

OBIM: A DECADE IN REVIEW 2013-2023

Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM)



Letter from the Director

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM), which coincides with the 20th anniversary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Both of these anniversaries are true milestones in our mission to protect the homeland, our citizens, and visitors.

Our beginning

When DHS was established following the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, it was charged with safeguarding the American people, facing new and emerging threats, securing our land, sea, and air borders, and advancing the infrastructure of our ever-evolving nation. In these past 10 years, OBIM has provided critical biometric identity services to a growing list of stakeholders including Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies as well as the intelligence community and international partners. We continue to provide biometric identity services through the technology system tools that allow OBIM to expertly match, store, share, and analyze biometric data for all our customers.

OBIM's story is rich with innovation, accomplishments, and change. We have not only witnessed the evolution of biometric identity services, but we have also been at the forefront. Because

of the talent and resourcefulness of those who operate and maintain the central DHS repository to match, store, and share biometric and associated biographic information, as well as develop new capabilities and provide support across OBIM's internal operations, we are prepared to meet the increasing identity challenges that the future holds.

Our future

One thing is clear: Our work at OBIM is critical to providing the biometric information needed by decision makers to successfully complete their missions. At OBIM, researching, learning, growing, and evolving will never stop. The past 10 years have given us the experience we need to drive the future of biometric identity services in the areas of advanced technology, inclusive policies, a commitment to privacy, and much-needed research and development, and you will see that as you review the milestones in this document.

We thank those who have worked tirelessly to support and position OBIM as a leader in Federal Government biometric services. I'm excited to celebrate 10 years with you, look back on how we got here, and ready ourselves for a dynamic future.

Shonnie R. Lyon

The Evolution of DHS Biometric Identity Services

As the United States and the world grappled with the aftermath of the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, President George W. Bush appointed Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge as the first Director of the White House Office of Homeland Security. In the days after the attacks, the office began to coordinate a comprehensive national strategy to safeguard the country against terrorism and respond to future attacks.

With the passage of the Homeland Security Act in 2002, DHS formally came into existence as a stand-alone, cabinet-level Department to further coordinate and unify national homeland security efforts, with Ridge as its first Secretary. The Department opened its doors on March 1, 2003. Twenty years later, DHS is the third-largest Federal Department, comprised of 22 Components and agencies that work to protect the Nation.

Shortly after DHS was established, Congress and the 9/11 Commission called for increased use of biometrics. The White House created a sub-committee to coordinate a policy to deploy biometric technology across Federal agencies. In 2003, the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US-VISIT) was formed to provide U.S. visa-issuing posts and ports of entry with the biometric technology that enabled the Government to establish and verify a person's identity when visiting the United States.

Since 2013, when OBIM transitioned from US-VISIT, the organization has delivered identity services through mission-essential functions: automated operations through the Automated Biometric Identification



System (IDENT), the central DHS repository to match, store, and share biometric and associated biographic information; manual services by trained fingerprint examiners where automation is insufficient; and coordination with data owners for maximum information sharing. OBIM's services support stakeholders in a wide variety of mission sets. These missions all share the important fact that authorized frontline decision makers worldwide can depend on OBIM's support to accurately identify the people they encounter and assess whether they pose a risk to the United States and our partner nations.

Today, OBIM serves stakeholders, customers, and partners to:

- Meet the needs of U.S. Government partners through fingerprint, iris, face, and latent-fingerprint matching services
- Drive biometric innovation and support emerging technologies to expand the range of capabilities for users
- Maintain interoperability with other Federal biometric systems, including the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)
- Assist the U.S. Department of State (DoS) in determining if a non-U.S. citizen is eligible to travel to the United States
- Sustain and expand international partnerships with cooperating governments to extend biometric identity verification and matching
- Positively confirm the claimed identity of a traveler, worker, benefit applicant, or detainee
- Alert that an individual has derogatory information associated with their biometrics
- Inform that an individual previously claimed a different persona





Who We Are

As the enterprise biometric identity service provider to the Department, OBIM supports operational missions across the Homeland Security Enterprise.

MISSION: OBIM provides the Department of Homeland Security and its mission partners with biometric identity services that enable national security and public safety decision making.

VISION: OBIM leads the use of biometric identity for a safer world, enhanced individual privacy, and improved quality of life.

Organizations We Support

OBIM provides advanced biometric identification, information sharing, and analysis to authorized frontline decision makers, so they are able to accurately identify the people they encounter and assess whether they pose a risk to the United States.

OBIM's biometric identity services provide value to multiple DHS Components, other Federal Departments and interagency partners, State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement entities, and international governments.

