

POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK PROCEDURE RELATIVE TO UNREADABLE FINGER PRINTS


Health care consumers are dependent upon professional licensing boards to conduct appropriate screening of applicants. The Tennessee Polysomnographic Professional Standards Committee has the responsibility of protecting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the State of Tennessee and to that end has a duty to exclude individuals who pose a risk to the public health, safety and welfare. One means of predicting future behavior is to look at past behavior. Checking whether applicants for licensure have a criminal history and examining the nature of that history can provide significant information for boards to use in making licensure decisions. To that end, the Polysomnographic Professional Standards Committee asks all new applicants to obtain a criminal background check and have the results transmitted to the Committee for examination. In most cases, the fingerprints are clear and easily readable. However, some individuals cannot get readable fingerprints. For applicants with unreadable prints, the Polysomnographic Professional Standards Committee adopts the following policy relative to unreadable fingerprints:

In all cases where an applicant has fingerprint cards that are unreadable, the applicant shall be required to come to the state of Tennessee and submit to a FBI/TBI fingerprint **scan** through the State of Tennessee' approved vendor or its equivalent as determined by the board.

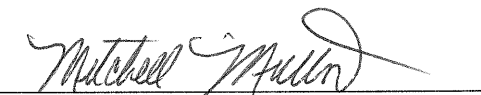
The Committee shall require the applicant to submit to an FBI/TBI fingerprint scan through the State of Tennessee's approved vendor or its equivalent as determined by the Committee or its equivalent in the state the applicant is located in.

For applicants with unreadable prints, the Committee shall accept criminal background checks on an applicant's name, social security number and other vital statistics when an individual has unreadable prints after the applicant has made at least two (2) attempts complying with the Committee's policy.

Adopted by the Polysomnographic Professional Standards Committee on the 29th day of June 2010.


Thomas G. Higgins, M.D., President

Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on this the 20th day of July 2010.


Mitchell Mutter, M.D., President
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners