



## GEORGIA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3121 Panthersville Road  
P.O. Box 370808  
Decatur, Georgia 30037-0808

Vernon M. Keenan  
*Director*

July 15, 2011

Lieutenant Jimmy Young  
Richmond County SO  
401 Walton Way  
Augusta, GA 30901

Dear Lieutenant Young,

On behalf of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), a Homeland Security grant, 2010 SS-T0-0034 has been awarded to your agency in the amount of **\$21,350.52** to build capabilities that enhance local homeland security through the connection to the state's Mobile Biometric Fingerprint Identification (RapidID) System.

This award is administered as a reimbursement which means your agency must cover the initial costs of the project and will be reimbursed of all costs that fall within the guidelines of the grant up to the awarded amount or the performance period deadline of July 31, 2013, whichever comes first. Attached is a Request for Reimbursement form with the list of expenditures that are approved for reimbursement. **Please note:** invoices dated prior to July 15, 2011 will not be accepted for reimbursement.

To receive reimbursement, please complete and return the reimbursement form, a copy of the paid check(s) (**front and back**), the invoice(s) for the approved expenditures and your agency's Federal Tax Identification Number (FIN). This information should be mailed to Carletha Jordan, P.O. Box 370748, Decatur, GA 30037-0748.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at 404-270-8647 or Ms. Carletha Jordan at 404-270-8645 or [Carletha.Jordan@gbj.ga.gov](mailto:Carletha.Jordan@gbj.ga.gov).

Sincerely,

Terri Fisher  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Georgia Crime Information Center

**Overview**

The Mobile Biometric Fingerprint Identification system (known as RapidID) was a grant-funded pilot designed to test improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement operations in the metropolitan Atlanta area through use of mobile biometric fingerprint identification devices and would serve as a model for similar law enforcement implementations throughout Georgia. The RapidID system supports mobile flat print searches of a centralized database at the GBI headquarters through handheld fingerprint devices. If a match is found on the RapidID database, an inquiry is automatically generated to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) to check for outstanding warrants, probation/parole records, and the NCIC Sex Offender Registry. Responses to searches are returned to the officer initiating the search along with pointers to participating agencies where additional information may be found.

As the pilot project was nearing completion, the Area 7 agencies and the State realized the usefulness of this new capability and through remaining grant monies and matching State funds the system was expanded to accommodate additional fingerprint matching server capacity and allow for state-wide deployment. The upgraded system allows 605 transactions to be searched per hour with a 15 second response time (833,000 matches per second). Based on the success of the pilot, the State also allocated homeland security funding from FY 2010 to the procurement and integration of devices for 56 additional LLE agencies throughout the state.

**Requirements and Objectives**

The RapidID system is a two-finger fingerprint identification solution that searches against a centralized fingerprint database. The database is populated with arrests made in Georgia. The system enrolls four fingers, with two fingers being used for an identification match. The additional fingers are available in the event the suspect has a damaged and/or amputated finger(s). The system is housed at the GBI and accessed through a secure internet connection by authorized law enforcement personnel via mobile fingerprint devices.

The RapidID search does not replace the existing Live Scan Arrest/Booking and AFIS processes, but rather supplements it by moving identification technology to the field, providing officers with an offender's arrest record at the state and national levels. Responses to searches are returned to the officer initiating the search allowing immediate access to identifying information of an individual.

Once a fingerprint search is submitted, the RapidID system processes the inquiry and returns either a "Hit" or "No Hit" response to the mobile fingerprint device. If the RapidID system finds a "Hit," pertinent data is automatically submitted through the Law Enforcement Message Switch (LEMS) portal for an NCIC check on Wants/Warrants, Probation/Parole, and Sex Offender Registries. A "No Hit" response indicates that the RapidID system did not find a match on an individual with a prior fingerprint-based arrest record within the state of Georgia and therefore an automatic NCIC check cannot be performed. The absence of a hit does

## **FY 2010 Mobile Biometric Fingerprint Identification System (RapidID) – Project Summary**

December 28, 2010

not preclude the existence of a record in other biometric or name based repositories and it is recommended that a traditional CJIS criminal history (IQ/FQ) and/or warrant (QW) search be performed when a "No Hit" response is received.

Currently, two types of mobile fingerprint devices are being used for search inquiries to the RapidID system: the Motorola MC75 and the Cogent BlueCheck. Both are FBI-certified and compatible with DataWorks Plus SAF-ID application software.

