The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) is the central repository for criminal history information for the state of Tennessee. In addition to maintaining criminal history information, it is our responsibility to provide public access to this information when requested.

Criminal history information, in the state of Tennessee, is comprised of misdemeanor and felony arrests based solely on fingerprint submission by the arresting agencies. When you request criminal history information on an individual, your results will state whether the subject has or does not have a Tennessee criminal history record. If there is a record that may be for the individual searched (aliases will not be included) a copy of the criminal history record will be forwarded to you. The Open Records check is a TN “name-based” check only. Please do not submit fingerprint cards or other additional documentation. Only the information contained on the request will be used to process the TN criminal history check. The accuracy of the information provided is critical, as all searches are conducted based on the information given.

The cost for criminal history information is $29 per request and is non-refundable.

Appealing the Results of a Criminal History Check

If you requested a Tennessee criminal history information check on yourself or a check was requested for you and you wish to dispute the accuracy of the results, a fingerprint comparison can be performed. You must provide a copy of your fingerprints for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation to compare against those corresponding with the criminal record found. Submit your fingerprints along with a letter stating that you wish to dispute the findings of the record check conducted in your name. You must include a cashiers check or money order for $24.00.

Once the comparison of fingerprints has been made, the results will be forwarded to you stating that the criminal history is either accurate or found to be inaccurate. The Biometrics Services Unit will assist in correcting any inaccuracies identified as the result of the fingerprint comparison.