Commitment to OBIM Values

A s OBIM has evolved over the last decade, we remain committed to values that foster an All-In, Can-Do culture across the organization. We will continue to expand our leadership role in the biometrics space by providing biometric identity services to our customers through the development of technology, standards, policy, and privacy in support of operational missions.

INTEGRITY - Faithfully execute the duties and responsibilities entrusted to us and maintain the highest ethical and professional standards.

ACCOUNTABILITY - Own your actions and meet commitments as a public servant to the American people.

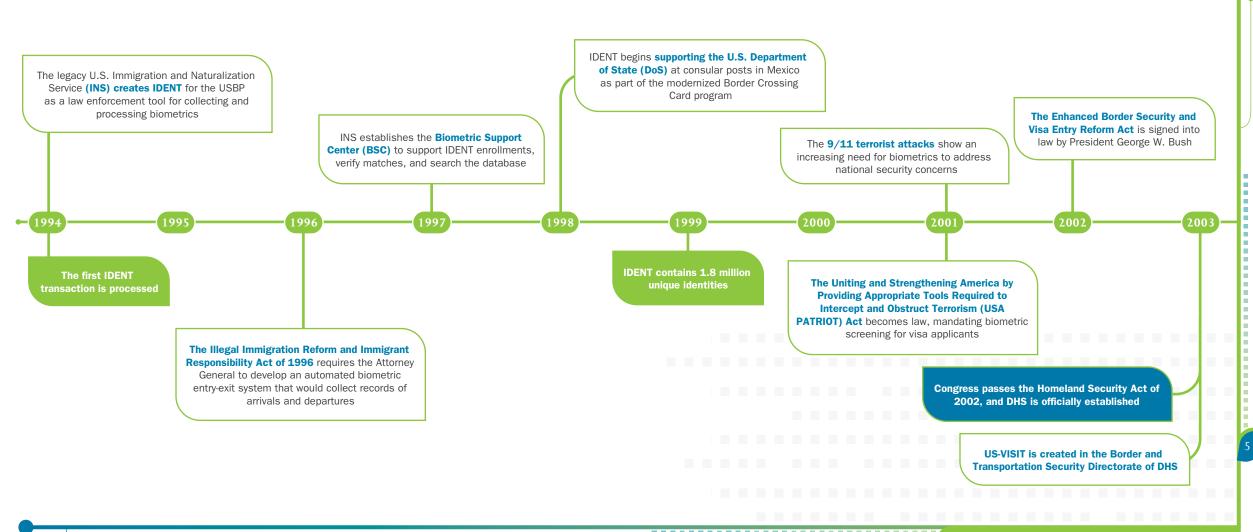
TEAMWORK - Work collaboratively with each other and leverage diversity to achieve unified goals.

OBIM Values 12ACT

INNOVATION - Use imagination and creativity to explore and achieve great things to unlock our potential.

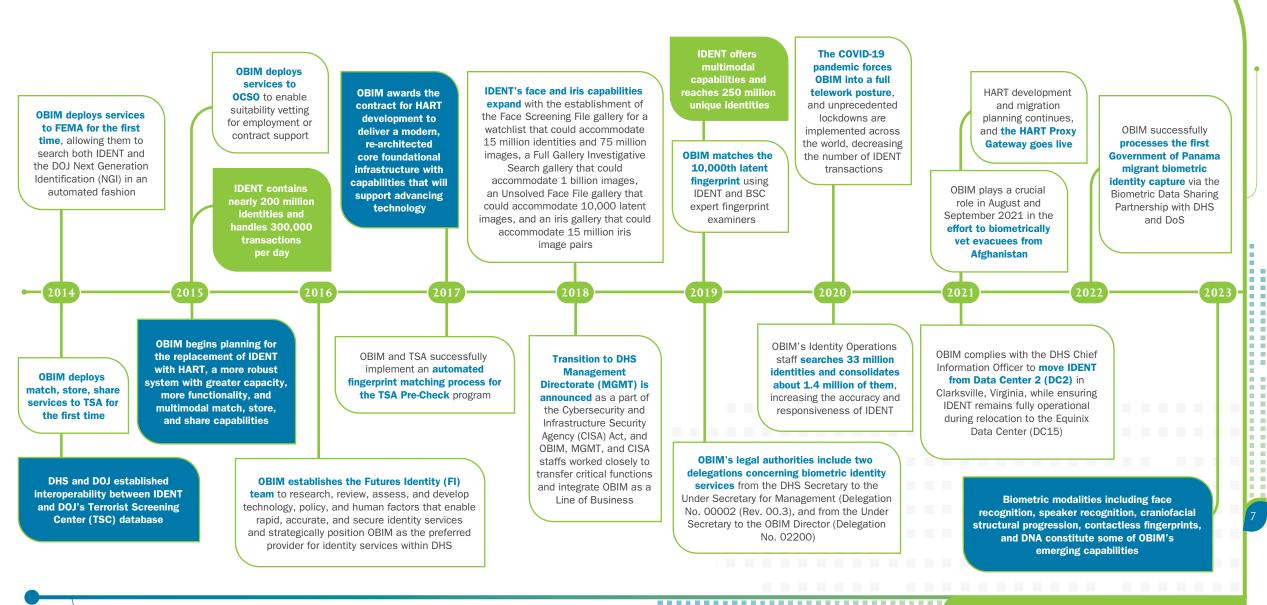
customer service - Anticipate and deliver remarkable service that enables mission success for customers, partners, and stakeholders.

