



Annual Report **2020-2021**



Tennessee Bureau of Investigation



BILL LEE
Governor

TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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DAVID B. RAUSCH
Director

September 29, 2021

Honorable Members of the
Tennessee General Assembly

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to present the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Report for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. As you will see, our agency continues to work to streamline operations to increase efficiency and effectiveness, while maintaining the standard of services you and the public have come to expect. By reading this report, I believe you will gain a better understanding of the TBI as an organization, along with our accomplishments and the importance of our employees' daily work in making the agency an essential part of Tennessee's judicial system.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was a successful one for the Bureau. In addition to a high number of criminal and drug cases resulting in arrests and convictions, the Bureau continued its bold work to investigate cases of human trafficking in Tennessee, in addition to training hundreds of law enforcement officers across the state about this unique kind of crime. Additionally, our agency joined the ongoing effort among state agencies to alert the public about the risks surrounding the abuse of illicit prescription drugs.

The TBI remains committed to providing the most advanced investigative and forensic services, while staying focused on the basics of fighting crime. The Bureau continues to provide assistance to the Tennessee District Attorneys General and works closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners. Our agency takes great pride in the fact we have evolved over the years into a highly respected law enforcement organization with highly trained, dedicated, professional employees who remain committed to excellence and public service.

When the Bureau was founded, now more than 60 years ago, the citizens of our state charged TBI with a great responsibility. With your continued support and assistance, we will vigorously pursue the ultimate goal summed up in our mission statement to ensure "that guilt shall not escape nor innocence suffer."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Rausch", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Director
David Rausch

Introduction

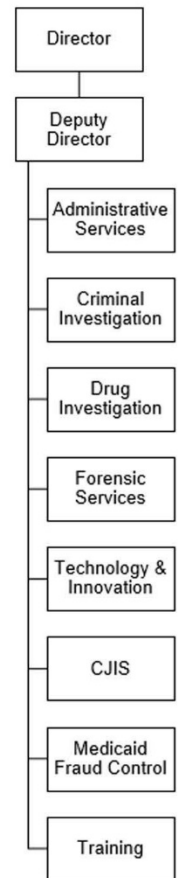
The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has a rich tradition of protecting and serving the people of Tennessee.

Our agency traces its roots to March of 1951, when the state established the Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification (TBCI) within the Department of Safety. In 1980, the organization became an independent agency known as the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

The TBI is accountable to the District Attorneys General and to the Judiciary for its performance of services and to the Executive and Legislative branches for support functions. Under state law, the TBI may investigate any criminal violation upon the request of the District Attorney General for that judicial district. The TBI has original jurisdiction over several crimes, including narcotics laws, fugitive investigations, public corruption, official misconduct, Medicaid provider fraud and abuse, human trafficking, and domestic terrorism. Additionally, the TBI assists local law enforcement agencies in joint investigations.

TBI has also been designated to coordinate the gathering, analysis, and dissemination of state and local criminal justice statistics and provides that data to the Governor, General Assembly, all law enforcement agencies, and the public. The TBI also maintains the computer information network for law enforcement in the state and conducts classes for users of the network.

The TBI stays at the forefront of new technologies to advance criminal investigations, while working to improve communication among other state and local law enforcement agencies to provide more sensitive and accurate scientific examinations of evidence.



In June 2018, Governor Bill Haslam appointed David B. Rausch to serve as the 9th Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

Director David B. Rausch was born in Louisville, Kentucky. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1986 and his Master of Science in Justice Administration in 2001, both from the University of Louisville. He was enlisted and served in the United States Army Military Police Corps from 1986 to 1990, where he attained the rank of Sergeant. He served for 25 years in the Knoxville Police Department, from 1993 to 2018, and served his last 7 years as Chief of Police. He also served on the department's Special Operations Squad (SWAT Team) for 10 years from 1997 to 2007.



Our Mission

That Guilt Shall Not Escape Nor Innocence Suffer

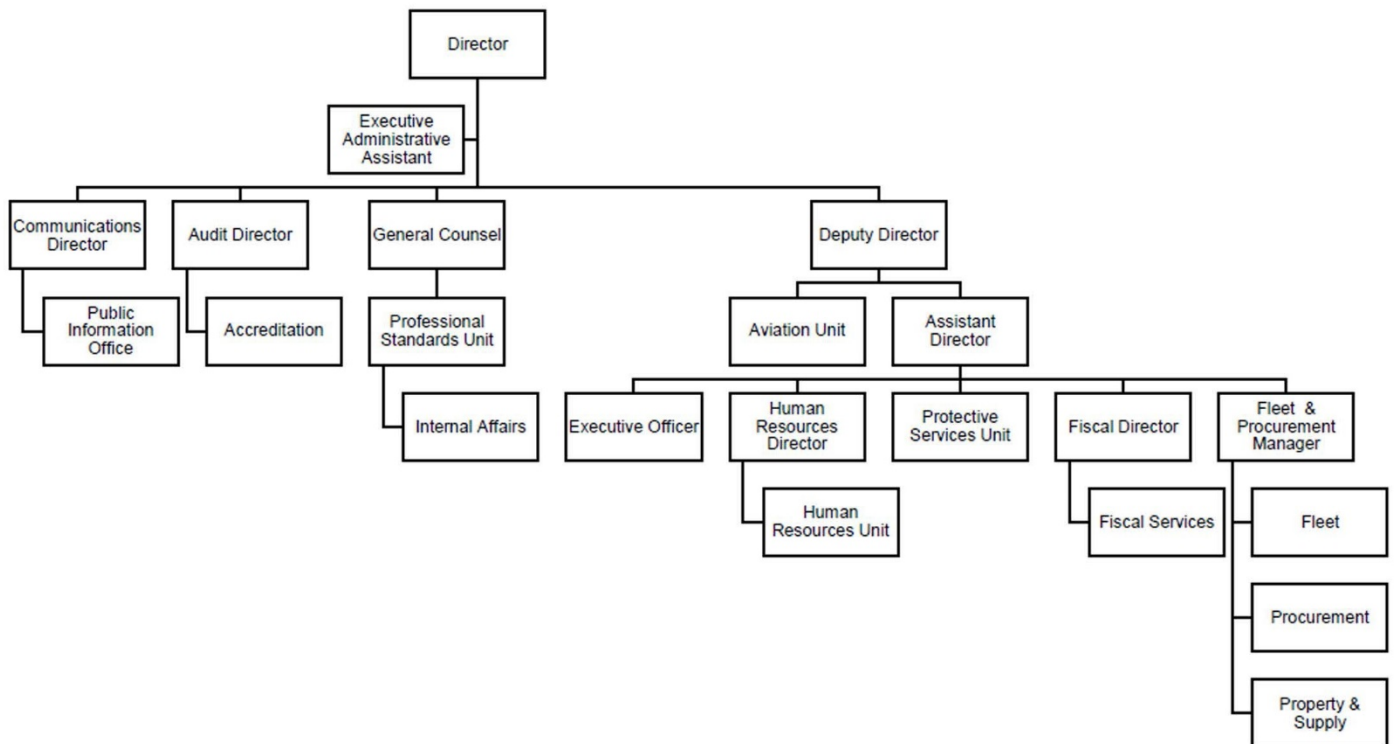
Our Values

Truth. Bravery. Integrity.

AT – A – Glance

- During Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021, the Tennessee Instant Check System processed 733,423 total firearm transactions.
- During the most recent fiscal year, TBI's Public Information Office responded to several thousand media inquiries and issued 233 news releases.
- TBI's Most Wanted program led to the captures of **18** dangerous fugitives in Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021, bringing the total to **475** since the inception of the program.
- Since the inception of the AMBER Alert program in Tennessee, there have been 141 activations, including 6 in Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021.
- TBI's share of currency seized in drug cases totaled \$208,687.29; all of which were proceeds of drug trafficking or funds used to facilitate drug trafficking.
- Agents in the Criminal Investigation Division made 143 arrests. They also assisted in the arrests of fugitives and noncompliant sex offenders.
- Human Trafficking Intelligence Analysts processed 1,065 tips in Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021, 740 of which involved minors.
- During Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021, Forensic Scientists at TBI completed 59,698 requests for analysis.
- TBI's Training Division conducted more than 875 hours of training with more than 2,517 law enforcement professionals.

Administrative Services



The **Administrative Services Division** is responsible for providing technical and administrative support to all areas of the Bureau. This includes public information, human resources, auditing, fleet/procurement, fiscal services, accreditation and professional standards.

The Administrative Services Division is responsible for providing technical and administrative support to all areas of the Bureau. This includes public information, human resources, auditing, fleet/procurement, fiscal services, accreditation, protective services, and professional standards.

The offices of Internal Audit, Legal, and Public Information report directly to the Director of the Bureau. The Aviation Unit is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Director. Other areas of the Administrative Division, such as Human Resources, Fiscal Services, Protective Services, Fleet/Procurement, and the office of the Executive Officer are supervised by the Assistant Director of Administrative Services.

Internal Audit

The mission of the internal audit office is to provide independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Bureau's operations. It helps the TBI accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes.

The scope of work of the internal audit office is to help ensure:

- Risks are appropriately identified and managed.
- Significant financial, managerial, and operational information is accurate, reliable, and timely.
- Employees' actions comply with policies, standards, procedures, and applicable laws and regulations.
- Resources are acquired economically, used efficiently, and adequately protected.
- Programs, plans, and objectives are achieved.
- Quality and continuous improvement are fostered in the organization's control process.
- Significant legislative or regulatory issues affecting the organization are recognized and addressed appropriately.

ACCREDITATION

TBI has been internationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since November 19, 1994. The Accreditation Manager's responsibilities and support from the Administrative Services Division help to ensure that the Bureau maintains compliance with CALEA accreditation standards including representation of the Bureau during periodic re-accreditation inspections. The Bureau was successfully reaccredited in 1997, 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015, and 2019. The next CALEA onsite will be August of 2023.

TBI received accreditation from the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (TLEA) in 2016 and 2020. The next TLEA reaccreditation will be in 2024.



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Public Information Office is the central point for communication between the TBI and the general public. In addition to a wide variety of community relations functions, the office handles daily media and public inquiries the Bureau receives about criminal investigations, policies and procedures, programs, legislation, personnel issues, data, statistics and budget.

In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the Public Information Office received several thousand media inquiries, which included local Tennessee newspapers, television and radio stations, as well as national and international media outlets. In turn, the agency's spokespersons formulated responses for those inquiries on the Bureau's behalf. The office is also responsible for the coordination of press conferences and manages media staging in the field during a variety of TBI-related incidents. The Public Information Office develops and produces news releases to a large database of media contacts across the state. The office issued a total of 233 news releases in Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Currently, the agency has a Public Information Officer assigned to TBI's West and Upper East regions, along with a Senior Public Information Officer and Communication Director who handle duties in the Middle and East region from TBI Headquarters in Nashville. The Communications Director reports directly to the TBI Director.

The Public Information Office also oversees internal communications efforts and issues a quarterly agency-wide newsletter. In addition, the office oversees the agency's social media efforts. As of the end of Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the TBI currently had more than 84,000 followers on Twitter, and more than 166,000 Facebook "Likes." The Public Information Office also assists with daily website updates and development, graphics for TBI publications, and the production of all outside promotional materials related to the Bureau. The agency's PIOs also train internal and external law enforcement partners on media relations and social media.

Professional Standards

The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) is responsible for the TBI's legal functions. It is made up of a General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel, three staff attorneys, and an Executive Administrative Assistant 1. General Counsel reports directly to the TBI Director. The Deputy General Counsel and the Executive Administrative Assistant 1 report to the General Counsel. All three staff attorneys report to the Deputy General Counsel.

LEGAL

The primary responsibility of the attorneys and staff of the PSU is to provide legal counsel to all Divisions and units within the TBI on any legal issues that arise from TBI activities. In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the PSU met its objectives by providing counsel to agents and employees in the field, working with the State Attorney General's office in representing the TBI and TBI employees in ongoing litigation, establishing and implementing contracts, responding to requests and demands for Bureau records, reviewing and tracking legislation that impacts the Bureau, representing the Director before legislative committees as required and advising on and processing employment decisions made by Bureau management.

The PSU works closely with the Training Division in providing legal training both inside and outside the TBI. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, PSU attorneys provided legal instruction at the TBI Special Agent Academy and at the TBI State Academy, as well as for TBI employees across the state. Additionally, legal personnel conducted several classes for the benefit of outside agencies.

PUBLIC RECORDS

PSU has an attorney who is designated as TBI's public records' coordinator. That attorney responds to all public records' requests that are directed to the Bureau.

Connect Online!    @TBIInvestigation

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

PSU provides oversight and legal counsel to the Bureau employees who investigate allegations of misconduct by TBI employees. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the PSU oversaw four (4) internal affairs investigations. The outcome of the four (4) investigations is as follows: two (2) were classified as unfounded and two (2) were founded. The two (2) founded outcomes resulted in a three-day suspension without pay for each employee.

