be determined through further investigation. Further dissemination of this

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investigative lead needs to follow applicable policies and laws.

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X2. Table 1- Example optional insert for investigative lead reports.

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Upon Receiving a facial comparison investigative lead, the investigator

SHALL:	SHALL NOT:
-Include the lead in casework documentation for transparency	-Arrest an individual based solely on a facial comparison investigative lead
-Compare the lead to the results of other available evidence, including forensics	-Use the lead image in a photo lineup without vetting the lead through additional investigative steps
-Perform additional investigative activities typical for vetting leads when applicable	-Share the lead or personally identifiable information publicly without lawful authority
	-Share the lead with other agencies, investigators, or courts without including the complete disclaimer

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FISWG documents can be found at: www.fiswg.org

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