Key Milestones: An Increased Need for Biometric Identity Assurance



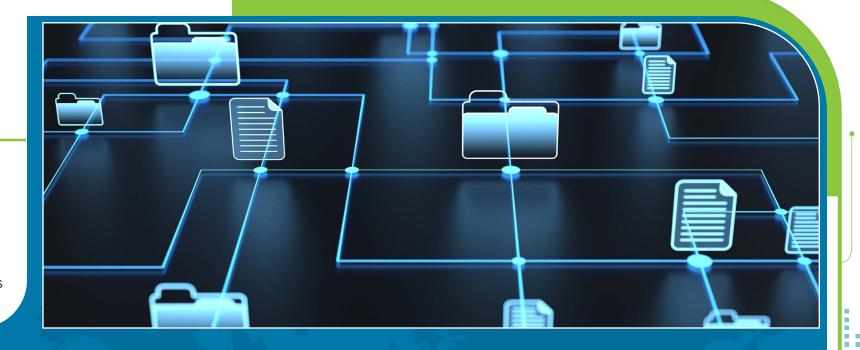
2004-2013 **Key Milestones: Biometric Identity Assurance in Operation US-VISIT** transitions and **OBIM** is established as the designated lead provider for biometric identity services for DHS Requirements for visitors into the United States includes a 2-fingerprint scan and digital photo taken to verify identity upon arrival **US-VISIT** declares the 10-fingerprint system is fully in use. "Since 2004, biometrics has facilitated legitimate travel for millions of visitors USCIS deploys the Customer Identity entering the US. The 10-fingerprint upgrade Verification tool for users to submit makes this proven system even more efficient and The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and biometric data to verify their identity enhances the security of our nation." US-VISIT **US-VISIT** delivers initial operational **DHS** sign a Memorandum of Understanding Director Robert Mocny biometric entry capabilities to CBP at (MOU) that provides the policy framework for 115 air and 14 sea ports of entry interoperability between DoD's Automated **Biometric Identification System (ABIS)** and IDENT -2004US-VISIT and USCG begin testing mobile US-VISIT decommissions data center operations biometric technology to identify non-U.S. in Dallas, TX, to relocate systems from U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) data centers to citizen migrants at sea two DHS data centers, consolidating 17 legacy data centers for the Data Center Mirroring and **Migration Project IDENT** contains 150 million unique IDENT and the Federal Bureau of identities and handles 220,000 Investigation's (FBI) Integrated Automated transactions per day Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) begin biometric data sharing to support secondary enforcement processing

Key Milestones: Biometric Identity Assurance and New Technology



A Decade of Support as the Enterprise Biometric Identity Service Provider

has continued providing biometric identity services to a diverse and growing list of domestic customers, international partners, and other critical mission stakeholders. We do this through IDENT operations, the manual expertise of the BSC's trained human examiners, and an elite workforce that runs internal operations to support strategic goals.



INFORMATION SHARING

The Railway Killer, a Key Catalyst for IDENT-NGI Interoperability: The manhunt began in December 1998 after the brutal murder of a woman in her Houston home. The following month, local police obtained a warrant for the arrest of Rafael Resendez-Ramirez (Resendez), the most common alias of a Mexican national born Ángel Leoncio Reyes Recendis. Resendez became known as "The Railway Killer" because he apparently traveled by freight train and committed murders near railroad lines. By May 1999, he was linked to three more murders and the FBI placed him on its "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list. A U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) intelligence officer in Texas began reviewing fingerprint records in the Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) and learned that in 1998 and 1999, the Border Patrol had apprehended Resendez multiple times entering the United States unlawfully, and each time returned him to Mexico. Other records revealed multiple deportations to Mexico prior to 1998. These events predate the interoperability between IDENT and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), now transitioned to the Next Generation Identification (NGI). The murders revealed a crucial need to integrate the

databases to determine if individuals were sought by the FBI or local law enforcement. If the Resendez case were to occur today, interoperability between IDENT and NGI would immediately give USBP agents derogatory information about him. In this way, interoperability has become a critical solution that protects U.S. citizens from dangerous criminals.

