



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S  
GLOBAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING INITIATIVE



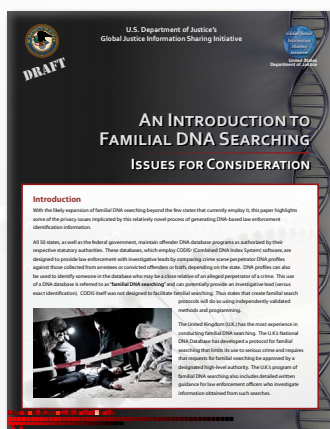
# GLOBAL PRIVACY AND INFORMATION QUALITY WORKING GROUP (GPIQWG)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND ITEM FOR GAC APPROVAL

### FOR GAC APPROVAL

The Global Privacy and Information Quality Working Group (GPIQWG) respectfully submits the following product for GAC approval: ***An Introduction to Familial DNA Searching: Issues for Consideration.***

This issue paper combines GPIQWG's privacy expertise with biometric subject-matter proficiency for the purpose of educating justice agencies on the issues and privacy risks they should address when performing or considering performing a familial DNA search. Although, currently, there are only a handful of states that are utilizing this capability, many have plans to employ or are considering employing this functionality for their criminal investigations. In developing this paper, GPIQWG received assistance from biometric subject-matter experts specifically experienced in familial DNA searching. These include representatives from the Denver Crime Lab and the Denver District Attorney's Office, California's Bureau of Forensic Services, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Biometric Center of Excellence, and the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).



This resource was designed to provide a user-friendly overview of the science of familial DNA searching and its use in criminal investigations. Guidance is provided on implementing familial search protocols while carefully balancing the interests of both law enforcement and public safety with the privacy rights, interests, and concerns of affected persons. Readers are reminded that the more stringent a familial search program is in its process of culling out individuals who are unlikely to be related to the alleged perpetrator, the greater the probability that law enforcement, public safety, and privacy interests will be served. Agencies are encouraged, when a person in a database is identified as a potential relative of an alleged perpetrator, to complete follow-up investigation and testing and to use other noninvasive methods of collecting information in a fashion that reflects the sensitivity to privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties. Finally, ten key issues implicated by familial DNA searching are highlighted and responded to by subject-matter experts.

**Value to Community:** The ability for a justice agency to identify the privacy issues associated with familial DNA searching and to proceed with this capability while ensuring the protection of privacy rights is invaluable. Global, through GPIQWG's work in this area, will be able to proactively supply guidance on familial DNA searching at the forefront of this emerging capability, assisting state, local, and tribal agencies in addressing privacy risks before they happen and ensuring that baseline privacy interests are protected.

## NEXT PRODUCTS

### REVISION TO THE *GUIDE TO CONDUCTING PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS FOR STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL INFORMATION SHARING INITIATIVES*

GPIQWG plans to revise the final piece in its hallmark Privacy Series, the *Guide to Conducting Privacy Impact Assessments for State, Local, and Tribal Information Sharing Initiatives* (or "PIA Guide"). The PIA Guide provides practitioners with a framework to examine the privacy implications of their information systems and information sharing collaborations so they can design and implement policies to address vulnerabilities identified through the PIA process. The content for agency privacy policies emerges through this assessment. With the numerous privacy policy provisions added to the *Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Policy Development Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Justice Entities*, the PIA Guide will need to be updated to map the new privacy recommendations to those in the PIA framework, ensuring that PIA questions mirror the Privacy Guide policy provisions. Since a Privacy Impact Assessment is generally the precursor evaluation that occurs prior to policy development, this resource is critical in order for agencies to prepare for the next step—privacy policy development.

**Status:** A task team will meet on October 25–26, 2011, to revise this last product in the GPIQWG Privacy Series. A draft will be presented at the November 15–16, 2011, GPIQWG meeting for review and refinement.

### UNIVERSAL PRIVACY PRINCIPLES OF FAMILIAL DNA SEARCHING

The final deliverable for 2011 is a universal privacy principles document—a model policy—for familial DNA searching based on the knowledge and experience gained through a case study with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to draft a CBI privacy policy for its familial searching capability. This resource will help agencies that are employing or considering employing familial DNA search processes to develop a privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policy that specifically addresses this functionality.

**Status:** A task team will meet on November 2–3, 2011, to develop the first draft of *Universal Privacy Principles of Familial DNA Searching—A Model Policy*, leveraging the CBI familial DNA-searching privacy policy. A draft will be presented at the November 15–16, 2011, GPIQWG meeting for review and refinement.

## GPIQWG LEADERSHIP

**Chair:** The Honorable Anthony Capizzi  
Montgomery County Ohio Juvenile Court  
**Vice Chair:** Phil Stevenson, Ph.D.  
Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## NEXT MEETING

November 15–16, 2011  
Hyatt Fair Lakes  
Fairfax, VA

## ABOUT GLOBAL

The U.S. Department of Justice's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) serves as a Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Attorney General on critical justice information sharing initiatives. Global promotes standards-based electronic information exchange to provide justice and public safety communities with timely, accurate, complete, and accessible information in a secure and trusted environment. Global is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about Global's Privacy and Information Quality Working Group, contact Christina Abernathy of DOJ's Global at (850) 385-0600, extension 318, or e-mail [cabernathy@iir.com](mailto:cabernathy@iir.com), or refer to the GPIQWG Web site at:

**[WWW.IT.OJP.GOV/GPIQWG](http://WWW.IT.OJP.GOV/GPIQWG)**

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