DECEASED PERSONS IDENTIFICATION SERVICES

DPI Services

Providing a fingerprint-based identification service for active and cold cases.

Using Unknown Deceased (DEU), Known Deceased (DEK), and Latent Types of Transactions (TOTs) for Deceased Identification

- **Using a combination of tenprint and latent searches enhances the ability to identify deceased individuals.** Contributors should consider the TOTs available to them when choosing how to submit deceased identification requests. The DEU and DEK TOTs provide a tenprint search of several fingerprint systems and retain the fingerprints in the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) System to enable a future identification when additional fingerprints are submitted with biographic information. Latent searches enhance the ability to identify an individual when fingerprint quality may degrade tenprint search accuracy. Both provide valuable tools for deceased identification.
- **Contributors are encouraged to submit deceased identification requests using the DEU and DEK TOTs when programmed because both offer numerous benefits.** The DEU and DEK TOTs use a tenprint algorithm to compare each fingerprint in the submission to each fingerprint in the NGI System's composite-based sets of fingerprints. Federal and state users programmed to submit using the DEU and DEK TOTs can search the criminal and civil identities in the NGI System, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Automated Biometric Identification System, and the U.S. Department of Defense Automated Biometric Identification System. These TOTs also update a record in the NGI System as deceased, provide the date of death, and notify record-holding states in one fingerprint-based transaction. The fingerprint images are retained in the NGI System regardless of image quality. Subsequent fingerprint submissions containing biographic data may hit against the unknown deceased record and identify the individual. Contributors are encouraged to submit their deceased identification requests using the DEK TOT when biographic and biometric data are available and to use the DEU TOT when only biometric data is available. Contributors should provide prints for as many fingers as possible to increase the chance of identification.
- **Latent searches can be used to identify unknown deceased individuals after tenprint searches have not identified the deceased person; however latent searches do not update an identity as deceased or establish a deceased identity.** The Latent Friction Ridge Image Search (LFIS) and the Latent Friction Ridge Feature Search (LFFS) TOTs allow for a targeted search of the NGI System. The LFIS TOT provides a candidate list to the submitting agency to perform the fingerprint comparison. The FBI's Laboratory Division, states, and criminal justice agencies may use the LFFS TOT search option, which provides greater search accuracy due to the inclusion of expert minutiae encoded by Latent Print Examiners. The NGI System produces and returns a list of candidates with similar unique characteristics. These candidates are compared by the submitting Latent Print Examiner to exclude or identify the latent print. When the individual's identity is confirmed, please submit the DEK TOT to update the identity as deceased.

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- **Whether the LFIS or the LFFS TOT is used, the best quality fingerprints from both hands should be submitted.** Users may indicate the finger position to be searched. The fingerprints are not retained in the NGI System preventing subsequent searches from matching to the submission and providing an identification. However, if the latent print remains unidentified, it may be retained within the Unsolved Latent File (ULF) by setting the retention to "Y." Retention within ULF allows newly received biometric events processed by the NGI System to produce new candidates for examination after the initial latent search and retention. If no identification is made, fingerprints should be submitted using the DEU or DEK TOTs (if they have not already been submitted) to ensure the identity is established in the NGI System.

Search Types Quick View

Deceased Searches	Latent Searches
Provides a tenprint search against composite-based sets of fingerprints.	Provides a one-to-one search of all biometric events.
May use one or several fingers (when appropriately marked).	May use one or several fingers.
Enrolls in the NGI System as an identity.	Enrolls in ULF (when users select Retention Code of "Y").
Updates the identity as deceased if a record exists.	Does not update the identity as deceased.
Retains deceased events regardless of image quality.	May be submitted when a tenprint search does not identify the individual.
Cascades against all record types.	Cascades of all criminal fingerprint events and all civil events, with the exception of 13 states
Searches all fingerprint-based requests against the identity once enrolled in the NGI System.	May be searched prior to or after a tenprint search.
Provides identification or nonidentification response.	Provides a candidate list for comparison.

For fingerprint submission assistance and programming for the DEU or DEK TOTs, contact the Customer Service Group (CSG) at CK_CSG@fbi.gov. For fingerprint processing assistance during a system outage and fingerprint-based deceased identification requests, contact SPC at SPC_Team@fbi.gov. For general assistance with deceased requests, contact the DPI Services via email at DPIServices@fbi.gov. For general assistance with requests for latent searches, contact latent support via email at latentsupport@leo.gov or phone at 304-625-L8NT.

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