AVIATION UNIT

The Aviation Unit consists of an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC), who serves as a full-time pilot, three additional full-time flight crew members and two contract pilots. The ASAC reports directly to the Deputy Director. These agents operate TBI's Cessna 182 Skylane and Pilatus PC-12NG aircraft as necessary in support of TBI investigations and the needs of other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. The Bureau Aircraft are used for surveillance, intelligence-gathering, and the transportation of critical personnel in support of law enforcement operations.

Since taking possession of the Pilatus PC-12NG aircraft, the aviation unit has proven to be beneficial to the citizens of the State of Tennessee. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, TBI aircraft flew 131 missions totaling 436 flight hours. In addition to the 131 missions, the aviation unit assisted in 14 Amber Alerts/Endangered Child Alerts, 7 Manhunts, 5 Missing Persons, 2 Natural Disasters, and assisted the FBI, ATF, and Metro Nashville Police Department during the Christmas day bombing event in downtown Nashville. In October of 2020, the flight crew located and directed law enforcement officers by using multiple infrared technologies to the person responsible for shooting an East Ridge Police Officer and shooting at multiple law enforcement personnel.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Assistant Director oversees the offices of the Executive Officer, Fiscal Services, Human Resources, Protective Services, Facility Management and Leasing, Procurement/Fleet, and Property and Supply. Additionally, the Assistant Director has direct oversight for the Training Division, Forensic Services Division and Information Services Division in the areas of policy and budgetary concerns.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Executive Officer is a member of senior management and is responsible for the expansion and enhancement of the Bureau through the creation and implementation of special programs and projects. To date, the Executive Officer has implemented the Public Information Office, peer support services, TBI Victim Services program, the TBI naloxone policy, OneBureau, OneFamily, Alternative Work Solutions (AWS) and the TBI Awards program. Other duties include policy assessment, managing TBI Suggestions emails and oversight of supplemental services and projects.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Office provides guidance and strategies to align TBI personnel, processes, and organizational structure with the Bureau mission. Management consultation services are provided in the areas of recruitment, onboarding, employee relations, leave and attendance, performance management, classification, compensation, organizational effectiveness, and workforce development.

The unit also provides technical support for the processing of payroll, benefits, worker's compensation, and other transactions for employees. The unit is responsible for compliance with the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Amended Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI and IX, as well as, the Rules of the Tennessee Department of Human Resources.

The Human Resources Unit develops, implements, monitors, and recommends strategic improvements for the Bureau's annual Affirmative Action Plan. In addition, this Unit assists in the development and implementation of new processes and initiatives established in Tennessee state government.

A survey conducted by the Human Resources Unit determined that 91 percent of all TBI employees have some post-secondary education.

The survey further indicated that 22 employees had earned an Associate's Degree, 339 employees hold a Bachelor's Degree (only), 133 employees hold a Master's Degree, 9 employees hold a Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.), 11 employees earned a Ph.D., and 2 have Post-Doctorate education. The following chart to the right presents the data.

Education Level	
2-Year College Degree	22
Bachelors Level Degree	339
Doctorate (Academic)	11
Doctorate (Professional)	9
High School Graduate or Equivalent	37
Masters Level Degree	133
Not Indicated	7
Post-Doctorate	2
Some College	20
Some Graduate School	16
Technical School	2
TOTAL	598

PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT

In September 2017, the Uniformed Officer section was placed under the Technical Services Unit. In April 2019 the unit was renamed the Protective Services Unit and was placed within the Administrative Services Division.

Currently, there are 10 positions within this section, with one of those being stationed at the Knoxville Consolidated Facility. The officers are responsible for the physical security of the facilities, personnel and all guests at the facilities. Additional duties include conducting all background investigations for both full-time and temporary employees, interns, contract personnel, vendors, certain Tennessee Education Lottery employees, and all Governor Appointments. In calendar year 2019, the officers conducted a total of 426 background investigations. That number decreased to 193 background investigations in calendar year 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are seeing a steady rise of background investigations again for 2021.

Fiscal Services

The Fiscal Services Unit is a support unit for the TBI. As such, it has a vast array of responsibilities all of which are designed to ensure that each division within the Bureau is provided the resources and support necessary to function.

Specific examples of the services provided by this unit include the following:

- Preparing the Bureau's annual budget
- Monitoring expenditures and revenue collection
- Processing accounts receivable and payable transactions
- Maintaining all federal and interdepartmental grants
- Reviewing the fiscal effect of proposed legislation to the Bureau
- Serving as a liaison to the legislature and other state and federal accounting units

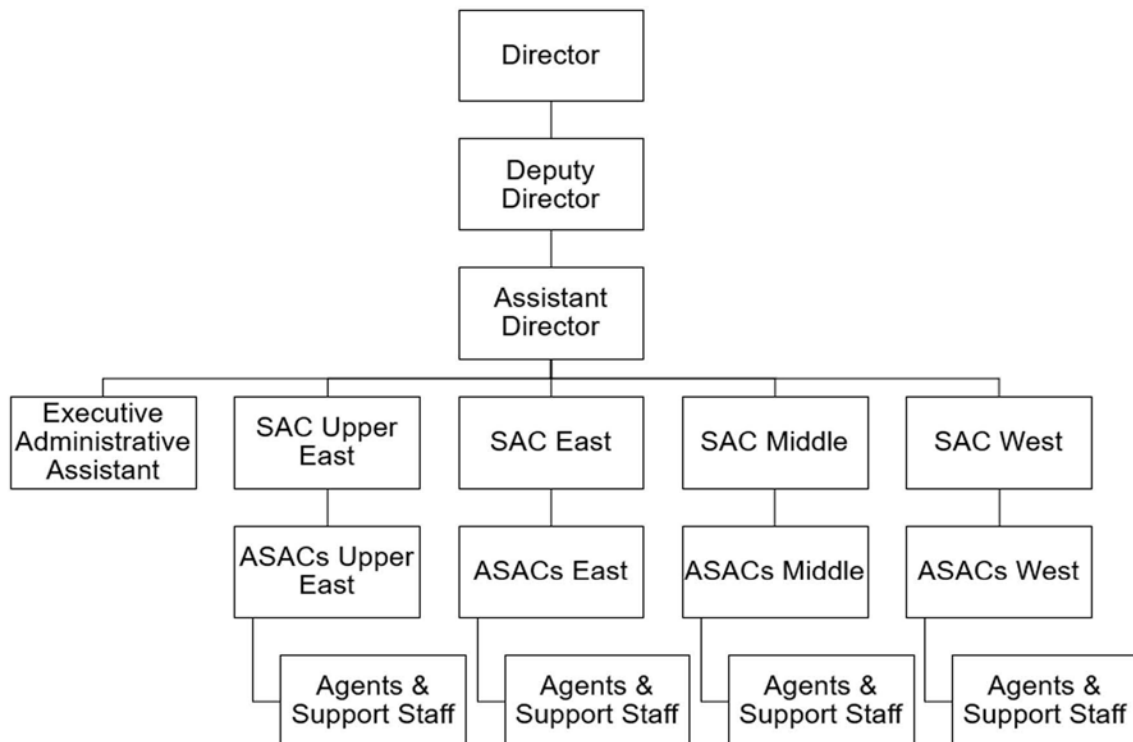
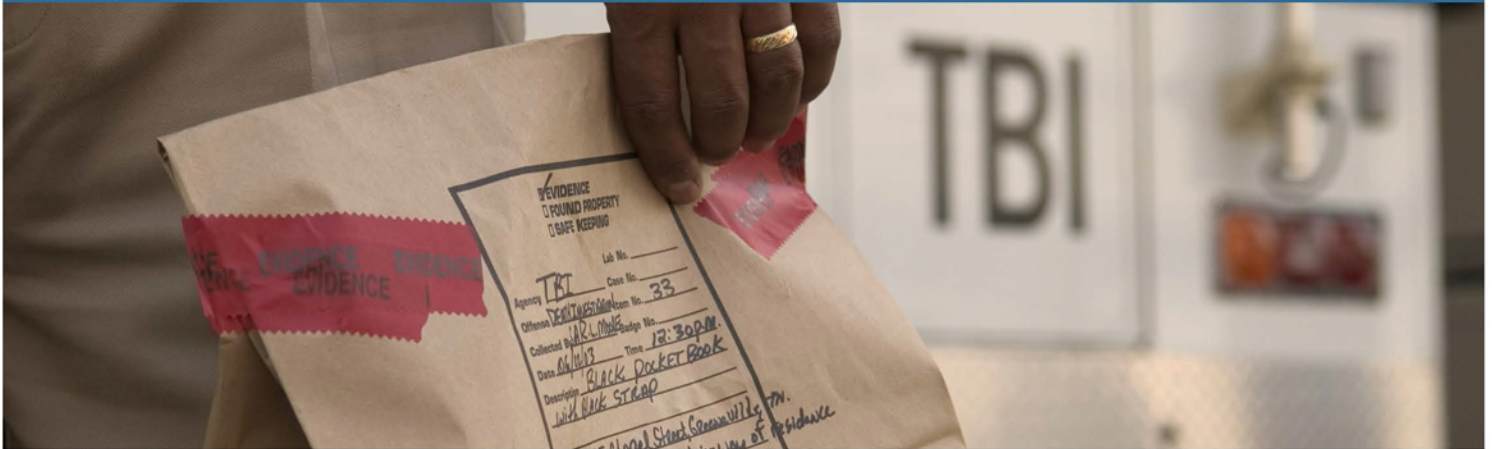
FLEET AND PROCUREMENT UNIT

- Purchasing of all goods and services necessary for TBI to function
- Managing all TBI vehicles and transportation equipment
- Fleet and procurement
- Conducting an annual inventory on all TBI state-tagged equipment

**Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
Expenditure by Account
Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

	ASD	CID	CJIS	DID	FSD	MFCD	TID	Training	Total
Salaries	4,010,840	6,995,015	2,588,376	5,148,960	9,358,895	4,136,085	4,345,195	730,822	37,314,188
Longevity	77,672	119,249	75,219	131,959	215,139	92,986	77,390	9,767	799,380
Overtime	84,674	385,408	106,778	685,636	321,457	11,909	181,313	4,118	1,781,293
Benefits	1,651,523	3,015,835	1,171,758	2,457,176	4,194,562	1,785,778	1,776,984	239,626	16,293,240
Total	5,824,710	10,515,507	3,942,131	8,423,730	14,090,053	6,026,758	6,380,881	984,333	56,188,102
Travel	25,209	74,724	8,597	122,247	40,825	16,961	40,213	39,163	367,938
Printing	697	15.48	0	5,449	0	89.25	0	517.92	6,768
Utilities	833	3,757	0	7,906	31,762	0	0	0	44,257
Communication	217,423	17,799	13,274	41,306	26,860	401.88	16,119	0	333,183
Maint.	28,620	11,832	5,006	17,990	341,990	417	4,612	11,100	421,566
Prof. Non-State	297,889	137,034	3,911,831	583,597	743,760	50,239	168,862	19,626	5,912,837
Supplies	207,389	102,076	3,448	295,279	2,168,770	66,880	94,279	374,481	3,312,602
Rental	16,700	3,226	0	34,936	7,638	0	0	0	62,500
Motor Vehicle	469,827	32,199	23.58	59,141	2,676	4,343	8,090	0	576,299
Awards	2,517	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,517
Grants and Subs	36,830	76,859	0	1,023,525	0	0	0	0	1,137,214
Unclassified	2,919	39,959	400	815,345	0	2,577	6,448	400	868,048
Equipment	240254.48	29,207	30744	621,521	577,519	79,130	500,550	87,500	2,166,426
Training	67,841	11,101	2,634	88,217	11,289	9,784	16,905	61,953	269,723
Data Processing	99,793	163,645	1,693,624	129,350	328,620	72,637	1,434,145	289,327	4,211,142
Prof. State	5,215,621	4,480,045	1,199,982	962,685	446,188	625,861	840,515	49,946	13,820,843
Total	6,930,360	5,183,478	6,869,564	4,808,494	4,727,896	929,319	3,130,739	934,013	33,513,864
Grand Total	12,755,070	15,698,985	10,811,695	13,232,224	18,817,949	6,956,077	9,511,620	1,918,346	89,701,966
State Funds	12,707,676	15,311,583	-5,016,635	10,012,487	15,944,142	1,016,468	8,971,031	1,895,132	59,741,883
Federal Funds	0	387,403	90,415	3,079,234	1,499,061	5,899,346	29,021	0	10,984,479
Other Funds	47,394	0	15,737,915	140,503	1,374,746	40263.72	511,567	23,214	18,975,603
Total Funds	12,755,070	15,698,985	10,811,695	13,232,224	18,817,949	6,956,077	9,511,620	1,918,346	89,701,966

Criminal Investigation



The **Criminal Investigation Division** was created as a resource for the District Attorneys General and law enforcement agencies across the state to provide expertise in criminal investigations. The Division is also responsible for investigating public corruption, human trafficking, and criminal official misconduct.

