



GENERAL ORDER

**DURHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
DURHAM, NC**

NUMBER:

4079

RAPID FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION DEVICES

Effective Date: **09/06/2012**

Revision Dates:

INTRODUCTION

Rapid Fingerprint Identification Devices (RFIDs) are portable devices that are designed to be used in the field in order to help identify unknown individuals. When used, these devices will digitally capture one or more fingerprints from an individual and then will search the card file database of the Wake County City-County Bureau of Identification (CCBI) for one or more potential identity matches. The CCBI's database contains information for arrestees from multiple law enforcement agencies in North Carolina, to include Durham, Orange and Wake counties. The CCBI's database will relay search results back to the Durham Police Department's workstation (MDC/laptop/desktop PC) that is mated to that particular RFID. For any potential identity matches that are found, information provided by the CCBI may include personal identifying information (name, birth date, race, FBI #, etc) and, in some cases, a photograph. If no matches are found, the workstation will display "NO HIT" for that particular fingerprint submission.

It is important to understand that RFIDs are intended to be used as an investigative tool only and officers should not take enforcement action based solely on the results of an RFID inquiry. Any identification provided by an RFID should be further corroborated by other investigative means and not solely by the RFID identification received.

USING THE RAPID FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION DEVICE (RFID)

RFIDs are to be used only for law enforcement purposes and in compliance with State and federal laws. RFIDs are not designed to take the place of fingerprinting that occurs during the intake process when a physical arrest is made.

RFIDs shall not be knowingly used on an individual who is determined to be less than 16 years of age.

RFID use is only authorized in the following circumstances and only for those persons believed to be 16 years of age or older:

- When an individual has been arrested unless the offense charged is a Class 2 or Class 3 misdemeanor under Chapter 20 of the North Carolina General Statutes: "Motor Vehicles" (see N.C.G.S. § [15A-502](#) for additional).
- or,
- When the individual has given his or her consent. Officers shall not threaten or coerce the individual into submitting to the RFID. Prohibited coercion includes, but is not limited to, telling the individual that he/she will be arrested if he/she fails to give consent.

or,

- When the identity of an unconscious or deceased individual is unknown.

or,

- When authorized by a court order, search warrant or Non-Testimonial Identification Order.

RFID Issuance

The Durham Police Department (DPD) has only a small number of RFIDs available for use. The department's Information Technology (IT) Division, with direction from the Executive Command Staff (ECS), will assign the RFIDs to specific divisions and/or units. Supervisors from those divisions/units will be consulted by IT Division staff to determine who within their division/unit is to be assigned an RFID.

Program Management & Equipment Maintenance

The department's IT Division will handle hardware/software installation, maintaining inventory records, troubleshooting, budget preparation and policy development. The IT Division will also work with the DPD Training Division to coordinate the training of affected staff in the use of RFIDs.

The department's Help Desk phone (919)560-1350 or email pdhelpdesk@durhamnc.gov should be used to request IT Division assistance.



*Jose L. Lopez, Sr.
Chief of Police*