IDENT Was Key to Capture of Washington, D.C. Area Snipers: In 2002, a pair of snipers roamed the United States with a high-powered rifle, killing innocent civilians from a distance in public places such as gas stations and retail parking lots. The killing spree intensified in October in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, where the shooters killed five people in one day. All through October, the killers eluded law enforcement authorities—or so they thought. IDENT contained a fingerprint record of Lee Boyd Malvo, the 17-year-old apprentice to the crime's mastermind, John Allen Muhammad. Almost a year earlier, the Bellingham Police Department in Washington State had responded to an apparent domestic dispute involving Muhammad and the boy's mother. Agents from the USBP determined that Malvo and his mother were in the United States

unlawfully, and took them into custody where they were fingerprinted and enrolled in IDENT. Ten months later, a print was matched to Malvo from a magazine left at one of the crime scenes in Alabama. After a clue provided by the killers themselves regarding an earlier shooting they committed in Montgomery, AL, the FBI in Mobile rushed the evidence to Washington, D.C. and the fingerprint was matched. IDENT's ability to store fingerprints for later comparison was crucial to solving this infamous crime and provided the needed break in the case.

Connectivity with FBI Terrorist Screening Center (TSC):

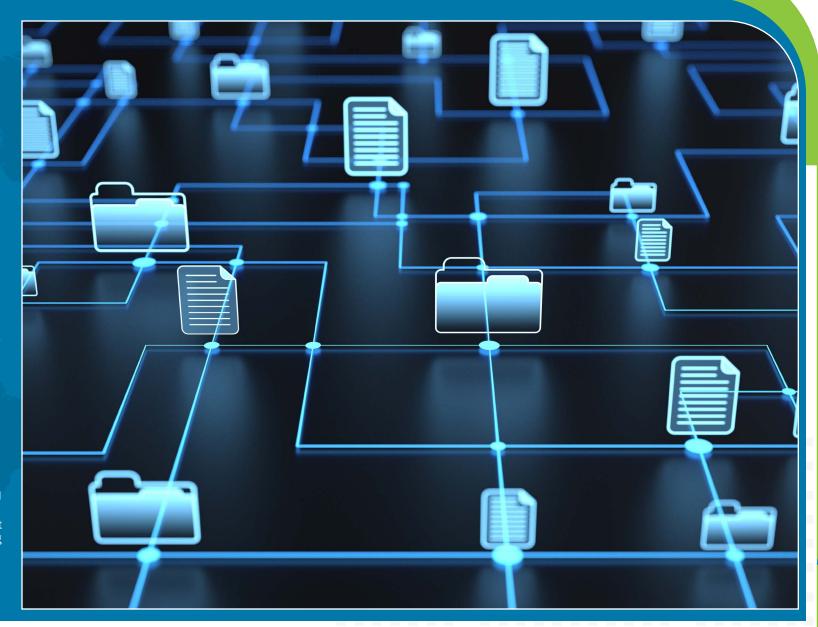
OBIM's leadership marked a key milestone in September 2014: establishment of an automated connection between IDENT and the TSC's Terrorist Screening Database. Technical discussions with the OBIM and TSC teams had begun in 2013 to enable sharing of biometric files for known or suspected terrorists. This came to fruition the following year, enhancing the the interoperability that already existed between FBI and OBIM.

INFORMATION SHARING (CONTINUED)

Secure Real-Time Platform (SRTP) with International Partners: In 2015, OBIM and the Canadian Government successfully implemented SRTP connectivity. With SRTP, IDENT searches and provides an automated response to a query from the Canadian Government on visa applicants, refugee/asylum applicants, fugitives, and enforcement cases in accordance with the President's Beyond the Border Action Plan. The service is provided 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. In 2019, OBIM established an SRTP connection between IDENT and the Governments of Bulgaria and Croatia to reciprocally conduct large-scale biometric matching and information sharing, and continues working with other countries to establish data sharing agreements that will support collective national security priorities.

Migrant Vetting: In December 2016, OBIM began providing migrant vetting support to the Government of Greece for individuals applying for asylum in that country. Efforts continued to expand services to other nations. OBIM started work with the Government of Mexico in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 to create an automated biometric database in Mexico that is fully interoperable with IDENT. The collaboration helps authorities in both countries confront drug trafficking, human smuggling, and other transnational organized crimes.

