LEADS Daily Briefing for January 30, 2020

Clarifying the Use of Caution Indicators

As a reminder, caution indicators should be used with entry message keys under the following circumstances:

- Offense involved the use of a weapon
- Subject is known to possess a weapon
- Subject has a history of violence
- Subject has a history of possession/using weapons
- It is believed subject may pose a threat to safety of public or officer when encountered
- Subject is or has been known to be suicidal

The bullet point above that seems to raise the most confusion is "subject has a history of violence". This means a caution indicator should be used when the person has committed a violent offense or exhibited violent tendencies. Examples would include something violent in the subject's criminal history, a previous violent encounter documented in an agency's files, the offense on a warrant being entered involves violence, etc. So violent offenses like murder, resisting arrest, robbery, battery (including domestic battery), etc. would all necessitate the use of a caution indicator.

When a caution indicator suffix is used, amplifying details/weapon information should be placed in the first part of the MIS field. Agencies should also have appropriate documentation available to support the use of a caution indicator (i.e., criminal history response, statements in officer's report, the warrant stating the offense, etc.). For specific caution indicator suffixes available, see the Message Key/Record Label Field Description page in the eManual chapter of the hot file being entered.

During the validation process entries should be reviewed for correct caution indicator usage and corrected as needed.

For assistance please contact the Help Desk at 866/LEADS-00.

Operator's Initials	Date								
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