



Privacy Impact Assessment
for the

National Drug Pointer Index

(NDPIX)

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Contact Point

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Introduction

The National Drug Pointer Index (NDPIX) is a pointer system designed to enhance officer safety and strengthen cases by putting officers working on the same target in touch with each other. NDPIX does not allow any queries into the system, or silent hits. Users must enter their own data to find out if anyone else is looking at the same target.

Section 1.0 The System and the Information Collected and Stored within the System.

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information in the system, specifically the nature of the information and the sources from which it is obtained.

1.1 What information is to be collected?

NDPIX requires only three fields on a target, the Name or Alias, Gender, and Date of Birth or estimated Age. In addition, there are other fields that can be entered such as Social Security Number, FBI Number, or additional identifying information about the target. In addition to the target specific information, NDPIX requires a Case Number, Agent Name, Agency, and Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) number.

1.2 From whom is the information collected?

An investigator enters the name, alias, gender, and age/date of birth of targets of drug investigations. The investigators obtain this data from sources they encounter in the course of their investigative work.

Section 2.0

The Purpose of the System and the Information Collected and Stored within the System.

The following questions are intended to delineate clearly the purpose for which information is collected in the system.

2.1 Why is the information being collected?

The information is being collected to connect Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) with other LEOs who are working on matters related to the same target.

Section 3.0

Uses of the System and the Information.

The following questions are intended to clearly delineate the intended uses of the information in the system.

3.1 Describe all uses of the information.

NDPIX is an automated transaction processing system that allows law enforcement officers to input target specific information such as name, sex, DOB into the system. Once this data is stored in the database an automated match process is run that seeks any other targets that are close enough to the entered information to be a match. Once the system deems a match is made, both the originating officer and the officer whose target was matched are notified of the match. The only information shared is the Point of Contact information, i.e. the officer's name, organization, phone number, case number and target name. This is not a query system. At no time can an officer query or view any other officer's data in the system.

Section 4.0 Internal Sharing and Disclosure of Information within the System.

The following questions are intended to define the scope of sharing both within the Department of Justice and with other recipients.

4.1 With which internal components of the Department is the information shared?

Currently, the only full DOJ participant is the DEA. There is limited FBI participation through DEA task forces and HDTAS.

Section 5.0

External Sharing and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the content, scope, and authority for information sharing external to DOJ which includes foreign, Federal, state and local government, and the private sector.

5.1 With which external (non-DOJ) recipient(s) is the information shared?

NDPIX shares the LEO contact on matching targets with other State, Local and Federal officers. NDPIX is also a participant in National Virtual Pointer System (NVPS) and shares contact information with NVPS participants.

Section 6.0 Notice

The following questions are directed at notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the opportunity to consent to uses of said information, and the opportunity to decline to provide information.

6.2 Do individuals have an opportunity and/or right to decline to provide information?

Individuals from whom information in this law enforcement system is collected have neither an opportunity nor a right to decline to provide information. Exceptions to this general rule include information collected directly from individuals afforded rights under the Fifth Amendment and from individuals who may lawfully assert a privilege (*e.g.* attorney-client privilege, spousal privilege).

6.3 Do individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of the information, and if so, what is the procedure by which an individual would provide such consent?

Individuals from whom information in this law enforcement system is collected have no opportunity to consent to particular uses of the information they provided.

Section 8.0

Technical Access and Security

The following questions are intended to describe technical safeguards and security measures.

8.9 Privacy Impact Analysis: Given access and security controls, what privacy risks were identified and describe how they were mitigated.

The risk of a user entering data or “fishing” to find out if someone is being targeted was identified as a risk. To mitigate “fishing expeditions,” target information must be entered into the system. There is no query functionality to search on a target. There is no delete functionality built into the system. Once a target is entered, it remains for 365 days and will automatically be purged from the system if it is not renewed by the data owner.


In addition, an extensive auditing function was built that allows security officers to track a target system usage on an entry by entry basis and end to end. This allows a Security Officer to reconstruct the exact scenario the user performed and know exactly what transpired during the user’s session.

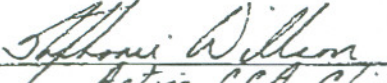
Participation agreements must be submitted by the user agency. NDPIX then issues passwords and user ID's to the data input personnel who populate and receive NDPIX message related traffic.

Conclusion


NDPIX is a pointer system that connects LEOs working on matters related to the same target. Privacy risks in NDPIX are controlled by user authentication, extensive auditing, and providing no query functionality to search for specific targets.

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