Biometric Data Sharing Partnership (BDSP): In March 2020, the Government of Mexico's National Institute of Migration sent OBIM 3,210 biometric queries under the BDSP. One of the queries referenced a United Kingdom citizen fingerprinted at the Mexico City International Airport who had arrived on a flight from Colombia. A search of IDENT returned a match to an FBI criminal record for a convicted drug trafficker who violated the terms of his parole in 2018 and fled the United States. Following the match, Mexico denied the subject entry into the country. Upon his voluntary return to Colombia, the U.S. Marshals Service worked with the Colombian Technical Research Body, the Colombian Judicial Police, and the Government of Colombia Immigration to locate and arrest the subject while he was at a Colombian airport departure gate preparing to board a flight to the United Kingdom.



INVESTIGATION SUPPORT AND VICTIM IDENTIFICATION

Asiana Airlines Flight 214: In July 2013, OBIM received a request from the National Transportation Safety Board on behalf of the San Mateo County, CA Coroner's Office seeking assistance associated with Asiana Airlines Flight 214. The flight, which had originated in South Korea, crashed on July 6 while landing at San Francisco International Airport. The Coroner's Office needed confirmation of fingerprints for two of the three victims, both teenage girls, killed in the event. While the girls had been tentatively identified, OBIM confirmed their identities with a match to records in IDENT, which revealed that the victims had applied for visas in May 2013 in Shanghai, China. The matches helped provide needed closure to grieving families.

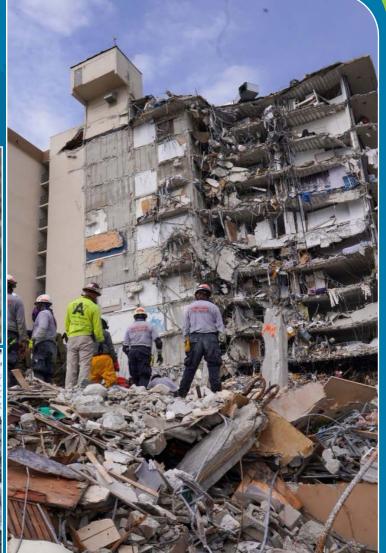
Support for Criminal Prosecutions: In 2019, OBIM collaborated with attorney-advisors in the DHS Office of the General Counsel (OGC) to provide key biometric evidence to DOJ, state prosecutors, and the Public Prosecution Service of Canada, resulting in several convictions and indictments for wire fraud, citizenship fraud, and human smuggling. OBIM and DHS OGC also provided more than 120 declarations that explain the fingerprint identification process and certify records from IDENT. This allows prosecutors and criminal investigators to confirm the identities of subjects and witnesses, which supports the issuance of removal orders, arrest warrants, extradition orders, and INTERPOL Red Notices. Such cooperation between OBIM, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors reduces identity fraud and creates critical evidence for criminal and immigration proceedings in support of public safety.

Surfside Condominium Collapse: OBIM assisted Miami-Dade law enforcement disaster recovery operations in June and July 2021 by searching multiple sets of fingerprints recovered from the bodies of victims of the Champlain Tower South building collapse. OBIM's Biometric Support Center (BSC) fingerprint examination team was able to search and match 19 of 66 sets of biometrics provided, which authorities used to notify family members of the victims and help provide closure in the wake of the tragedy.

Texas Mass Fatality: A large group of migrants was discovered inside an abandoned tractor-trailer in San Antonio, TX in June 2022. Many of the migrants had experienced heat stroke due to high temperatures, a lack of water, and little ventilation. In total, 53 people died at the scene or the hospital, and it was investigated by law enforcement as an alleged human smuggling event. OBIM searched IDENT and made 27 biometric identifications, confirmed by manual fingerprint examiners, from the 48 sets of fingerprints provided by the Medical Examiner's Office. This enabled prompt notification to next of kin of those identified.







VETTING FOR TRAVEL AND IMMIGRATION BENEFITS

Immigration Vetting: In September of 2016, OBIM was notified by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) of a case regarding information about a Pakistani national who had resided in the United States. The man had applied for resident status under two different identities, and the fingerprints of both identities were linked to him by IDENT records. ERO was able to show that the man had previously applied for asylum in the United States. However, his asylum application had been denied and he was ordered removed by an immigration judge. He was later granted resident status under a different name as the spouse of a U.S. citizen. When he then failed to show up for a court date to explain the discrepancies in his applications, he was ordered removed in absentia by an immigration judge. ICE officials put his home under surveillance and eventually took him into custody.