The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is made up of four regional field investigative units: West Tennessee, Middle Tennessee, East Tennessee and Upper East Tennessee. A Special Agent in Charge (SAC) who reports to the Assistant Director of CID heads each regional field investigation unit. The Middle Tennessee Field SAC and the West Tennessee Field SAC are supported by two Assistant Special Agents in Charge (ASAC), while Upper East and East each have three Assistant Special Agents in Charge. Upper East and East have a third ASAC due to their additional responsibilities of supervising the Human Trafficking and Polygraph Units.

The Criminal Investigation Division was created as a resource for the District Attorneys General and law enforcement agencies across the state to provide expertise in criminal investigations. The division is also responsible for investigating public corruption, fugitive apprehension and criminal official misconduct. The Bureau is a professional and dedicated law enforcement agency capable of responding to complex and difficult investigations. Recognizing that the image and perception of the Bureau rests on each employee, TBI emphasizes professionalism and continual training for all its employees.

As of June 30, 2021, the Criminal Investigation Division had 863 active/open major investigations. During the fiscal year, the division's agents conducted 330 major investigations, 724 assist investigations and 237 intelligence investigations in support of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. In total, CID conducted criminal investigations, investigative assists and intelligence gathering in 1,291 cases before concluding work in 812 cases. Beginning in January of 2019, reporting of case statistics reflect major cases only, with reporting of other classifications broken out for more accurate reporting. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, agents made 143 arrests. (At this time, many of them remaining judicially active.) In addition, agents either arrested or assisted in the arrest of fugitives and noncompliant sex offenders.

TBI's case management program, Investigation + Evidence (I+E), is upgraded on a regular basis, and new processes are being employed to make the system more functional and efficient for future TBI use. I+E online case access for all thirty-one district attorneys general, the three United States Attorneys in East, West and Middle Tennessee, as well as the State Attorney General, grant immediate and easy access to case file reports for attorneys prosecuting TBI cases. During the past year, several upgrades have been made to I+E online to enhance the ability of those stakeholders to access these case files in a more efficient and timely manner.

Statutory Responsibilities

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) has the authority to investigate any criminal violation upon the request of the District Attorney General for the judicial district where the offense occurred (Tennessee Code Annotated, §38-6-102(a)).

Absent a District Attorney's request, the TBI may, pursuant to TCA §38-6-102(b), investigate the following types of cases: fugitives from justice; offenses involving corruption of or misconduct by a public official; employees or prospective employees of the Bureau or Department of Safety; fraudulent conduct involving Social Security Administration Title II and Title XVI disability programs; and organized crime activities. In 2008, the General Assembly added two more areas of responsibility for TBI, both also found in TCA §38-6-102.

Those areas are original jurisdiction for investigations pertaining to the victimization of children by means of a computer or other electronic communications device, and the authority to make traffic stops in an emergency, where the safety of the public is in jeopardy. TBI is also permitted, pursuant to TCA §17-5-301 to assist the Court of the Judiciary when investigating the conduct of judges.

TCA §38-6-102(b)(2) further permits TBI to investigate allegations of felonious conduct resulting in serious bodily injury to a state inmate where the alleged perpetrator is an official, employee or trustee if the district attorney refuses to make such a request for investigation and to investigate fraud or corruption in the area of paroles. TCA §38-6-102(e)(1) allows for the investigation of domestic terrorism. The General Assembly has also given the TBI responsibility as to background checks. Among the many background checks TBI performs, TCA §38-6-106 allows the Bureau to conduct background checks on potential appointees to sensitive state positions upon the request of the Governor, Speaker of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice.

TCA §38-6-112 permits the State Attorney General to request TBI to investigate matters regarding the removal of public officials, unlawful restraint of trade and discrimination, securities fraud, and violations of the Consumer Protection Act. TBI has also received responsibilities through Executive Order. Executive Order 47 signed by Governor Lamar Alexander gave the TBI investigative responsibilities in the area of Medicaid Fraud. This action was later codified in TCA §71-5-2508. With the passage of SB1852/HB 1768, enhancing elder abuse to a Class D felony, TBI became a member of the Task Force on Elder Abuse created by the bill. During the 2014-2015 Legislative session, TBI was charged with acting as the lead agency of the Human Trafficking Advisory Council under T.C.A. §4-3-3001. Public Chapter 503 amends Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 6, Part 1 to give TBI an additional four agents whose duties are to provide instruction on human trafficking to law enforcement officers and other government officials who are directly involved with human trafficking. By Public Chapter 413, which adds T.C.A. §40-39-401 through §40-39-404, TBI was assigned responsibility for posting and maintaining the "Tennessee Animal Abuser Registry" on its web site beginning January 1, 2016.



Several new responsibilities were granted to TBI in the 2015-2016 Legislative session.

Public Chapter 1041, as enacted, authorizes TBI investigators, without a request from the district attorney general, to investigate criminal offenses related to arson and explosives and amends T.C.A. Title 38, Chapter 6 and Title 68, Chapter 102. T.C.A. Title 38 and Title 68 were amended by Public Chapter 896 to require the TBI to provide to the Commissioner of Health and the General Assembly an annual report on all law enforcement-related deaths that occurred in the prior calendar year. Public Chapter 972 amends T.C.A. Section 38-6-121 and encourages TBI to develop an activation card for law enforcement use in connection with the missing citizen alert program to help locate missing citizens who have wandered due to dementia or physical impairment. Public Chapter 239 amended T.C.A. Title 38 relative to the identification of unknown and missing persons and involves regional forensic centers (RFC), accredited by the National Association of Medical Examiners, in collecting information and coordinating with the TBI and other local law enforcement agencies in the identification of deceased persons whose deaths require inquiry by the medical examiner or coroner.

Effective July 1, 2018, Public Chapter 0799 requires the TBI to notify the department of mental health and substance abuse services if a person who has been adjudicated as a mental defective or judicially committed to a mental institution has attempted to purchase a firearm. In the 2018-2019 Legislative session, Public Chapter 262 adds General Sessions Court and Chancery Court to the list of courts required to report the additional personal identifiers of race, sex, and social security numbers to TBI TICS on those persons the court judicially commits to a mental institution or finds mentally defective. TBI must add the information into the FBI-NICS mental defective index and notify local law enforcement if such persons attempt to purchase a firearm. Also, during this legislative session, Public Chapter 487 transferred the Fire Investigations section from the Department of Commerce and Insurance to TBI. The authority to investigate fires for a cause and origin determination and any potential violations of criminal law will now fall under TBI. The bureau is required to share cause and origin information with the state Fire Marshall and the local fire chief where the fire occurred.

The Criminal Investigation Division's primary goal is to provide the most professional and comprehensive investigations possible by employing state-of-the-art equipment and methods in each of the areas previously outlined. Currently, to accomplish each of the statutory responsibilities outlined, the CID is staffed with 115 employees statewide, including all supervisors, criminal investigators, and support staff.

Field Investigation Unit

The Field Investigation Unit is divided geographically into four regions. Each region is headed by a Special Agent in Charge (SAC) who supervises 2 or 3 Assistant Special Agents in Charge (ASAC), 18 to 20 agents including those assigned to fire investigations, 1 to 3 Administrative Assistants, and 1 Intelligence Analyst. Generally, each judicial district has 1 to 3 field agents and/or investigators assigned to that district. From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the Polygraph unit performed 359 polygraph examinations, with most of these exams being performed at the request of local law enforcement officials.

Violent and white-collar crimes make up a large percentage of cases worked by the Field Investigation Unit. District Attorneys General across the state issue written requests that a Special Agent investigates a crime or allegation of a crime, especially those that require an independent examination such as an officer use of force. Last year, the Field Investigation Unit opened 105 death investigations and closed 85. Many times, the homicide cases involving missing persons, are considered cold cases or are cases where human remains are found but are unidentified. Other cases worked include the embezzlement or theft of large sums of money from public entities or private business, bribery, violent sex crimes, child abuse, officer misconduct and the death of jail inmates.

UPPER EAST TENNESSEE

The Upper East Tennessee Field Unit office is in Knoxville with a satellite office in Johnson City, this region is made up of 21 counties and 8 judicial districts. One Special Agent in Charge and 2 Assistant Special Agents in Charge supervise 21 employees. Those employees include: 2 Administrative Assistants, 1 Intelligence Analyst, 12 Special Agents assigned to conduct criminal investigations in field territories and 6 Special Agent Fire Investigators assigned to fire /explosive investigations, including 1 who is an Accelerant Detection Canine Handler.

The Upper East SAC also supervises the Polygraph Unit. The Polygraph Unit was created in December of 2019. While polygraph agents were previously supervised regionally, the unit is now formalized and supervised by technical expertise. As of August 20, 2020, the unit has a staff level of 6 positions. The positions are as follows; 1 Assistant Special Agent in Charge and 5 Special Agents that are Polygraph Examiners.

EAST TENNESSEE

The East Tennessee Field Unit office is in Chattanooga with a satellite office located in Cookeville, this region is made up of 25 counties and 7 judicial districts. One Special Agent in Charge and 2 Assistant Special Agents in Charge supervise 22 employees. Those employees include: 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Intelligence Analyst, one Special Agent Accelerant Detection Canine Handler, 6 Special Agent Fire Investigators and 11 Special Agents assigned to conduct criminal investigations in field territories.

The East SAC also supervises the State Human Trafficking Unit. The Human Trafficking Unit consists of 1 Assistant Special Agent in Charge, 4 Special Agents and 1 Human Trafficking Grant Coordinator.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

The Middle Tennessee Field Unit office is in Nashville, this region is made up of 28 counties and 9 judicial districts. One Special Agent in Charge and 2 Assistant Special Agents in Charge supervise 23 employees. Those employees include: 14 Special Agents assigned to conduct criminal investigations in field territories, 6 Special Agent Fire Investigators assigned to conduct fire/explosive investigations, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Intelligence Analyst and 2 Victim Services Coordinator.

The Middle SAC also supervises the Victim Services Program, the program has two Victim Services Coordinators. In the spring of 2015, the TBI Victim Services Program was launched with the purpose to identify and to establish meaningful relationships with victims and witnesses of TBI investigations with respect, care and empathy. The Bureau is committed to ensuring that victims and their families are provided with information required by state law and referred to community resources and other services as necessary. The mission of this program is to uphold the latter portion of the Bureau's mission statement, "That Guilt Shall Not Escape nor Innocence Suffer."

The Victim Services Coordinators are primarily responsible for obtaining victim and/or witness information, referral or services based on a "needs" assessment, providing education about the criminal justice process and investigation methods, providing case updates to victim and/or victims' families, providing feedback to supervision regarding challenges and concerns related to victim advocacy; communicating the objectives of the victim services program to peers, non-governmental organizations and other law enforcement partners. The Victim Services Coordinators report to the Special Agent in Charge of the Field Investigation Unit in Middle Tennessee.

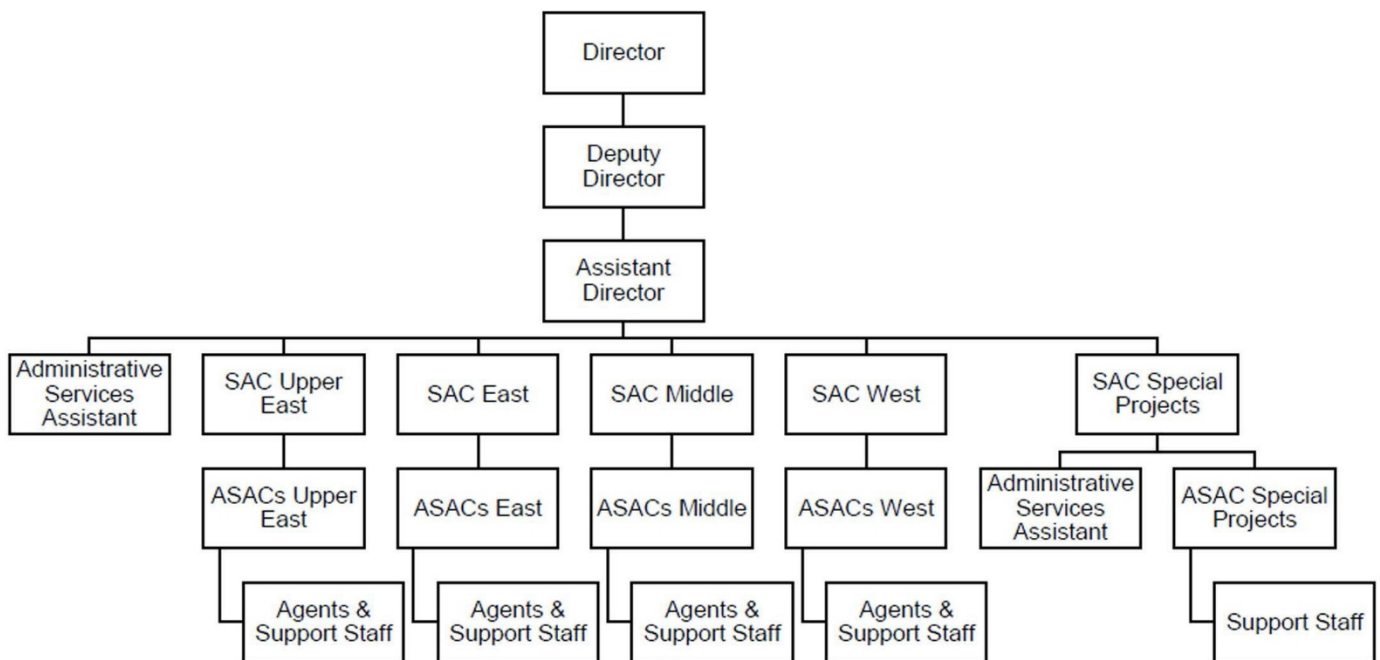
During the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 the Victim Services Coordinators received 17 referrals and made 177 contacts with victims and witnesses of TBI cases. There are currently 62 open cases in the Victim Services System database. The Victim Services Coordinators have contacts in all counties across Tennessee that can provide resources to victims/witnesses of active investigations. Currently, the Victim Services Coordinators have completed more than 80 hours in training, and meetings in Middle, West, East and Upper East Tennessee.

