Additional Palm Print Resources

Palm print capture guides and references are available at <www.flibiospecs.cjis.gov> and can be accessed by scanning the QR Code below.

Agencies can use this best practices guide as a reference tool for correctly capturing palm print images.

You can also access the palm print poster designed to be used by law enforcement agencies as guidance at booking stations and live scan locations.

In addition, a link to an e-learning module can be found with these reference documents on the <fbi.gov> page.

Law enforcement agencies wanting more information on palm prints can contact the Palm Services and Analytical Team at 304-625-2849 or email: <palm_prints@leo.gov>.

Criminal Justice Information Services Division
1000 Custer Hollow Road
Clarksburg WV 26306

The FBI National Palm Print System (NPPS)
An Effective and Reliable Law Enforcement Resource

02062020
Palm Print Facts

Did You Know

• It is estimated that 30% of latent prints found at crime scenes come from the palm.

• A palm print can have approximately 1,500 characteristics versus 150 on a fingerprint.

• The FBI’s Next Generation Identification (NGI) National Palm Print System (NPPS) has been available for law enforcement use since May 2013.

• The NPPS houses over 40 million palm print images.

• Palm prints submitted to the NPPS must include the fingerprints with the palm images.

Fingerprints Must be Captured with Palm Prints

When submitted to the NPPS, palm prints must be validated to ensure they match the identity of the individual with the tenprint record.

The fingerprint (or distal) portion of the palm print images are used for this validation process.

Palm Print Success

The effectiveness of the NPPS as a reliable investigative resource and national crime solving tool is evident from the many cases that are solved using palm prints.

As an example, the NPPS was highlighted by the 2018 FBI Biometric Identification Award. This award was created to recognize major violent crime cases solved with the assistance of the FBI’s NGI System.

A detailed explanation of this case along with winners from previous years are showcased with videos on the <fbi.gov> website and can be viewed by scanning the QR Code below.