

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICY
AUXILLARY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

September 14, 2015

Policy Number 8.21

FACIAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM

POLICY

To establish procedures when using the Honolulu Police Department's (HPD) facial recognition program to identify possible suspects or other investigative leads.

PROCEDURE

I. BACKGROUND

- A. The facial recognition program was created in conjunction with the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center, Department of the Attorney General. The program helps to identify possible suspects by generating investigative leads for detectives.
- B. The facial recognition system is a computer program that searches and compares existing photographs or videos to known mug shot photographs. The system is used to link known crimes and persons and provide assistance with identifying a potential suspect(s).
- C. The system is designed to compare unknown suspects with new and current photographs that are continually updated to link certain crimes to individuals and provide assistance with investigations. This includes (but is not limited to) detectives with open cases, investigative units such as the Narcotics/Vice Division, and other outside agencies (i.e., Department of the Medical Examiner).

II. GUIDELINES

- A. The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) acts as a support detail and provides assistance for an ongoing criminal investigation and other types of inquiries. The assigned detective and detail shall continue to be responsible for the case.
- B. Requests for facial recognition program services shall be submitted, via channels, to the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) on the Crime Analysis Request, HPD-107B form, with photograph(s) or video(s) to be reviewed. Photograph(s) and video(s) shall be handled as specified in Policy 8.13, HANDLING OF EVIDENCE AND FOUND PROPERTY.

Requests for expedited processing shall be indicated on the HPD-107B form in the OTHER/COMMENTS section.

- C. The facial recognition program can examine various electronic media types for photographs and videos. Electronic media, including (but not limited to) thumb drives, compact discs, external hard drives, and hard copies, may be submitted with the request.
- D. If the facial recognition system detects a viable candidate, the CAU shall complete a follow-up report for the assigned detective. The CAU analyst's follow-up report shall contain the steps taken to compare the known and unknown photographs and how the CAU analyst came to his or her conclusion(s).
- E. In the event that a viable candidate cannot be located from the facial recognition system, the assigned detective will be notified that no candidate was identified.

- F. If the CAU cannot discern a viable candidate, the photograph of the suspect will be considered unknown and remain in the facial recognition database system until:
1. A viable candidate is found;
 2. The assigned detective notifies the CAU that the case has been completed, a viable candidate is no longer necessary, or the suspect has been found through other means; or
 3. The statute of limitations has expired for the specific case.

III. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) DATABASE

If there is no match in the HPD's facial recognition program, the image may be sent to the FBI to search their Next Generation Identification (NGI) database. To request a search of the FBI's NGI database, the assigned detective shall submit a completed Crime Analysis Request, HPD-107B form, via channels, to the CID commander or designee.

IV. CAVEAT


Any results from the facial recognition system shall be used only as a guide for the investigation. The information provided does not constitute probable cause for an arrest. The results are only possible name(s) for the photograph(s) and video(s) that were submitted with the request. It shall be the responsibility of the assigned detective to verify the identity of all suspects.

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V. AUTHORIZED USERS

Only departmental personnel who have been trained in the use of the facial recognition program shall access and use the system.


LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

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