Lastly, other duties of the Victim Services Coordinators include planning victim services related programs, coordinating meetings with potential community resource stakeholders, and community outreach.

WEST TENNESSEE

The West Tennessee Field Unit is in Jackson with a satellite office in Memphis, this region is made up of 21 counties and 7 judicial districts. One Special Agent in Charge and 2 Assistant Special Agents in Charge supervise 23 employees. Those employees include: 3 Administrative Assistants, 1 Intelligence Analyst, 12 Special Agents assigned to conduct criminal investigations in field territories, and 7 Special Agent Fire Investigators assigned to conduct fire /explosive investigations.

Drug Investigation



The **Drug Investigation Division** was created by Public Chapter 1069 during the 1998 session of the Tennessee General Assembly in response to legislative findings that a large percentage of crime in Tennessee was drug-related. The DID has been operating as a separate and coequal division of the TBI since September 1, 1998.

Tennessee Code Annotated §38-6-202 states the mission of the DID is to “investigate, gather evidence and assist in the prosecution of criminal offenses involving controlled substances, narcotics, and other drugs,” and that to fulfill this mission the Division “shall have original jurisdiction over the investigation of all drugs.”

The DID, like the TBI as a whole, plays many roles in the law enforcement community. TBI Special Agents assigned to the Division initiate and investigate their own cases, targeting significant violators, drug distribution organizations, and mid to high-level offenders. In addition, the Division’s agents provide support to the drug enforcement community, including technical assistance, legal assistance, and personnel support to other agencies from the local to the federal level. Finally, recognizing that effective utilization of law enforcement resources requires cooperation, the DID strives to maintain the Bureau’s close relationship with the various police departments, sheriff’s offices, and judicial district drug task forces throughout the state. The Division continues to emphasize strengthening ties between its investigative efforts and those of federal agencies with drug enforcement responsibilities, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Tennessee’s U.S. Attorney’s offices.

The Division’s commitment to the TBI’s leadership in the Tennessee law enforcement community is evidenced by its ongoing efforts to stay at the forefront of investigative and policy trends, including ongoing efforts to combat clandestine methamphetamine manufacturing and trafficking through enforcement and policy initiatives. The commitment is also evident in the progress in the Division’s effort to address illegal diversion of prescription drugs such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and benzodiazepines, battling the current state and national opioid crisis, and ensuring that traditional drug enforcement programs like the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (AHIDTA) and the Governor’s Task Force on Marijuana Eradication (GTFME) stay current and viable.

The DID is headed by an Assistant Director who reports to the TBI Director and Deputy Director. Four regional Special Agents in Charge (SAC) report to the Assistant Director and are stationed in the four regional offices in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Memphis, and one SAC is assigned to Special Projects, along with an Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC). Reporting to each regional Special Agent in Charge are two Assistant Special Agents in Charge who are the frontline supervisors of the Special Agents assigned to the respective regions. The Division also consists of two Intelligence Analysts, one who provides investigative support across the state to Special Agents, the other provides support to the Tennessee Dangerous Drugs Task Force (TDDTF), and a Criminal Justice Information Specialist who maintains the statewide Drug Offender Registry.

Organization & Caseload

The DID had 841 active cases as of June 30, 2021. The Division opened approximately 447 cases and closed 239 during the fiscal year. From July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, Special Agents assigned to the Drug Investigation Division arrested a total of 780 drug offenders and obtained 293 convictions on drug related charges. Agents of the Division seized or purchased 839.1 grams of crack cocaine; 44,953.36 grams of powder cocaine; 3,427.6 pounds of bulk marijuana and 41 dosage units of marijuana edibles etc.; 251 marijuana plants; and 24,3251.104 grams of methamphetamine. Also seized were 2,426 dosage units and 328.37 grams of Ecstasy, 102,933.4 dosage units of Fentanyl, 19,597.127 grams of Heroin and 34,811.06 grams and 17,386 dosage units of Heroin laced with Fentanyl, 2,133 dosage units of LSD, 509 dosage units and 103.52 grams of MDMA, 31,708.67 grams and 3 plants of mushrooms, 2,761,733.09 dosage units of prescription drugs, and 3,163 grams and 55 dosage units of other drugs.

TBI’s share of currency seized totaled approximately \$208,687.29, all of which constituted either proceeds of drug trafficking or funds used to facilitate drug trafficking. TBI also shared in the seizures of four vehicles and other property valued at \$3,968.00. There were no proceeds collected from June 2020 through January 2021 due to COVID-19.

Personnel Allocation

As of June 30, 2021, there are 55 DID Special Agents statewide. Most DID agents are assigned an area of responsibility generally encompassing several counties or an entire Judicial District. This arrangement makes the most of the current staffing levels. Each of the 95 counties in the state has a specific and identified contact within the DID. Currently, one DID agent position primarily focuses on illegal gang related drug activities in west Tennessee.

Drug cases that focus on mid to upper-level targets are labor intensive. Methamphetamine labs typically are time-consuming requiring certified agents or officers due to safety regulations. Electronic surveillance requires monitoring and ground teams. Prescription drug cases usually involve paper trails that cannot be concluded in a single day or week.

In addition, agents are assigned to Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AHIDTA) task forces and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) task forces located throughout Tennessee. This is separate from the responsibilities on the Governor's Task Force for Marijuana Eradication. It is not uncommon for DID to be called upon to assist the TBI's Criminal Investigation Division. These requests are for a number of tasks involving technical assistance, undercover assignments, human trafficking operations, law enforcement involved shootings, homicides, and a variety of other crimes.

Of the total 46 drug agent positions, 6 are dedicated to drug diversion investigations. These agents primary responsibility is to combat prescription drug diversion and are stationed throughout the state. Their investigative statistics have been included in the prescription drugs section of this report.

Continuing Emphasis on Conspiracy Investigations

One strategy that has been used to increase the effectiveness of the present number of TBI drug agents has been to direct more operations toward mid-level and major criminal organizations that are involved in multi-jurisdictional drug trafficking activities. These investigations, while time-consuming and complex, generally maximize returns of high-level convictions and assets seized per agent/hour.

Conspiracy investigations allow an organization to be dismantled from top to bottom, preventing the organization from growing again. In addition, long-term documentation of drug dealing activity for a conspiracy charge allows the ultimate criminal penalties to reflect the full culpability of the members of the organization, not simply the amount of drugs they had on them when arrested. To enhance TBI's efforts on this front, electronic surveillance resources have been expanded across the state. This has already proven to be successful with the dismantling of multiple drug organizations.

Community Impact Investigations

Another strategy DID employs is referred to as community impact investigations. These are lower-level target investigations that are conducted due to geographical and resource necessity. In communities that are more rural and do not have the resources to conduct long-term investigations, DID provides the assistance to rid them of multiple offenders. These operations commonly result in high numbers of arrests, and lower-level offenses. It also allows the TBI to make the public aware that, big or small, drug trafficking of any nature will be pursued.

Prescription Drugs

Seizures of prescription drugs continue due to an aggressive pursuit of drug diversion leads by Division investigators. This trend will continue as the Division directs its resources to meet both the new and the old component of this drug threat. The aforementioned six agent positions focusing on prescription drug diversion is evidence of this direction.

During the fiscal year, 2,761,733.09 dosage units of prescription drugs were seized during investigations involving the DID, which included: 2,751,179.5 dosage units of alprazolam; 126 dosage units of hydrocodone; 5.25 dosage unit of methadone; 12 dosage units of ketamine; 233.0 dosage units of morphine; 7,995.1 dosage units of other RX drugs; 5.0 dosage units of steroids; 1,907.24 dosage units of oxycodone; 10.0 dosage units of OxyContin; and 272.0 dosage unit of valium were seized.

While we continue to make progress reducing prescription drug, illicit opioid drug use continues to spawn the proliferation of heroin/fentanyl. Individuals seeking prescription drugs like Hydrocodone have found that heroin is cheaper and more accessible on the street. The increase of heroin abuse has created an epidemic rate increase of overdoses and deaths. Law enforcement is also witnessing, with heroin, an increase in the presence of Fentanyl (a powerful synthetic opiate analgesic similar to but more potent than morphine), and its analogs. Fentanyl is sold as heroin and heroin is also being laced with it. Law enforcement has also seen instances of methamphetamine and cocaine being laced with Fentanyl/Heroin. All are an extremely dangerous recipe for overdose and death. Law enforcement and lab personnel are being subjected to coming in contact with pure and high levels of Fentanyl which can result in an immediate overdose. In response to this threat, the TBI has issued its agents Narcan dispensers for emergency use to assist in the lifesaving efforts of personnel and public. Narcan is an opiate antagonist that acts by blocking the effects of opiate drugs and reversing the event of an overdose. The increased number of heroin related incidents have required the TBI to take a proactive position in combating this problem. TBI DID personnel are regularly called upon to participate in multi-disciplined working groups to address the current threat of opiate and fentanyl issues and drug related legislative efforts.

With the attention and efforts law enforcement has given to the prescription drug problem, another phenomenon has occurred: the introduction of counterfeit pills. Law enforcement across Tennessee has seen "fake pills" manufactured to look like prescription medications (i.e., Percocet, Hydrocodone, Xanax) through the use of pill presses. These counterfeits are compiled of various concoctions and are not what they appear to be. The most serious of which are pills containing Fentanyl. Unfortunately, this has created another outbreak of drug overdoses. The DID is aggressively pursuing this new trend. This has also resulted in TBI developing drug evidence handling policies in an effort for safety.

Creation of Drug Overdose Death Task Forces

The TBI has begun to take steps in creating drug overdose task forces across the state. Currently, using Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AHIDTA) funding a task force has been developed in upper east Tennessee operating out of Sullivan County. Efforts continue to stand-up these task forces in other areas of the state utilizing funds provided by the General Assembly. The goal of these task forces is to prevent drug overdoses, and work drug overdose death investigations in order to get to the source of the drugs. Over the last year these task force initiatives comprised of local resources and DID personnel across the state worked 11 drug overdose deaths, 21 drug overdoses, and assisted on 189 drug overdose cases. Through investigative tactics agents are developing the sources of supply, which commonly prevents more overdoses. Additionally, the investigative efforts are leading to murder charges on the cases associated with a death.

Clandestine Drug Networks

A new trend in drug trafficking involving the use of the Darkweb continues to grow. The Darkweb is any network that operates clandestinely and hides the identity of its users. Networks to purchase a variety of drugs, components to make counterfeit drugs (fake prescription pills), and items such as pill presses capable of producing thousands of counterfeit pills an hour are developing nationwide at an alarming rate. Computer and “tech savvy” criminals utilize the Darkweb to purchase these items from certain websites that provide anonymity and availability. Items purchased from the Darkweb are usually purchased with some form of cryptocurrency, such as Bitcoin. Bitcoin is exchanged electronically with the exchange method being designed to thwart law enforcement’s ability to track proceeds from one destination to another. By utilizing “tumbling services” to launder money used to purchase drugs from the Darkweb, it makes it very difficult for law enforcement to link customers with sources of supply in traditional ways. The system is designed to conceal the identity and location of the persons using it. Often, customers who purchase illegal items from the Darkweb do not know from whom they are purchasing or from where the items purchased actually came from. These investigations are becoming more prevalent in Tennessee and require extensive manpower and technical resources.

TN Dangerous Drugs Task Force

The Tennessee Dangerous Drugs Task Force (TDDTF) utilizes a multidiscipline and multijurisdictional team approach to combat the illicit manufacture and distribution of all controlled substances in the State of Tennessee. The TBI serves as the fiduciary and oversight agency for the TDDTF providing a Special Agent in Charge (Director), an Assistant Special Agent in Charge, and additional support staff. The TDDTF’s programs operate with federal grants and some state allotted funding. The TDDTF Executive Board and advisory members are made up of federal, state, and local representatives from a wide array of disciplines which meet on a quarterly basis.