Support to Afghan Evacuation: OBIM played a crucial role in August and September 2021 in the effort to biometrically vet evacuees from Afghanistan. OBIM worked in close partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP's) National Targeting Center (NTC), the U.S. Departments of Defense (DoD) and State (DoS), and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's (ODNI) National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) to establish an approved end-to-end process for biometric screening and vetting of Afghans awaiting evacuation from forward bases to the United States. As authorities fingerprinted these individuals at overseas locations, their prints were searched against IDENT to determine any associated derogatory information. The fingerprints were also submitted for further vetting against DoD biometric data in IDENT, as well as to CBP's NTC and ODNI's NCTC for biographic checks. If cleared, these individuals came to the United States and passed through

CBP's admissibility screening. Once admitted, individuals were then able to apply for immigration benefits through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), to facilitate their transition into the U.S. population. By the end of FY 2021, USCIS submitted more than 8,400 biometric captures to IDENT as part of the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa process to resettle these individuals in the United States. OBIM's Identity Operations personnel continued high priority support for this use case and worked around the clock to accomplish the mission, keeping in constant contact with mission partners. This highlights the significance of OBIM's ability to work across multiple DHS Components and other Federal Departments while following sharing agreements that provide partners with valuable operational information used to identify individuals.



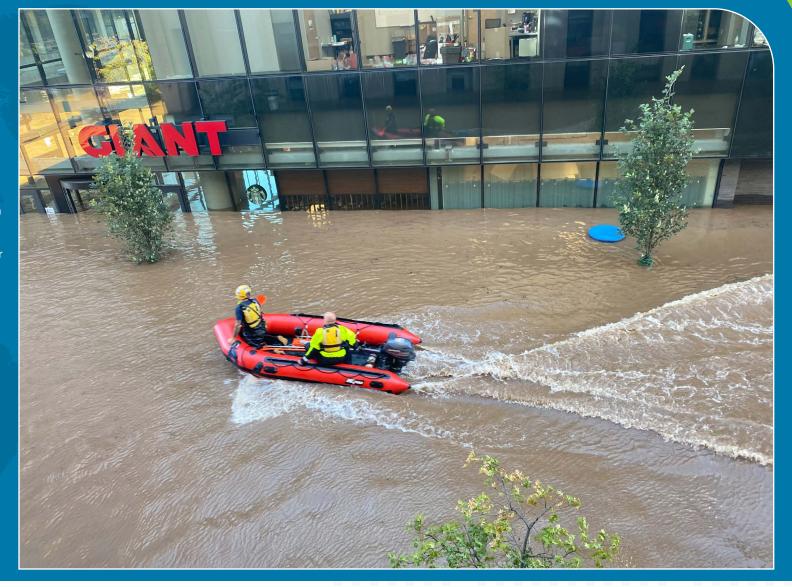


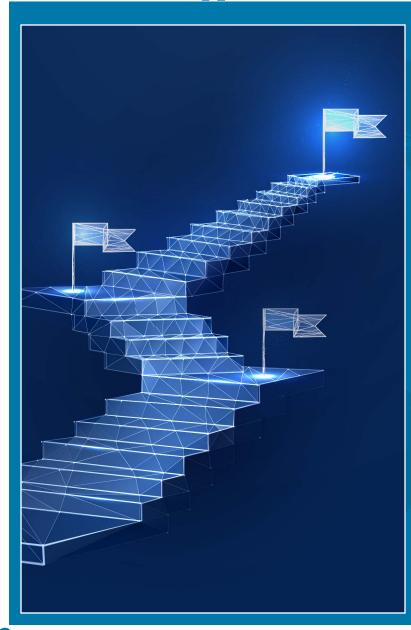
DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS

Hurricane Harvey: Beginning in late August 2017, as Hurricane Harvey dumped a record 60-plus inches of rain on Houston, TX, FEMA saw a steep increase in biometric requests to OBIM. FEMA uses biometrics to screen and vet temporary employees, contractors, volunteers, and first responders assisting in disaster recovery. Hurricanes Irma and Maria followed that year, adding to the FEMA total of more than 32,000 requests during the last five weeks of FY 2017. OBIM's support to FEMA resulted in heightened security in the disaster areas created by these destructive storms.

Hurricane Ida: In late August 2021, Hurricane Ida made landfall near Port Fourchon, LA as a Category 4 hurricane and became the secondmost damaging hurricane ever to strike the state, after Hurricane Katrina. OBIM processed nearly 600 transactions for FEMA to verify the identities of volunteers and first responders providing relief operations in the storm's disaster area, which enhanced security among the workers.

