

LEADS 3.0 Daily Bulletin

December 17, 2025

NCIC NICS Denied Transaction File / NICS Denial Notification Act

As a reminder, the **NICS Denied Transaction File (NDTF)** in NCIC is designed to share information regarding individuals who, having been determined to be prohibited persons according to the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993 (Brady Act), have been denied as a result of a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) background check. The data in the NDTF will enhance officer and public safety and provide investigative assistance. No enforcement action may be taken based solely upon a NICS Denied Transaction File Response.

In March 2022 the U.S. Congress passed, and the President signed into law the **NICS Denial Notification Act (NDNA)** as part of the Appropriations Act. The NDNA requires the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Office to report denied attempts to purchase a firearm within 24 hours to local law enforcement authorities based on where the firearm dealer is located and, if different, where the purchaser resides. Notifications to local law enforcement agencies will begin on September 26, 2022 and be in the form of an NLETS Administrative Message.

For firearm purchases made in Illinois, the ISP Firearms Services Bureau (FSB) conducts the NICS background check. For firearm denials made by the ISP FSB, denial notifications will continue to be sent to your agency via directed message to your LEADS terminal. However, regarding this new NICS Denial Notification from the FBI (shown below), Illinois law enforcement agencies will ONLY receive this notice when an Illinois resident attempts to purchase a firearm in another state where the FBI performs the background checks for that particular state. This NICS denial notification is for information only; there is no requirement for action to be taken by the agency notified. Any questions regarding these notifications should be directed to the FBI at the web address listed on the notification.

If you have any other questions or issues, please contact the ISP Help Desk by either emailing your questions to ISP.HelpDesk@illinois.gov or by calling 866/LEADS-00. Please provide your agency ORI with the request.

Example Denial Notification

The following is the denial notification that will be received when an individual is denied the attempted transfer of a firearm:

FIREARM DENIAL NOTICE:

A PERSON PURCHASING/RESIDING IN YOUR JURISDICTION WAS RECENTLY DENIED THE TRANSFER OF HANDGUN

THE FBI ENCOURAGES YOU TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES OFFICE PRIOR TO TAKING ACTION. CHARLESTON ATF, 304-234-5678

THE NATIONAL INSTANT CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK SYSTEM (NICS) SECTION CONDUCTED A NAME SEARCH USING DESCRIPTIVE DATA, NOT FINGERPRINTS, FOR A FIREARM BACKGROUND CHECK WHICH WAS DENIED ON 4/26/2022, 02:02:23PM
FOR:

NAME: DOE, JOHN L. NTN: 102356748

SEX: M RACE: W DATE OF BIRTH: 10-11-1990 PLACE OF BIRTH: WV

HEIGHT: 6'1" WEIGHT: 185 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: 123-45-6789

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: 456 AMERICAN WAY, APPLE PIE, APPLE PIE COUNTY, WV 22445

INFORMATION RECEIVED INDICATES THE ATTEMPTED PURCHASER IS PROHIBITED FROM RECEIVING OR POSSESSING FIREARMS IN THE STATE OF PURCHASE AND/OR STATE OR RESIDENCE, BASED ON:

SUBJECT OF QUALIFYING PROTECTION ORDER

THE ATTEMPTED PURCHASE OCCURRED AT:

FIREARM DEALER: USA ARMS

ADDRESS: 123 MAIN STREET, HOMETOWN, HOMETOWN COUNTY WV, 23456

PHONE: 304-625-1002

SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS NOTIFICATION, PLEASE VISIT: (Web address will be inserted when established WWW.FBI.GOV)

THIS NOTIFICATION WAS ALSO PROVIDED TO THE FOLLOWING ORI(S):

WV0470150 SO APPLE PIE COUNTY 304-478-0000

WV0625630 PD HOMETOWN 304-457-0000

[illegible]