The TBI Director and one of the three United States Attorneys in Tennessee serve as the co-chairs of the Executive Board. Other board members and participants include the other two TN U.S. Attorneys, three TN District Attorneys General, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Commissioner, the Health Commissioner, Children’s Services Commissioner, three police chiefs, three county sheriffs, the Safety and Homeland Security Commissioner, Tennessee National Guard Counterdrug Task Force, the Administrative Office of the Courts, three regional judicial drug task force directors, TN Department of Environment and Conservation, the Tennessee Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (TADEC), and other representatives from corrections, treatment, and prevention all contribute to guide the activities of the TDDTF.

The motto of the TDDTF is to “Protect, Enforce, and Educate.” To that end, the TDDTF oversees all activities in the programs outlined below.



Clandestine Laboratory Investigations

Investigating and properly disposing of the hazardous evidence from the domestic production of methamphetamine was the first state-wide problem addressed in 1999 when the Southeast TN Meth Task Force was formed by a coalition of law enforcement agencies (LEA). This regional meth task force transitioned to state-wide coverage, evolving into the TDDTF, and came under the umbrella of the TBI. The clandestine lab program has expanded to include any synthetic drug that can be manufactured domestically, including level A hazardous material responses (e.g. fentanyl, LSD). The TDDTF provides on-scene safety equipment, processing supplies, and personal protective equipment on all response trucks and trailers stationed strategically throughout the State of TN. Since 1999, over 16,000 clan labs have been seized in the State of Tennessee. The TDDTF provided on-scene support and reporting assistance for most of these labs.

In fiscal year 2020, the TDDTF response drivers assisted LEA with processing 32 clandestine drug labs; one involved a homicide and there were one each DMT lab, fentanyl processing with a pill press, and a mushroom grow. Each of these responses required the proper disposal of the materials and chemicals used in the manufacturing process. The destruction of this hazardous evidence is facilitated by the Authorized Central Storage (ACS) program of which the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) provides operational oversight and partial funding. During the fiscal year, nearly 874 pounds of hazardous drug lab waste was disposed of following state and federal regulations through the ACS program.

The training, education, legislative, and enforcement efforts of the members of the TDDTF have paid off in reducing the domestic production of methamphetamine. However, the saturated local markets for meth, users' addiction to the drug, and those willing to sell meth have not followed suit. Many former meth cooks and distributors are now selling Mexican Drug Trafficking Organization (MDTO) meth to existing and new "customers." This imported meth has saturated many communities, thus increasing the availability and lowering the price to very affordable levels. For these reasons, meth abuse continues to rise, and there are also more poly-drug abusers who prefer the high of mixing opioids with meth.

Governor's Task Force for Marijuana Eradication (GTFME)

The increase in the inconsistency in hemp and marijuana laws across the nation and misperceptions over enforcement and responsibilities under Tennessee state laws has created a conundrum for LE. The TDDTF manages the GTFME program with funds provided by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and primary support from the TBI, Tennessee Highway Patrol, and the Tennessee National Guard. In this role, the TDDTF has provided a great deal of training (see section below) about the current cannabis laws and how they impact public safety and TN communities. The goals of the program are to seek out and eradicate domestically grown marijuana, deter marijuana production through enforcement of existing laws, the seizure and forfeiture of assets obtained through a drug nexus, the prosecution of individuals and groups involved in illicit marijuana cultivating, utilization of DI³ and other intelligence sources to generate and share criminal intelligence and providing the latest technology to streamline investigations that disrupt illegal grow operations. The GTFME season operates from June through September each year; however, preparation, training, active investigations, and prosecutions continue year-round.

The 2020 GTFME season successfully eradicated 51,813 plants in 1,107 plots and seized 1.17 pounds of processed marijuana. There were 29 arrests across the state. In addition, the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) seized approximately 900 pounds of processed illicit plant material, 36 pounds of edible THC products, and 144 pounds of THC concentrates. The DEA Chattanooga field office reported seizures of approximately 940 pounds of unsorted illicit cannabis plant material, edibles, and concentrates.

Investigative Overtime Reimbursement

A sizeable portion of the grants awarded to the TBI/TDDTF by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services and funding provided by the DEA for GTFME are budgeted for utilization that provides reimbursement for local LEA that pay overtime to their sworn officers investigating methamphetamine, marijuana, and/or opioid crimes. To have the greatest impact on communities, these investigations require significant time and resource investment. This investment can be overwhelming for local budgets, so the TDDTF provides overtime payback to agencies. This reimbursement requires the agencies to sign memoranda of understanding that outline the rules related to the use of the funds; which includes the type of investigations the funds can be utilized for, the hours available per officer and per agency, and the requirement the time be submitted for reimbursement only after the officer has been paid by their agency.

Incident Response Vehicles, Equipment, and Responders

To provide the quickest possible response to the various incidents for which the TDDTF provides support, specially equipped response trucks and trailers are deployed in various geographic regions in anticipation of calls for service. These six response trucks are manned by contract employees that make themselves available for call out 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These critical personnel are trained and utilized to support local LE in a variety of ways. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, they assisted with 32 clan lab responses, documented, packaged, and transported hazardous waste from labs and placed in one of twelve ACS containers 32 times, had 49 responses to operate 1064 laser devices, ion scanners, THC/CDB identification, and high-pressure mass spectrometry instruments to identify unknown substances, supported local agencies 77 days collecting and destroying unused and unwanted household pharmaceuticals, spent 12 days safely incinerating adjudicated drug evidence, and provided community education and training support six days.

Training and Educational Events

Providing training and educational events for citizens, public safety, community coalitions, and others is an essential component of the TDDTF mission. The subjects of these trainings include drug endangered children, drug trends, utilization of the Drug Investigation and Information Integration System (DI³), overdose reporting, fentanyl safety, clandestine lab certification training, level A hazardous material certification training, ACS training, safe drug disposal, human trafficking and drug crimes, and a variety of other pertinent drug subjects. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the TDDTF provided the following trainings:

Course	Audience	# in Attendance	Sessions
Drug Trends and Drug Endangered Children	Police Academy Classes	322	4
Cannabis Cultivation Hazards & Safety for Law Enforcement	GTFME partners (LE)	36	1 (3 days)
Annual Training	GTFME partners (LE)	100	1 (5 days)
Clandestine Lab & Level A Certification	Local LE	32	1 (5 days)
Clandestine Lab Annual Recertification	Local LE partners	320	8 virtual & 8 in-person
Miscellaneous trainings and meetings*	LE and community partners	1,950	38

* drug trends, DI³, overdose reporting, Red Ribbon Week, and human trafficking/drug nexus

In addition to these trainings, two online trainings were created and updated; meth investigations and meth lab safety issues and fentanyl safety training. These were created by personnel in TBI's Training office and launched on TBI Learn (a virtual training portal), which is also available to law enforcement and community coalition personnel throughout the state.

Drug Investigation Information and Integration System (DI³)

DI³ collects, analyzes, and provides the opportunity for all law enforcement to share and retrieve drug information and intelligence. DI³ includes clan lab reporting that transfers reports to DEA's El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), quarantine reporting for meth contaminated properties, pseudoephedrine sales tracking, overdose and naloxone utilization reporting for law enforcement, the Tennessee Drug Offender Registry, GIS mapping, phone number analysis, and criminal associate connections. Fiscal year 2020-2021 ended with DI³ having 1,906 active accounts, and 77,381 total page visits. The top four visited pages in DI³ for the fiscal year were database searches, overdose entries, overdose searches, and Fusion Center access.

In 2015, The TDDTF began an overdose reporting pilot program (fatal and non-fatal) in DI³ with the goal of sharing information with the Drug Enforcement Administration's El Paso Intelligence Center. That year, six overdoses were reported into DI³. 2016, which was the first full calendar year that overdoses were reported into the system, had 59 reports entered into the system by seven agencies. Since that time, reporting has become mandatory for those agencies receiving TDDTF resources and naloxone through community coalition supplies. For fiscal year 2020-2021, the number of entries into the system has grown to 5,020 reported by 120 law enforcement agencies. Of the 5,020 overdoses reported, 1,251 of them had law enforcement officers administer naloxone to the victim. DI³ is continually growing and evolving with new functions and content to maintain information and connections with state and federal partners.

Household Pharmaceutical Takeback Program (PTB)

Because the most common method of diversion of prescription medication is the availability from the medicine cabinets of family and friends, the TDDTF partnered with the TN Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to implement the PTB Program in 2016. TDEC was instrumental in purchasing and placing the secure permanent PTB collection boxes in 377 law enforcement agencies in each of the 95 counties in the state. TDEC also provided the initial supply of fiber barrels that facilitated the transport of PTB contents for destruction by a federally licensed incineration company. This program utilizes the TDDTF contracted responders and existing response trucks and trailers to deliver empty fiber barrels and collect the full barrels for destruction approximately every other month. From July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, 65,532 pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals were collected and destroyed from 161 LEAs. Since its inception, the PTB Program has collected and destroyed over 561,000 pounds of unused and unwanted medications that are no longer a danger for diversion.

Drug Evidence Incineration Program (DEIP)

The TDDTF was able to purchase three (one additional is on order) large batch, zero emissions incinerators for the DEIP and place them in Jackson, Nashville, and Knoxville. In December of 2019, the TDDTF provided its first incineration of adjudicated drug evidence. Drug evidence occupies a great deal of space in evidence vaults and is costly to properly destroy by LEAs. The TDDTF wanted to provide a service to law enforcement to help alleviate overcrowding, and the potential for diversion of drugs from evidence rooms. Once a case has been adjudicated through the court system, the evidence is eligible for the program. Each burn is limited to 500 pounds. Throughout fiscal year 2020-2021, the TDDTF served 36 agencies, destroying 3,265 pounds of drug evidence. In total, the program has helped safely dispose of over 7,700 pounds of adjudicated drug evidence, saving local LEAs thousands of dollars in destruction expenses.

Portable Analysis and Technology Services

As the landscape of illegal drug investigations has evolved over the years with the legalization of hemp farming, reduced meth labs, increased meth trafficking, and the rise in overdoses, the mission of the TDDTF has also evolved to address each of these challenges. The need to identify unknown substances to protect LE responders, citizens, and children, to assist emergency medical personnel in treating patients, and to provide evidence to ensure successful prosecution of drug violation cases has increased dramatically in recent years. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, there were 49 responses by TDDTF personnel to test unknown substance or cannabis products to determine THC levels. Six TacticID® instruments, two LightLab® CBD and THC testing devices, and two MX908® high-pressure mass spectrometry machines have been purchased, personnel trained on their use, and deployed into the field. While the primary use for these instruments is for drug identification, the TacticID and MX908 devices also identify chemical, biological, and explosive substances, which can initiate a level A hazardous material response by the TDDTF.

Tennessee Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (TADEC)

TADEC is comprised of federal, local, and state agencies who share a mission to “Serve, protect, and defend all children endangered by illegal drug use in Tennessee.” During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, a great deal of time was invested in planning for the National Drug Endangered Children Conference to be held in Nashville in August of 2021. Plans to finalize the spending of the 2018 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant obtained by TADEC were made, and a grant submission for 2021-2024 was prepared (awards not yet announced). Partnerships were created with TBI Human Trafficking Investigators to educate law enforcement and communities on the nexus between DEC and human trafficking (see training section). For the fiscal year, specific training on Drug Endangered Children occurred in 30 sessions reaching 1,022 people. On April 28, 2021, 35 counties participated in DEC Awareness Day with several proclamations for the day being signed by local officials. In June of 2021, 500 school resource officers were trained at their annual conference regarding how they can positively impact DEC. The six DEC county coalitions continued building partnerships, impacting children by distributing *Timbi Talks about Addiction* books and stuffed animals to elementary children, and working toward implementation of the *Handle with Care* program to ensure DCS, schools, and law enforcement are communicating for the benefit of children involved in drug or domestic incidents requiring a LE or Division of Child Services response. During the fiscal year, the TADEC Coordinator continued to work with the DEC response teams to build resiliency, serve as a member of the National DEC Advisory Board, and participated in regular conference calls in support of the grant requirements and building local partnerships for the betterment of Tennessee’s most vulnerable population, its children.



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Investigative Programs

In addition to its general enforcement responsibilities, the Division has a leadership role in several programs that are integral to Tennessee's drug enforcement community.

Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (AHIDTA)

Established in 1998, the Appalachia HIDTA counties, within the four states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia, have historically comprised one of the most predominant marijuana production and trafficking areas in the United States. The HIDTA program, which is a federally funded through the Office of National Drug Control Policy, provides necessary support to investigative task forces and initiatives operating in its designated area. The Appalachia HIDTA has cultivated cooperative and effective working relationships among U.S. Attorney's Offices, federal agencies, state agencies, and the National Guard to achieve common goals for disrupting and dismantling drug trafficking organizations and effectively reducing the demand for drugs.

The U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee currently serves as the Chairman of Executive Board of AHIDTA. The Executive Board ensures threat-specific strategies and initiatives are developed, employed, supported and evaluated.

The Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (AHIDTA) is currently comprised of 93 counties in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Tennessee is comprised of 31 designated AHIDTA counties. AHIDTA is located within relatively easy driving distance to a number of major metropolitan areas within the Eastern, Southern, and Midwest United States. Vast public lands combined with a temperate climate, have historically made this region a major area for the cultivation and distribution of outdoor cultivated marijuana. High unemployment rates, low median household income, and loss of blue-collar jobs are socioeconomic factors that contribute to illicit drug use and distribution in the AHIDTA region.

Threat assessments reveal that AHIDTA faces a poly-drug threat. Crystal methamphetamine (ICE), fentanyl, heroin, diverted pharmaceutical drugs, and cocaine distributed by Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO) based in regional hubs such as Atlanta, Columbus, OH, and along the Southwest border continue to pose a significant threat to the AHIDTA region.

In recent years, methamphetamine, heroin, the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs, particularly opioid-based pharmaceuticals, and alternative forms of synthetic opiates have established themselves as a sizeable threat to the area. The Appalachia HIDTA states rank among the list of top states in the nation for prescriptions per capita and corresponding overdose deaths from prescription drugs, heroin, and other forms of opiates plague the region, particularly in West Virginia. Cocaine continues to make a resurgence during the last two reporting periods. There have been ten DTOs in Tennessee identified by AHIDTA task forces, responsible for the distribution and trafficking of cocaine, 12 of which operate on the multi-state level.

During the fiscal year period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, Appalachia HIDTA task forces operating within the state of Tennessee were responsible for the seizure of drugs valued at more than \$61.5 million on the illicit drug market, not including pharmaceutical drugs. These same task forces seized more than \$2.56 million in U.S. currency and other assets, to include vehicles and real property.

With regard to drug seizures throughout the state, Tennessee task forces participating in the HIDTA program were responsible for the removal/seizure of 45.6 kilograms of cocaine (to include crack cocaine), 16.7 kilograms of heroin, 3.45 kilograms of fentanyl powder and 16,175 fentanyl dosage units, 233.3 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine, 700 dosage units and 0.4 kilograms of MDMA (Ecstasy), and more than 10,604 kilograms (combined) of bulk processed marijuana, marijuana plants and marijuana edibles. Additionally, over 8,000 dosage units of diverted pharmaceutical drugs were seized (does not include 40.28 kg of various packaged pharmaceuticals). Other investigative activity by the AHIDTA Tennessee task forces for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 include 405 seized firearms, 36 wire intercepts, and 633 arrests.

Middle Tennessee HIDTA Task Force

At the direction of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), the Appalachia HIDTA was required to form regional task forces in the states of the Appalachia HIDTA. As a result of this requirement, the TBI was designated as the lead agency in forming a Middle Tennessee Task Force (MTTF). This task force is in the counties of Middle Tennessee as identified by the Appalachia HIDTA. These counties take in three Tennessee judicial districts. These districts include Fentress County in the 8th Judicial District, Jackson County in the 15th Judicial District, and Overton, Pickett, Putnam, and Cumberland counties in the 13th Judicial District. At present, the MTTF is made up of TBI Special Agents and officers from local law enforcement agencies. During the Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the MTTF opened 88 investigations, disrupted/ dismantled four drug trafficking organizations. A total of 183 people were arrested. Sixteen vehicles, 166 firearms, and more than \$414,036.59 in currency and other assets were seized by the task force.

Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (GCHIDTA)

The Gulf Coast HIDTA encompasses designated counties/parishes across the six states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

In August 2010, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) designated Shelby County to be included in the Gulf Coast HIDTA. The Gulf Coast HIDTA funds four law enforcement initiatives in Shelby County; the Shelby County HIDTA Drug Task Force led by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Shelby County Multi-Agency Gang Unit led by the Memphis Police Department, Memphis Case Advocacy Program led by the United States Attorney's Office, and Border Enforcement Security Task Force led by United States Homeland Security Investigations. TBI DID has one Special Agent Criminal Investigator assigned full-time to the Border Enforcement Security Task Force.

TBI's DID is also a member of the Gulf Coast HIDTA State Board of Directors for Tennessee and looks forward to continued successes from this task force.

Overdose Deaths & Drug Related Violent Crime

The CDC reports that Tennessee had 3,091 overdose deaths in calendar year 2020, which is a 47.96% increase from 2019. This number ranks the state in fifth place in per capita drug-related overdoses with 45 per 100,000 citizens. The Tennessee Department of Health reported that there were 2,089 drug overdose deaths in Tennessee during the 2019 calendar year which represents a 15% increase over the 1,818 overdose deaths in 2018. The counties that experienced the highest number of deaths from overdoses in calendar year 2019 were 329 in Davidson County, 268 in Shelby County, 222 in Knox County, 96 in Hamilton County, and 95 in Rutherford County. These five counties with the highest totals of overdose deaths also have the highest populations in the state and largest number of pain clinics: Knox – 17, Davidson – 15, Rutherford – 9, Hamilton – 8, and Shelby – 6. In terms of per capita overdose deaths, the top five counties were Cheatham (69 per 100,000), Dickson (53 per 100,000), Hickman (49 per 100,000), Knox (48 per 100,000), and Rhea (47 per 100,000). Including TBI/TDDTF's DI³ system, there are four databases that capture and store overdose information. The other three are managed by the TN Department of Health, Emergency Medical Services, and the Medical Examiner's Office.

Many violent and property crimes are committed as a result of drug trafficking and drug use/abuse. Monitoring trends and data through TIBRS submissions is a critical element for DID to assess the assignment of personnel and resources needed for TBI's drug enforcement efforts. Methamphetamine, fentanyl, marijuana, and heroin are the top four drugs submitted to the TBI Crime Labs, so their data was utilized to show change over the past six fiscal years in crimes committed involving those illicit substances. All those drugs show significant increases in their connection to violent crimes with heroin increasing at the highest rate. Although marijuana's growth over time is smaller and is trending down in the all crimes category, it is involved in the highest total number of crimes. The crime increases for meth, heroin, and fentanyl follow similar trend lines as the increase in TBI crime lab submissions for these three drugs. This also holds true for the trend line for marijuana crime lab submissions and its involvement in crime. If the data for all four drugs are combined, the violent crimes involving meth, heroin, fentanyl, and marijuana have nearly doubled in the past six fiscal years. Due to the reduction in marijuana in all crimes, this increase is smaller when all four drugs are combined, and the change is calculated for all crimes. The data were collected as all crimes and violent crimes only. The "all crimes" category includes drug, equipment, property, non-violent, and violent crimes, which can be broken down into but is not limited to the crimes of weapons violations, theft, fraud, burglary, kidnapping, aggravated and simple assault, rape, and murder.

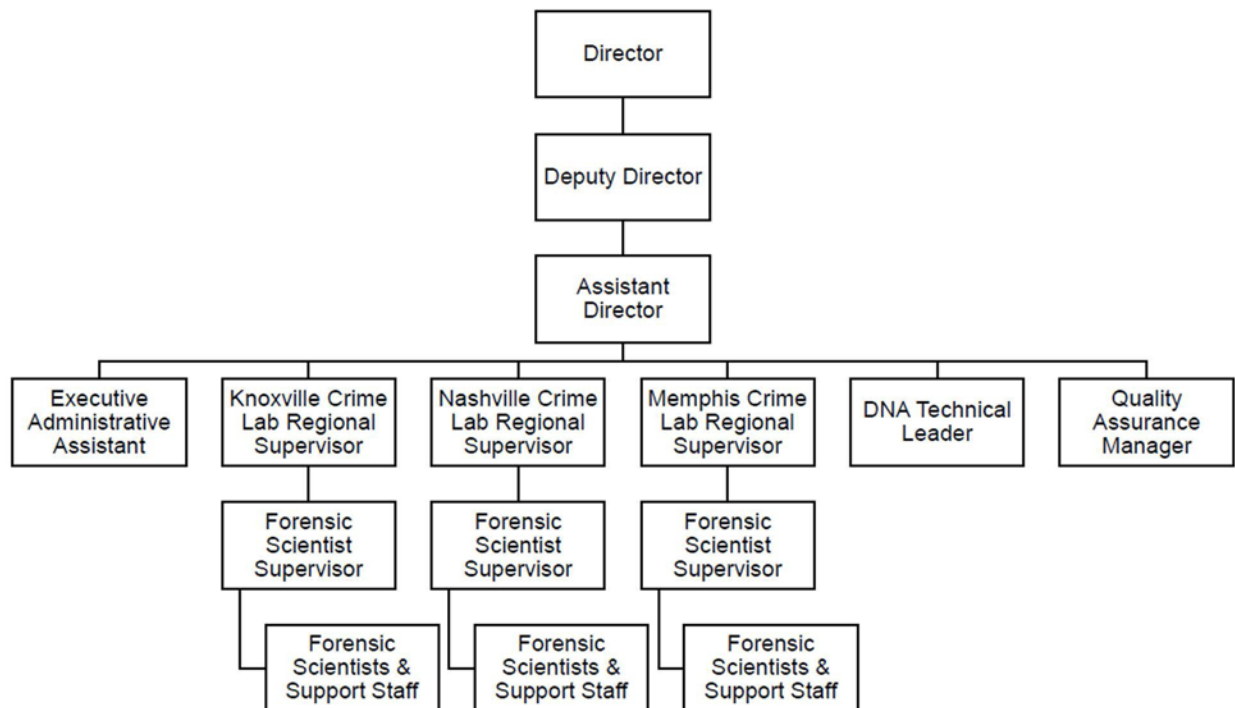
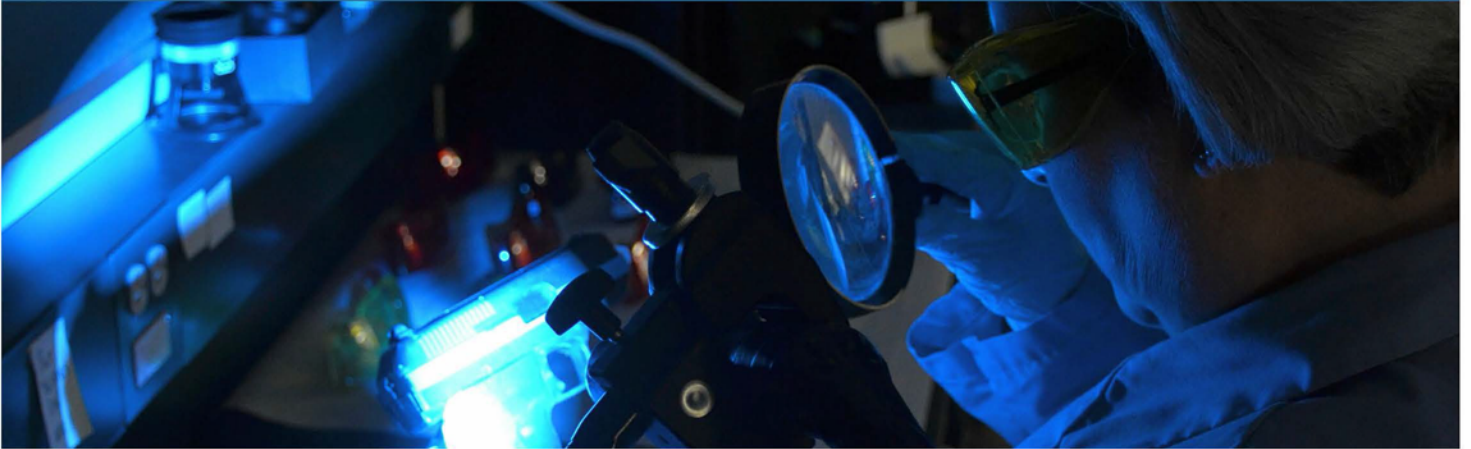
Fiscal Year	Drug	All Crimes	Violent Crimes
2015-2016	Meth	7,832	56
2016-2017	Meth	11,743	75

2017-2018	Meth	15,471	100
2018-2019	Meth	17,273	90
2019-2020	Meth	17,558	138
2020-2021	Meth	18,497	158
Percent Change		+136.17%	+182.14%
2015-2016	Heroin	1,685	3
2016-2017	Heroin	2,307	21
2017-2018	Heroin	2,828	11
2018-2019	Heroin	3,627	21
2019-2020	Heroin	4,311	31
2020-2021	Heroin	5,199	34
Percent Change		+208.54%	+1033.33%
2015-2016	Fentanyl	0*	0
2016-2017	Fentanyl	6*	2
2017-2018	Fentanyl	65*	1
2018-2019	Fentanyl	138*	3
2019-2020	Fentanyl	320*	5
2020-2021	Fentanyl	733*	9
Percent Change		+12,116.66%*	+350%
2015-2016	Marijuana	32,129	237
2016-2017	Marijuana	32,339	272
2017-2018	Marijuana	34,898	289
2018-2019	Marijuana	31,051	297
2019-2020	Marijuana	26,768	347
2020-2021	Marijuana	26,098	375
Percent Change		-18.77%	+58.22%
2015-2016	All Four Drugs	41,646	296
2016-2017	All Four Drugs	46,395	370
2017-2018	All Four Drugs	53,262	401
2018-2019	All Four Drugs	52,089	411
2019-2020	All Four Drugs	48,957	521
2020-2021	All Four Drugs	50,527	579

Percent Change	+21.23%	+95.60%
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*Fentanyl is not currently tracked with all crimes, the data provided is fentanyl drug violations only. Fentanyl is parsed when querying for violent crimes.

