



South Carolina Department of Insurance

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Governor

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Director

To: All Bondsman & Runners
From: Willie Seawright
Subject: Fingerprinting and Changes made to Surety Bondsman License
Date: August 28, 2014

FINGERPRINTING INFORMATION

In accordance with SC. Code Section 38-53-90 was amended effective June 13, 2013. This provision makes it a mandatory requirement for all applicants and current licensees seeking a bondsman or runner license to undergo a state and federal background check. The cost associated with the criminal history record check will be borne by the applicant and/or licensee. See Code Section below:

SECTION 38-53-90 states, “Before a license is issued to an applicant permitting him to act as a professional bondsman or runner, the applicant shall furnish to the director or his designee a complete set of his fingerprints and a recent passport size full-face photograph in the manner prescribed by the director. Before a license is issued to a new or renewal applicant permitting him to act as a professional surety bondsman or runner, the applicant must undergo a state criminal records check, supported by his fingerprints, by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and a national criminal records check, supported by his fingerprints, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The results of these criminal records checks must be reported by the department. The cost associated with the criminal history record must be borne by the applicant. The applicant's fingerprints must be certified by an authorized law enforcement officer.”

SPECIAL NOTE: Begin September 15, 2014, the department will no longer provide fingerprint cards to new applicants. Applicants and current licensees must contact IDENTOGO to be fingerprinted. We do not accept fingerprint results from other vendors.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) has contracted with a vendor named MORPHO TRUST USA. Applicants and licensees will go to IDENTOGO (formerly known as L-1 Enrollment Services) to have their hand electronically scanned. **Reminder:** THERE IS A COST.