### **User Requirements**

- 1) Each RapidID mobile fingerprint device is registered on the RapidID system by DataWorks Plus and is completed once the SAF-ID software is installed on the device. After the device is registered, a unique Terminal ID is assigned. The Terminal ID is specific to the agency that owns the device.
  - a) Motorola MC75 mobile fingerprint devices require wireless air card service for transaction submission to the centralized server. Air cards are provided with the mobile fingerprint device from DataWorks Plus but require activation of the wireless service by the agency. The activation may be added to an agency's account with its existing wireless provider. If the agency does not have an existing account with a wireless provider, it must choose a wireless provider and contact the provider for service activation. The following wireless providers are currently being used: AT&T, Sprint, and Verizon.
  - b) Cogent BlueCheck mobile fingerprint devices must be paired with an electronic internet accessible device such as a laptop, MDT, PC or Blackberry Smartphone. Internet connectivity must be active on the paired device.
- 2) Each officer and/or agency personnel using the mobile fingerprint device must complete the GCIC Terminal Operator Inquiry Level course.
- 3) All users are registered on the RapidID system with a unique user name and password. User names will be assigned by the agency's administrator for the RapidID system. Each agency administrator will receive training from DataWorks on the procedure for registering users, tracking agency activity, and troubleshooting problems.

### **Device Purchase**

All Department of Homeland Security (DHS) funding is offered on the basis of reimbursement. These are regulations associated with the management of federal grants to ensure proper oversight, which is to say to ensure that each agency or organization receiving the award will spend the funds appropriately. This is advantageous to the subgrantee (i.e., the entity receiving the grant award) because it allows each individual agency to determine how best to spend the funds within the parameters of the grant guidance – in this case, any costs associated with

purchasing, using, and maintaining the approved biometric fingerprint identification devices. Since GBI will be administering the grant, all reimbursement requests will be made to GBI. When the grant program reaches the implementation phase, GBI will send a grant award packet to each participating agency, at which point purchases and training may begin. Until the grant award packet from GBI is received, the agency will not be eligible for any reimbursements associated with the RapidID system or the procurement of any of its devices.

Participating agencies have the option to purchase the mobile devices from DataWorks Plus, Inc. or any retailer of the specified Motorola or Cogent devices. However, once the agency receives its mobile fingerprint device(s), the SAF-ID software application must be purchased from and installed by DataWorks Plus, Inc. The DataWorks Plus software application is required whether the mobile fingerprint device is purchased from DataWorks Plus or another vendor.

### **Appropriate Use Recommendations**

Agencies are strongly encouraged to develop policy regarding the appropriate use of the Rapid ID devices. The policy should address the use of the devices during the three types of police-citizen encounters (communications between police and citizens involving no coercion or detention; investigative detentions; and arrests). The policy should inform officers as to whether the consent of the individual is required depending on the type of police citizen encounter.

### **Recommendations from current RapidID users:**

- The Motorola MC-75 is a better device for use in the field and on patrols. It will only need a data plan and can generally be added to any existing wireless provider plans.
- The Cogent BlueCheck device is more suited to sheriff's departments and for use in jails since it can basically serve as an ad hoc AFIS remote terminal. It only needs internet access to function, and the device to which it connects will generally have internet access (laptop or desktop, etc.).
- AT&T and Verizon have been recommended by multiple agencies for the Motorola MC-75.
- Regarding the cost burden these devices may put on an agency, many of the users have stated that the amount of work/man-hours the RapidID saves more than pays for the additional costs associated with the system.

*Note: The recommendations mentioned in the above section are provided as a courtesy and based solely on the experiences of users over the last year during the pilot. These recommendations do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the State, GEMA/Homeland Security, GBI, or DataWorks Plus; these recommendations do, however, offer some insight into the practical application of these devices as they are currently being utilized across the state.*

**Biometric Fingerprint System**

| Item                                      | Qty | Cost each  | Extended cost      |
|---|-----|------------|--------------------|
| Agency Registration- Rapid ID             | 1   | \$500.00   | \$500.00           |
| Year 1 Rapid ID 24/7 upgrade              | 1   | \$100.00   | \$100.00           |
| Year 2 24/7 maintenance                   | 1   | \$850.00   | \$850.00           |
| Cogent CSD-450 Wired 2 Finger             | 2   | \$1,776.00 | \$3,552.00         |
| CSD-450 Training                          | 1   | \$300.00   | \$300.00           |
| Year 1 CSD-450 24/7 upgrade               | 2   | \$113.00   | \$226.00           |
| Year 2 CSD-450 24/7 maintenance           | 2   | \$213.00   | \$426.00           |
| Cogent BlueCheck Mobile Wireless          | 10  | \$1,824.00 | \$18,240.00        |
| Cogent BlueCheck docking cradle & charger | 10  | \$56.00    | \$560.00           |
| Year 2 BlueCheck standard maintenance     | 10  | \$150.00   | \$1,500.00         |
| <b>Total</b>                              |     |            | <b>\$26,254.00</b> |