Hurricane lan: In October 2022, the FBI Major Incident Program Manager worked to identify unknown deceased victims of the storm by collecting post-mortem fingerprints during recovery operations. The FBI was unable to identify 13 sets with NGI and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement biometric system, so they submitted the prints to OBIM for a search in IDENT. A positive match emerged to an 81-year-old male whom DHS had enrolled in the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) PreCheck program. The collaboration highlighted the value that biometric information sharing brings to notification of families in a timely manner.





INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUPS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Fingerprint, Face, and Iris (FFI) Portfolio Team (PT): In June 2021, the DHS Joint Requirements Council (JRC) chartered an FFI PT. The goal of this effort was to analyze the current and future state for biometric FFI data collection and management across the full spectrum of the Department's biometric identity management activities; and recommend joint solution approaches to leverage commonalities and address gaps and requirements. The team conducted a cross-cutting Departmental analysis that included Component operational and DHS Headquarters staff. This integration allowed the FFI PT to execute critical tasks to: establish a baseline and gather analytical data; analyze impacts, commonalities, requirements, and gaps to implement FFI data collection; conduct analyses of data collected; and prepare and submit findings and recommendations to the JRC for future action. The PT's work will lead to greater alignment of resources for procurement and implementation of DHS biometric technologies and related activities.

Unified Messaging and Policy on Face Recognition Technology for the Department: As face recognition technology continued to gain attention in Congress, the media, the public, privacy groups, and the identity services industry, OBIM responded to a need to unify the Department's baseline face recognition messaging. The Department established a Face Recognition Messaging Working Group in March 2021 comprised of representatives from Components and Offices across DHS. The effort brought together a variety of backgrounds and subject matter expertise crucial in developing the messaging. The group delivered overarching face recognition messaging for use by DHS. The final messaging provided a common theme to use in a variety of external communications in discussing the Department's use of face recognition technology and addressing public, congressional, media, and industry concerns. The effort informed OBIM's support to the DHS Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), beginning in early 2022, to draft a DHS-wide Policy Directive and Instruction on the responsible use of face recognition technology. Many of the same subject matter experts formed a Face Recognition Guidelines Working Group to draft the documents. The policy, which was signed on September 11, 2023, will establish guardrails around the use of this powerful tool to ensure privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties, and will protect its authorized use by DHS Components and Offices in support of homeland security.

Workforce Evolution: Over the years, the OBIM workforce transformed and advanced the mission with the creation of the Program Management Office that has been crucial to the development of IDENT's replacement biometric system, Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology (HART); creation of OBIM's Assistant Director position, which heads the Futures Identity team; transition of OBIM from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to the Management Directorate; creation of the Privacy and Policy Branch; and realignment and renaming of the Customer Relations team, formerly in the Identity Capabilities Management Division, to the Stakeholder Engagement Team, now in the Identity Operations Division.

Leading the DHS Biometric Capabilities Executive Steering Committee (BC-ESC): OBIM assumed Executive Secretariat responsibilities in early 2020 for the BC-ESC within DHS. In this role, OBIM ensures that stakeholders not only continue to have access to accurate and timely biometric identity services, but enjoy an open forum in which to discuss issues related to biometrics in the Department. OBIM plays a key role in advising and supporting biometric operations for Components across DHS, and has strengthened coordination with the DHS Science and Technology Directorate on research, testing, and development of biometric technologies and future concepts. OBIM's leadership through the BC-ESC yields dividends for national security and public safety.

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MAJOR PROJECTS

Rapid Response: Through its interoperability with the FBI's biometric database, IDENT began to provide CBP with the capability for biometric access to the FBI's criminal records at air ports of entry, a capability known as Rapid Response. After successful pilot programs at several major U.S. international airports, authorities expanded Rapid Response in early 2014 to an additional 47 locations where people enter the United States by air. CBP has now activated the capability to cover all CBP air entry locations. With Rapid Response, OBIM averaged 13 seconds for a combined IDENT/FBI response to a CBP Primary Inspection biometric query in 2014. This enhances security through appropriate screening of individuals entering the country.

Data Exchange with Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): In November 2016, OBIM conducted its first real-time data exchange with the Texas DPS as part of the Texas Latent Project, an initiative designed to provide a direct service from DHS to State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement entities. The project allows the Texas DPS to submit latent fingerprints for matching directly to IDENT, speeding response times and thereby bolstering public safety.

IDENT Multimodal Capabilities: In January 2017, OBIM completed the final phase of the Multimodal Project, which delivered face matching services in addition to iris and fingerprint services. The new services included face one-to-one (verify), face comparison (2-photo submission), and face one-to-many and one-to-few (identify candidates). For the one-to-many gallery, OBIM loads face images drawing from records in IDENT that may have derogatory information. This

provides immigration officers, border protection authorities, customs and transportation security officers, law enforcement agents, and other DHS mission partners on the front lines of homeland security with an expanded suite of rapid, accurate, and secure services for identification, verification, and analysis.