Forensic Services



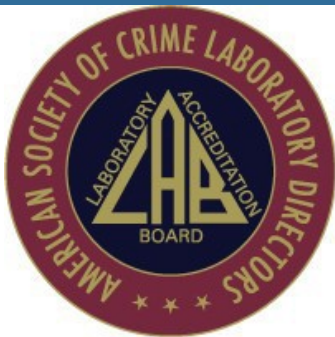
The Special Agent/Forensic Scientists who work within TBI's **Forensic Services Division** (Crime Laboratory System) possess a wide array of analytical skills and direct their expertise to problems of reconstructing criminal acts, identifying and comparing physical and biological evidence, linking offenders with their victims, and exonerating falsely accused persons.

Forensic Science, the application of science to the law, has emerged as a major force in the attempts of the criminal justice system to control crime and to ensure a high quality of justice. The Special Agent/Forensic Scientists who work within TBI's Forensic Services Division (Crime Laboratory System) possess a wide array of analytical skills and direct their expertise to problems of reconstructing criminal acts, identifying and comparing physical and biological evidence, linking offenders with their victims and exonerating falsely accused persons. The Forensic Services Division provides forensic science services to any law enforcement agency or medical examiner in our state (T.C.A. §8-6-103, 38-7-110, 5510-410).

A Forensic Scientist must be skilled in applying the principles and techniques of the physical and natural sciences to the analysis of the many types of evidence that may be recovered during criminal investigations. However, in doing this, the scientist must also be aware of the demands and constraints that are imposed by the judicial system. The procedures and techniques that are utilized in the crime laboratory must rest on a firm scientific foundation and satisfy the criteria of admissibility established by the courts.

Because of this range of requirements, all TBI Forensic Scientists are commissioned by the Director as Special Agents; have earned a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in chemistry or a closely related scientific field; and have completed extensive training related to forensic science and crime scene investigation. During the Fiscal Year 2020–2021, the laboratory testing units of Forensic Services Division received 63,440 requests for analysis from law enforcement agencies and medical examiners across the state. During the Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the laboratory testing units of the Forensic Services Division completed 59,698 requests for analysis.

Accreditation



The Forensic Services Division is comprised of a central laboratory in Nashville and two regional laboratories in Jackson and Knoxville. Specialized units of these laboratories provide forensic analysis of biological, chemical, and physical evidence. The Forensic Services Division has achieved ISO 17025 Accreditation administered by the ANSI (American National Standards Institute) National Accreditation Board (ANAB), the highest level available, in all Forensic Testing disciplines, Crime Scene Processing, and Breath Alcohol Calibration. With this high level of accreditation, the Forensic Services Division is recognized as being efficient, effective, and better equipped to withstand the scrutiny brought to bear on Forensic Science.

Accreditation is part of a laboratory's quality assurance program which, when combined with proficiency testing, continuing education, and other efforts, helps TBI's crime laboratories to provide better overall service to Tennessee's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. One objective of TBI in obtaining accreditation of its crime laboratories was to offer the citizens of Tennessee and the users of TBI's laboratory services a form of proof that the TBI's forensic laboratories meet established standards.



Nashville Crime Laboratory

TBI's Nashville Crime Laboratory serves all 95 counties in the state and performs a wide range of analyses within the following units:

EVIDENCE RECEIVING UNIT

The Evidence Receiving Unit receives, inventories, distributes, and stores all evidence submitted to the laboratory.

DRUG CHEMISTRY UNIT

The Drug Chemistry Unit analyzes any substance seized in violation of laws regulating the sale, manufacture, distribution and use of abusive type drugs.

TOXICOLOGY UNIT

The Toxicology Unit conducts analysis of blood and other body fluids for alcohol, drug, or poisons, in conjunction with persons arrested for traffic charges (DUI) and a wide variety of other crimes.

BREATH ALCOHOL UNIT

The Breath Alcohol Unit administers and maintains Tennessee's breath alcohol testing program. Scientists assigned to this unit certify and calibrate evidentiary breath alcohol instruments throughout the state. The staff is responsible for training law enforcement personnel as operators on the instruments.

LATENT PRINT EXAMINATION UNIT

The Latent Print Examination Unit provides analysis of physical evidence for invisible fingerprints and/or palm prints and comparison of latent prints developed with the known impressions of suspects.

TBI's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is located in this unit, allowing latent lifts of unidentified latent fingerprints obtained from crime scenes or developed on evidence submitted to the laboratory to be searched against the database of fingerprint records maintained by TBI.

In addition, the latent print unit has the capability of submitting unidentified latent prints from major crime scenes to the FBI for a fingerprint database search.

FIREARMS IDENTIFICATION UNIT

The Firearms Identification Unit's principal function is to determine if a bullet, cartridge case, or other ammunition component was fired from a particular weapon.

The science of firearms identification extends beyond the comparison of bullets and cartridge cases to include knowledge of the operation of all types of weapons, toolmark examination, the restoration of obliterated serial numbers on weapons and other evidence, the detection and characterization of gunpowder residues on garments, and the estimation of muzzle-to-garment distance.

The Firearms Identification Unit also houses the National Integrated Ballistics Identification Network (NIBIN), allowing individual characteristics from evidence cartridge cases or test cartridge cases from submitted weapons to be searched against an ever-growing database and connect crimes that otherwise might never have been associated.

MICROANALYSIS UNIT

The Microanalysis Unit examines and compares the following types of evidence:

- Fire Debris Analysis – Debris from fire scenes and other evidence related to a suspected arson are submitted to the laboratory to determine the presence of an ignitable liquid. This includes the products of refined oil and other flammable products such as alcohol.
- Gunshot Residue Analysis – The presence of gunshot primer residue from a fired weapon can be determined on subject hands and on crime related objects such as the subject's clothing and vehicle(s).
- Impression Evidence Comparisons – Shoe and tire impressions recovered from crime scenes can be compared to subject shoes and tires. In addition, a tire tread and shoe database can be used to determine tire and shoe make and models from impressions left at a crime scene.
- Paint Analysis and Comparisons – Paint evidence recovered from any object on which a paint transfer has occurred during the commission of a crime can be compared to known paint samples. A vehicle paint database is also available to provide a list of possible vehicle makes and models from paint evidence left at the scene of hit and run accidents.
- Glass Analysis and Comparisons – Glass recovered from a crime scene can be compared to glass recovered from objects associated with a subject such as clothing and tools. Order of breakage and glass fracture analysis is also performed.
- Fiber Comparisons – Individual fibers as well as fabric and carpet are characterized and compared to corresponding materials recovered from a subject or his/her environment.
- Other services provided by the Microanalysis Unit include comparisons, fracture match analysis, heavy metals analysis, unknown substance determinations and tape comparisons.

Other services provided by the Microanalysis Unit include physical comparisons, fracture match analysis, heavy metal analysis, unknown substance determinations and tape comparisons.

FORENSIC BIOLOGY UNIT

The Forensic Biology Unit performs identification and characterization of blood and other body fluids – liquid or dried, animal or human – present in a form to suggest a relation to the offense or persons involved in a crime. This unit also performs STR-DNA Profiling, the capability to identify specific individuals by comparing biological samples left at a crime scene or from the body of a victim. This unit also performs Y-STR DNA testing, allowing them to separate and identify small amounts male DNA from the presence of large quantities of female DNA. Advances in DNA technology represent one of the most significant forensic breakthroughs of the century by allowing the identification of a murderer or rapist based on trace amounts of biological evidence left at the crime scene.

CODIS UNIT

T.C.A. §40-35-321 required the TBI to establish a DNA database for convicted offenders that now includes individuals on the sexual offender registry. In 2007, an amendment added a DNA database for individuals arrested for violent felonies. These databases were established nationally by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to enable crime laboratories to exchange DNA profiles for unknown forensic samples, convicted offender, and arrestees. The Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) assists agencies in developing investigative leads by enabling evidentiary DNA profiles to be searched against the database of convicted offenders and arrestees. Through Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the TBI has received 281,559 convicted offender samples and 210,536 arrestee samples.

During this Fiscal Year, a total of 8,823 specimens from convicted offenders and 15,543 specimens from arrestees were received for submission to the CODIS database. In February 2002, TBI began submitting samples to the national CODIS database. After accounting for expunged samples, 264,115 offender profiles and 142,794 arrestee profiles have been uploaded to the national database to date. A total of 6,666 investigations have been aided throughout the state and nation since 2002 through the use of this database, including 421 this year.

Knoxville Crime Laboratory

The Knoxville Laboratory conducts tests on evidence submitted by East Tennessee law enforcement agencies including:

- Drug Chemistry
- Toxicology
- Breath Alcohol
- Serology/DNA

Memphis Crime Laboratory

During Fiscal Year 2020-21 the TBI moved crime laboratory operations from the Memphis Laboratory to the newly constructed Jackson Laboratory facility. The Jackson Laboratory conducts forensic analysis on evidence submitted by West Tennessee law enforcement agencies including:

- Drug Chemistry
- Toxicology
- Breath Alcohol
- Serology/DNA
- Firearms Identification

Violent Crime Response Team

The TBI's Forensic Services Division has become increasingly involved in the investigation of Violent Crimes Scenes and Scenes of Law Enforcement Use of Force. The value of physical evidence is recognized to be of paramount importance in crimes against persons. Toward that end, TBI has three specially designed crime scene vehicles equipped with the most advanced forensic equipment and materials available. These crime scene vehicles are regionally located in Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville and are being used by the TBI to assist in processing Violent Crime Scenes and Scenes of Law Enforcement Use of Force.

During Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021, the TBI's Violent Crime Response Teams' in Nashville, Knoxville, and Memphis/Jackson were called to locate, document, and collect evidence a total of 51 times across the state, representing 2,262 on-scene man hours. This includes responding to crime scenes or providing technical assistance 33 times, for a total of 1,341 man hours and responding to law enforcement use-of-force scenes 18 times for a total of 921 man hours.



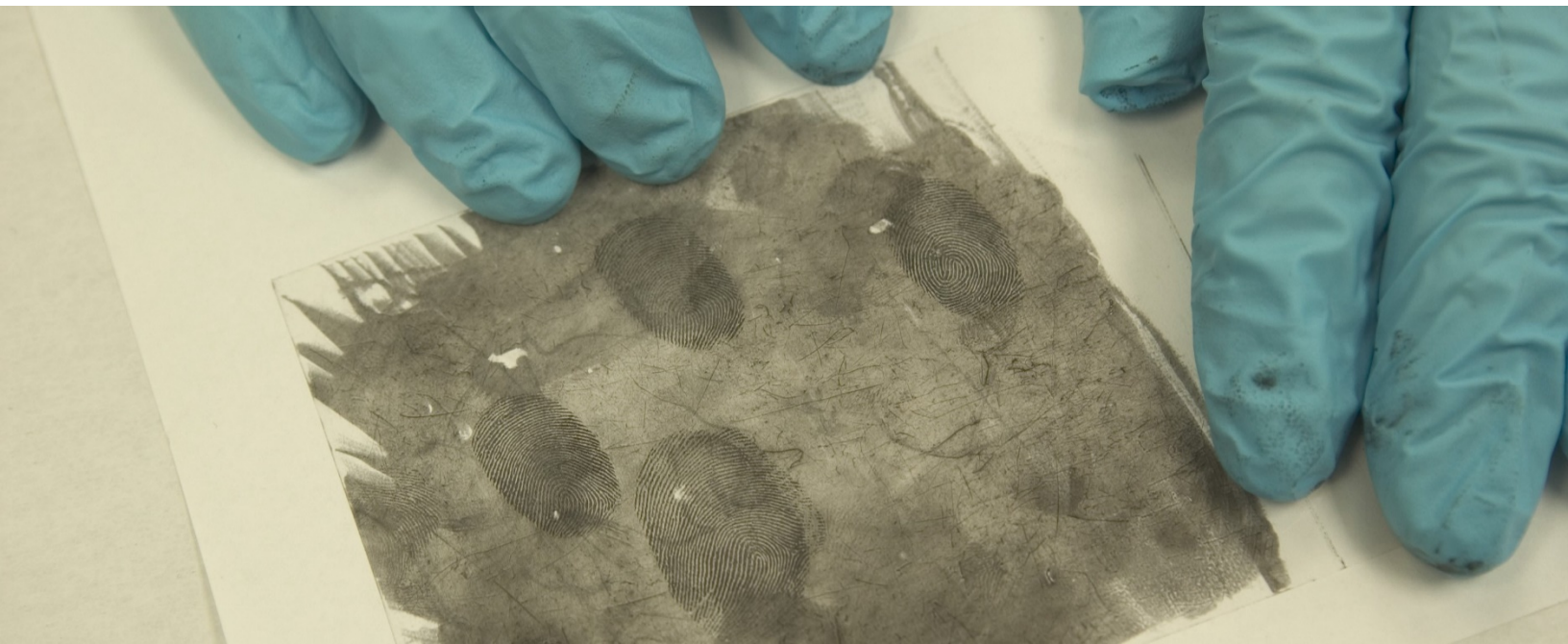
CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

