



IC31

IDENTIFICATION OF CRIMINALS ACT

IC31

Effective Date: 01 January 1996
Last Reviewed/Revised Date: 12 December 2024*

POLICY

1. The Chief Constable shall provide Procedures, pursuant to this Policy, for taking fingerprints, photographs, measurements, or other processes for the purposes of identifying a person in accordance with legal authority.

REASON FOR POLICY

2. To seek to ensure that the identification of persons accords with law.

RELATED POLICIES

- IC10 – Use of Force
- IC30 – Detention, Arrest & Post-Arrest Processing
- IC50 – Cell Block Detention Facilities (Delta & Surrey)
- IC60 – Young Persons

PROCEDURES

3. The investigating member shall obtain fingerprints, photographs, or measurements of persons:
 - a) arrested for an indictable offence (for the purposes of the *Identification of Criminals Act*, this includes dual procedure / hybrid offences);
 - b) apprehended under the *Extradition Act*; and
 - c) in relation to a terrorist offence (*Criminal Code*, s. 83.3).
4. Members shall comply with any additional directions published or posted in Delta and Surrey cell blocks.



Refusal & Use of Force

5. An arrested person is legally entitled to refuse being fingerprinted/photographed if they have not yet formally been charged, i.e., an Information has not been sworn, in which case force may not be used to fingerprint/photograph the person.
6. Persons under the age of 18 may be fingerprinted/photographed, but only after an Information is sworn.
7. Force may be used as necessary to carry out fingerprinting/photographing a person once charged, and the member must notify their supervisor if force was used.

Failure to Attend

8. If a person who is required to be fingerprinted/photographed, as directed by an Appearance Notice, fails to attend, the member shall request Crown counsel to apply for a warrant for the person's arrest.
9. A person arrested on a warrant for failing to attend shall, as soon as practicable, be fingerprinted/photographed and released, unless their further detention is legally authorized.

*Revised Dates:
01 May 2008
16 February 2012