LEADS Daily Bulletin

April 13, 2026

Acceptable Reasons to Perform a CHRI Inquiry

The LEADS staff is frequently asked when it is acceptable to run criminal history (CHRI) inquiries. In addition to the routine "criminal justice purposes only" question, periodically more specific questions arise, such as: "Is it acceptable for an officer to run a criminal history on everyone he has contact with?" The answer to this question is quite simply, **no**.

LEADS Administration consulted with the FBI Office of General Counsel (OGC) for further clarification regarding this issue. The FBI OGC advised that a traffic stop or call for service alone does not constitute grounds for a CHRI check. There must be a reasonable articulable suspicion of criminal behavior or other reasonable basis to perform a CHRI inquiry on a particular subject, and not the “ever present potential for criminality." Running a criminal history check on every individual encountered during a shift/traffic stop would not seem to meet these requirements, unless the officer encountering the subject feels there is something suspicious about the subject which would warrant a CHRI inquiry.

For additional information, please refer the LEADS 3.0 Manual, CHRI Chapter, Section 1.2 AUTHORIZATION FOR LEADS ACCESS/DISSEMINATION OF CHRI.

https://isp.illinois.gov/LawEnforcement/LEADS3Manual

Operator's Initials	Date	Operator's Initials	Date	Operator's Initials	Date	Operator's Initials	Date	Operator's Initials	Date