Biometric Air Entry-Exit Pilot: In February 2017, CBP initiated a biometric air entry-exit pilot at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. This tested an ability to match faces of departing foreign nationals to face images saved in advance to a gallery at the airport. OBIM's support involved concepts for face galleries in IDENT that could be utilized by CBP as the effort expanded to airports including Washington Dulles International, George Bush Intercontinental, and Chicago O'Hare International Airports.





MAJOR PROJECTS

DNA Store/Match/Share: As FY 2021 drew to a close, OBIM marked the end of its fourth year of engagement with DHS Components and industry experts to create a highly functional solution to store, match, and share DNA information. Following project start in 2017, delivery of minimal viable product in 2018, subsequent product improvements, and multiple successful demonstrations with Component users, the DNA Store/Match/ Share project successfully transitioned to an OBIM production environment in 2021. Futures Identity continues to work closely with Component representatives to facilitate their utilization of the DNA software for kinship verification, which determines whether one individual is biologically related to another. The OBIM capability can handle back-end architecture implementation of the software and reach-back review of Rapid DNA results in an accredited laboratory environment. Potential users will be responsible for DNA sample collection, equipment, supplies, labor, and integration with existing systems.

Face Recognition Technology: Throughout 2022, OBIM helped identify possible subjects for ICE using photos seized from fraudulent documentation. The BSC provided face recognition identity comparison support to ICE investigators by searching IDENT, and OBIM provided ICE with support on 1,550 face recognition requests, resulting in 360 probable matches.

The following cases demonstrate the value of OBIM's services:

 The Nigerian Project: Numerous seizures by CBP found fraudulent identity documents for multiple suspects who appeared to belong to a Nigerian money laundering and financial crime network operating throughout the United States.

- The Romanian Project: ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) seized hundreds of passport-style photographs from a Romanian counterfeiter during a border search for an outbound flight. ICE submitted over 450 images to OBIM, resulting in the identification of 176 likely or highly likely matches. HSI determined at least 166 individuals were believed to be associated with Romanian transnational organized crime networks. One possible match revealed the head of a criminal operation in Colombia who may have been living in the United States.
- Operation Fraud Factory: An HSI document mill case involved numerous unidentified individuals pictured on counterfeit U.S. driver's licenses and U.S. passport cards. OBIM queried 222 images of suspects and found 28 likely or highly likely matches. Record checks revealed several suspects had serious criminal records, which were referred to ICE as investigative leads.









As of end of FISCAL 2023
IDENT contained approximately:





1 BILLION face images



Continued Support to DHS Components and Mission Partners with Biometric Identity Services

OBIM's services continued to play a crucial role in national security and public safety as the world entered a new era following the COVID-19 pandemic. In Fiscal Year 2023, the **Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) processed 114 million total transactions and approached 300 million identities**.

In FY 2023, OBIM:

- Received 1,292,752 wants and warrants records from the FBI
- Processed a total of 114,854,434 biometric transactions, which averaged to 314,670 transactions per day
- Generated 114,302 watchlist hits for the TSA
- Processed 7,786,055 fingerprint transactions via the Secure Real-Time Platform
 - Identified, with human examiners, 1,073 latent fingerprints

Biometric Support Center (BSC) Services

In FY 2023, the BSC provided a total of:

- 574,999 10-print comparisons
- ■ 163,798 urgent 10-print comparisons (subset of total 10-print comparisons)
- 4,312,722 latent print comparisons
- 38,192 biometric record corrections

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The Future is Now: Continuing Leadership in Biometric Identity Services

The power of technology in our increasingly connected world has greatly advanced from 10 years ago. We are no longer looking ahead at what technology of the future can do for us. We are living it every day. Electric cars, security cameras, smart thermostats, digital identity, and virtual assistants or robots are now commonplace. Some of these technologies affect national security and public safety, bringing opportunity and risk. They serve to remind us how powerful biometrics have become in support of DHS, our mission partners, and citizens worldwide.

The growth of biometrics at DHS is projected to continue through 2024 and beyond. OBIM will continue to work with customers, interagency, and international partners to share information that benefits the security of the homeland and continue to provide enduring identity services. These relationships will enable interoperability across DHS and with other Federal biometric systems through automated data sharing and collaborative relationships. OBIM will lead initiatives aligned to our Strategic Goals and support Department-wide biometric activities including:

- Explore promising identity capabilities
- Modernize systems
- Enhance interoperability

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