



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
A Nationally Accredited Laboratory

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### NOTICE OF DFS POLICY CHANGE

To: All Agencies Served by the Department of Forensic Science

From: Linda C. Jackson, Director 

Date: July 9, 2015

RE: Change in DFS Policy for Reporting NIBIN Associations

Effective immediately, the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) will be implementing changes to our current process for reporting National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) results. DFS will discontinue the current practice of confirming all NIBIN associations. Instead, DFS will issue a Certificate of Analysis (CoA) or letter to the appropriate law enforcement agencies informing them of a potential NIBIN association. This change is necessary to better serve our customers by attempting to reduce turnaround times for firearms analysis. Confirmation of potential NIBIN associations will be performed only if such examinations are needed to support any agency's investigation. If confirmation is necessary, all evidence relevant to the association will need to be resubmitted to DFS.

This change in practice does not affect the information that will be exchanged with the ATF in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding established between the DFS and the ATF when utilizing the NIBIN system.

For questions regarding this policy, please contact the Firearms Section Supervisor at the DFS Laboratory that provides service to your agency:

- Central Laboratory – Stephen Atkinson (804-588-4141)
- Eastern Laboratory – Allison Milam (757-355-5965)
- Northern Laboratory – Jay Mason (703-334-9748)
- Western Laboratory – Wendy Gibson (540-283-5932)