Privacy Impact Assessment Update for the Enforcement Integrated Database (EID)

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Abstract

The Enforcement Integrated Database (EID) is a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) shared common database repository for several DHS law enforcement and homeland security applications. EID captures and maintains information related to the investigation, arrest, booking, detention, and removal of persons encountered during immigration and criminal law enforcement investigations and operations conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), all components within DHS. The Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) for EID was published in January 2010. In July 2010, a PIA Update for EID was published addressing an expansion of the information entered into EID and the scope of external information sharing. This EID PIA Update addresses planned changes to the types of information shared and an added method of sharing.

Introduction

EID is a common database repository owned and operated by ICE that supports the law enforcement activities of certain DHS components. EID is the repository for all records created, updated, and accessed by a number of software applications including the ENFORCE Apprehension Booking Module, ENFORCE Alien Detention Module, and ENFORCE Alien Removal Module. Collectively these applications are referred to as the “ENFORCE applications.” EID and the ENFORCE applications capture and maintain information related to the investigation, arrest, booking, detention, and removal of persons encountered during immigration and law enforcement investigations and operations conducted by ICE, CBP, and USCIS. An event-based record for each encounter is created in EID, but the system provides users the capability to access a person-centric view of the data using the ENFORCE applications. Users can also print reports, notices, and other documents containing EID data, which are used for criminal and administrative law enforcement purposes and typically are retained in criminal investigative files, detention files, and Alien Files (A-Files). Immigration related forms generated by the system are also sent to courts and other agencies to support the advancement and adjudication of DHS and Department of Justice immigration cases before U.S. immigration courts. Forms and data may also be provided to the criminal courts of the United States.

The PIA for EID published in January 2010, describes EID, the ENFORCE applications, and is reflective of the system at that time.1 The PIA Update for EID published in July 2010 describes an increase in the amount information entered into EID including comprehensive criminal history information for all aliens arrested for administrative violations of the Immigration & Nationality Act (INA) and the expanded scope of external sharing of EID information with the Government of Mexico.2

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Reason for the PIA Update

With the publication of this PIA Update, DHS will alter the information electronically shared with Mexico for Mexican nationals who are being repatriated from the United States and who have been convicted of certain felonies by including the date of birth, place of birth, and mother’s maiden name, and no longer specifically sharing the age. DHS will continue to provide by electronic means the same criminal history information, as described in the July 2010 PIA Update, to Mexico concerning Mexican nationals who are being repatriated from the United States and who have been convicted of certain felonies in the United States. DHS currently provides this information by email and with the publication of this PIA, will also provide the same information by direct circuit connection.

Privacy Impact Analysis

The System and the Information Collected and Stored within the System

The information collected and stored within EID is not changed with this update.

Uses of the System and the Information

The uses of EID and EID information are not changed with this update.

Retention

This update does not change the retention period for information maintained in EID.

Internal Sharing and Disclosure

Internal sharing and disclosure of EID information is not changed with this update.

External Sharing and Disclosure

Currently, DHS shares EID information with Mexico to coordinate and conduct the removal of Mexican nationals from the United States to Mexico. Current information shared is the individual’s name, A-Number, nationality, date of birth, gender, medical information relevant to the transportation of the alien (e.g. diabetic), and a list of personal property in the alien’s possession. This information is shared in hard copy with Mexican officials at the time of an alien’s removal from the United States to Mexico. This manual information sharing process will continue in addition to the changes to the electronic information sharing described below.

Additionally, since the July 2010 PIA Update was published, ICE has electronically provided Mexico criminal conviction history for Mexican nationals who are being repatriated from the United States and who have been convicted of certain firearms, national security, violent, and drug related felonies. Specifically, ICE shares information on Mexican nationals convicted of felonies such as homicide, rape, drug sales, kidnapping, weapons trafficking, and terroristic threats. Before or at the time of a Mexican national’s removal to Mexico, ICE shares the name, A-Number or Fingerprint Identification Number, age, gender, and for any qualifying crime, the NCIC Code, crime description, and date of conviction.

Upon publication of this PIA Update, the electronic information sharing, started in July 2010, will
continue with the following changes in the categories of information shared. ICE will share the date of birth rather than age, the place of birth of the Mexican national, and will also share the Mexican national’s mother’s maiden name. Other than these changes, the information shared will be unchanged.

In addition to these changes in the types of information shared, the method of sharing will be enhanced to include a direct circuit connection. Currently, information is electronically shared by email as described in the July 2010 PIA Update. This email contains two attachments, the first attachment is formatted to be read by an official in the Mexican Secretariat of Public Security. The second attachment, containing the same information as the first, provides a file properly formatted for ingestion into the Plataforma Mexico system. Upon publication of this PIA Update, the email transmission will continue, and same information contained in the email will also be transmitted over a circuit connection running from ICE into the Embassy of Mexico, where it is directly routed to the Plataforma Mexico system. The format of the data passed through the direct circuit connection will be identical to the file format of the second e-mail attachment and directly ingested into the Plataforma Mexico system.

In considering which data elements to share, ICE determined that it did not need to share specific age, but did need to provide other data elements in order to reduce the potential for misidentifcation of Mexican nationals who are being repatriated from the United States and who have been convicted of certain felonies. The direct circuit connection increases the speed with which the information may be shared and increases efficiency.

Notice

This PIA Update provides accurate information on the current sharing of the information. The DHS/ICE-011 Immigration and Enforcement Operational Records (ENFORCE) System of Records Notice (May 3, 2010), already has an appropriate routine use authorizing the sharing of this information with Mexico.

Individual Access, Redress, and Correction

This PIA Update does not change the ability of an individual to access, redress, and correct their information.

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3 The Plataforma Mexico application is a highly protected system used by Mexico for law enforcement, criminal justice, and police intelligence purposes.
Technical Access and Security

There is no change to the technical access and security of EID.

Technology

There is no change to the technology of EID.

Responsible Official

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Approval Signature

Original signed and on file with the DHS Privacy Office

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