TOTAL NUMBER OF REQUESTS RECEIVED:

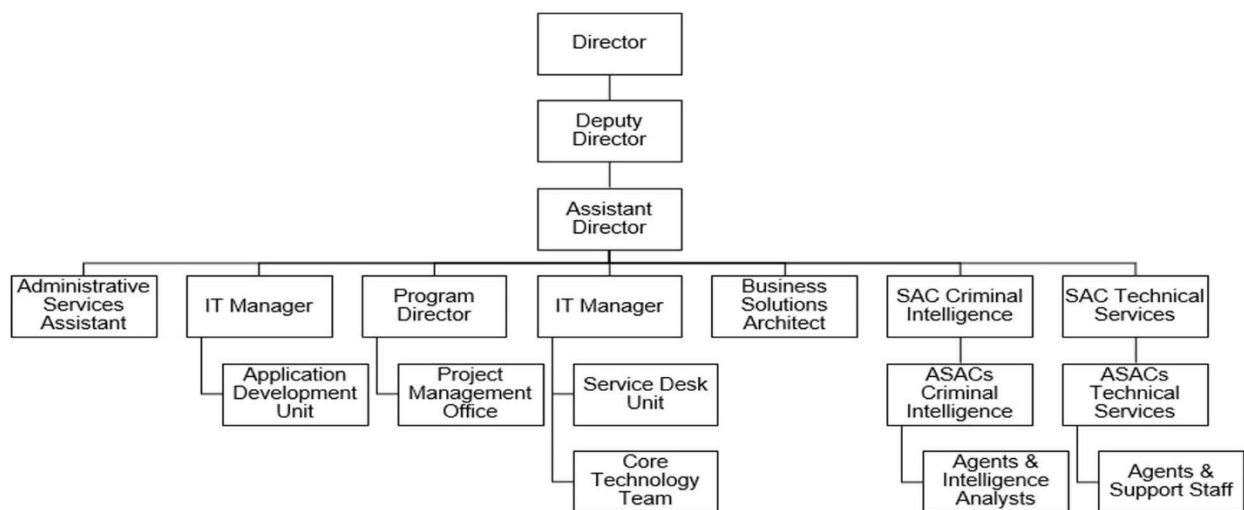
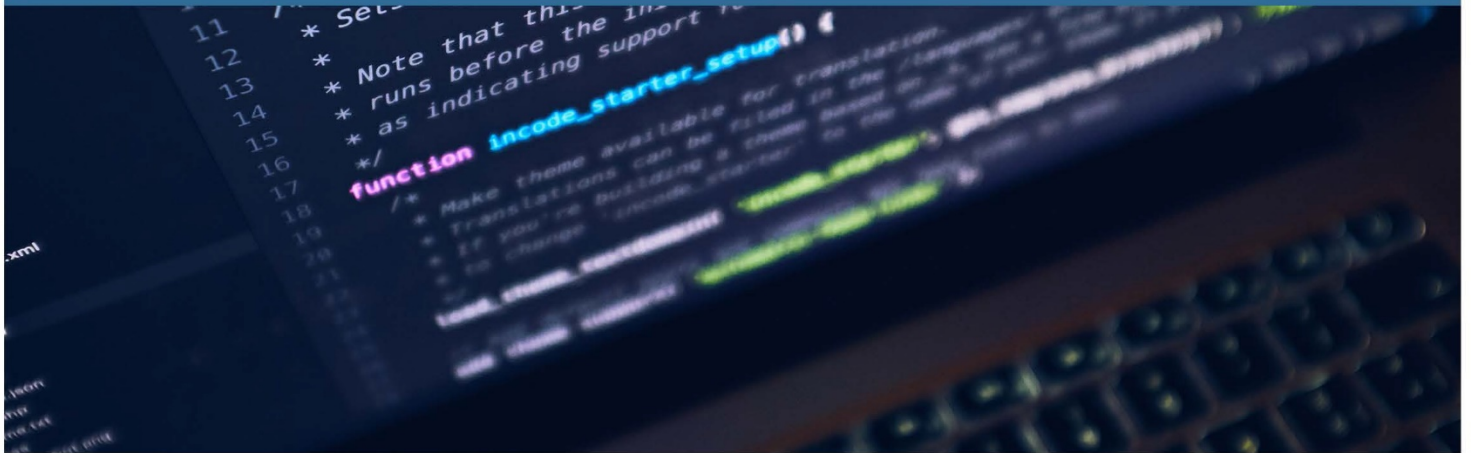
	Nashville Lab	Knoxville Lab	West TN Lab
Drug Identification	12,594	12,867	3,541
Alcohol	10,448	5,042	2,034
Toxicology	4,476	3,303	908
Forensic Biology	1,329	809	981
Firearms Identification	1,077	-	152
Microanalysis	597	-	-
Latent Fingerprints	1,476	-	-
Total	31,997	22,021	7,251

TOTAL NUMBER OF REQUESTS COMPLETED:

	Nashville Lab	Knoxville Lab	West TN Lab
Drug Identification	12,817	10,203	2,318
Alcohol	10,701	4,981	1,890
Toxicology	4,149	3,046	1,103
Forensic Biology	1,185	825	745
Firearms Identification	652	-	98
Microanalysis	574	-	-
Latent Fingerprints	1,460	-	-
Total	31,538	19,055	6,145



Technology & Innovation



The TBI's **Technology and Innovation Division** (TID) encompasses a wide variety of complex systems serving the Bureau, local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies, and the public. Staff in this Division also contribute to efforts to locate wanted fugitives and missing children, process digital evidence, and support the implementation of technology across the Bureau.

The Technology and Innovation Division was created in September of 2019 as a concentration point for the many ways technology can be used to perform and enhance TBI's public safety mission. TID is made up of the Information Systems Unit, the Criminal Intelligence Unit, and the Technical Services Unit. TID members maintain the business systems that sustain TBI's modern workforce, conduct complex investigations and analysis, and support the Tennessee law enforcement community with the latest in intelligence- and digital evidence-gathering tools. These units keep TBI personnel and their law enforcement partners connected, situationally aware, and fully equipped to work the digital crime scenes of the 21st century.

Information Systems Unit

ISU is the TBI's information technology hub, with responsibility for running TBI's data center and business technology, managing critical communications and facilitating the creation, deployment, and maintenance of systems for all of the Bureau's components and many external customers. ISU makes sure that TBI personnel can work effectively whenever and wherever their duties require.

During the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, the priority of ISU has been accelerating digital transformation across TBI divisions and responsibilities. ISU personnel have worked with stakeholders from every corner of the Bureau to identify opportunities for modernization, collaboration, and increased efficiency. ISU has continued to support increased remote work over the course of this fiscal year and has begun to enrich hybrid work support as a permanent part of the agency's posture beyond the pandemic.

CORE TECHNOLOGY TEAM

The Core Team is responsible for translating business requirements and/or legislative mandates into viable systems and design strategies with emphasis on adaptability, scalability, availability and recoverability including defining opportunities for integration, the selection of tools to facilitate the integration, specification of data to be shared, as well as defining the appropriate interfaces. The Team's primary goal is to review and implement emerging developments, technologies, and standards with the intent of improving the Bureau's quality of service and operational efficiency.

The Core Team conducts a continuous review of existing and new industry programs/projects considering current Bureau technology standards, policies, and future technology plans with regards to improving TBI's operational platform. This process includes the evaluation and selection of appropriate hardware, operating system software, and monitoring applications. The team also provides consulting and guidance regarding proposed programs, projects and/or initiatives by developing and implementing the accepted technology strategy, as well as oversees the research and development of said projects, including system testing, information system security, and maintenance.

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT TEAM

The Application Development Team is comprised of four (4) software developers, a database administrator and an IT Manager. This team provides support of TBI's internal software systems, including maintenance of current systems, development of new applications, and coordination with vendors on support of custom-written software. Systems supported include portions of the Sex Offender Registry (SOR), the Investigation+Evidence System (I+E), TnCop, CRMS/Fusion System, and the Tennessee Computerized Criminal History (CCH), along with many others.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PMO)

The Project Management Office (PMO), made up of two (2) Project Managers and one (1) Program Director, works to manage all projects involving information technology at TBI. While the majority of their projects originate within the Information Systems Division, this team works across all areas of TBI to provide assistance with any project management functions involving Information Systems.

SERVICE DESK TEAM

The Service Desk Team is made up of five (5) Business Technical Support staff. They provide support for hardware, software, and phone systems used by all TBI staff. They also fulfill requests for new hardware, software, and phones.

Criminal Intelligence Unit

The Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIU) is responsible for the collection, collation, analysis, and dissemination of information related to criminal activity throughout the state.

The unit concentrates its efforts in the areas of: the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry, Human Trafficking, Missing Children, AMBER/Endangered Child Alerts, Silver Alerts, Gang Intelligence, Fugitive Investigations, Criminal Case Support, Support of Federal Task Forces, Social Media Analysis, Tennessee Homeland Online Records (THOR), Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN), International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP), National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS), Threats Against Law Enforcement/Military, BLUE Alerts, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), School Violence, and assistance to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA).

This statewide unit is currently staffed with 4 Special Agents, 17 Intelligence Analysts, 3 SOR temporary employees and is supervised by 1 Special Agent in Charge and 2 Assistant Special Agents in Charge. This unit is housed within the Tennessee Fusion Center located at TBI Headquarters. The Tennessee Fusion Center is a partnership between the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security and additionally houses personnel from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Tennessee Department of Correction.

In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's Criminal Intelligence Unit processed 45,014 Requests for Information (RFI). Of these requests; 2 originated from other Fusion Centers in the National Network of Fusion Centers, 175 requests originated from federal agencies, 44,837 requests originated from state and local law enforcement agencies, and 8 requests originated from the private sector. CIU received 7,600 tips and leads. These tips were cataloged, verified, and then forwarded to law enforcement for follow up. There were 6 situational awareness products published and CIU Analysts produced 14,249 case support and tactical intelligence products.

TENNESSEE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

The Tennessee Sex Offender Registry (SOR) section of the Criminal Intelligence Unit consists of 7 Intelligence Analysts and 3 SOR temporary employees. The SOR analysts are on-call to assist with AMBER Alerts, Missing/Endangered Children and provide support on the TBI command post.

The Tennessee Sex Offender Registry (SOR) began as a result of the enactment of federal laws that required states to create and maintain individual sex offender registries. Tennessee's SOR was implemented in January 1995 as mandated by Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 40-39-101, which is now TCA 40-39-201. TBI headquarters is the central repository for original sex offender registration documents and TBI is responsible for creating and maintaining a connection to the Sex Offender Registration, Verification, and Tracking System for all law enforcement agencies which register sex offenders. The TBI SOR unit serves and assists Tennessee law enforcement agencies including sheriff's offices, police departments, the Tennessee Department of Correction, as well as out-of-state agencies. The TBI SOR unit not only oversees the state sex offender database but provides training and support to registering agencies, ensures accuracy of sex offender classifications and registrations, manages federal grant projects, issues SOR notifications to the public and law enforcement, conducts file audits, removes deceased offenders from the registry, and reviews sex offender terminations. The temporary employees audit files for completeness and request necessary court documents in order for TBI SOR attorneys to determine an offender's classification.

Tennessee currently registers offenders who have plead to or are found guilty of certain offenses (TCA 40-39-201) or equivalent offenses from other jurisdictions, no matter the date of conviction, plea, or expiration of sentence. Offenders who do not meet Tennessee's criteria, but are required to register in other states, may also be required to register under certain circumstances which affect the State of Tennessee. Sex offenders are registered by local law enforcement or the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC), The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) is responsible for the registry website and for maintaining the original registration documents. There are 450 registering agencies in the State of Tennessee.

All registered offenders, with the exception of juveniles, can be found on the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's public access sex offender website. As of July 30, 2021, there are 25,580 adult sex offenders registered in Tennessee. There are currently 538 juvenile offenders who are not listed on the public TBI website. The TBI has provided law enforcement with approximately 146 certified copies of files for the purpose of prosecution during the fiscal year 2020-2021. The TBI received 600 termination requests from offenders since July 1, 2020, and 152 of those offenders were granted termination for the registry. There were 333 deceased offenders removed from the registry. SOR monitors the TBISORMGR email account to receive/send SOR related information. This year 9,364 emails have been processed by the SOR intelligence analysts.

Through funding from federal SORNA grants, TBI developed an improved SOR database that launched in August 2018. Federal grants are utilized to enhance the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry and ensure that the Tennessee SOR is in compliance with the recommendations set by the Department of Justice - Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) guidelines, to improve the TBI public website, fund overtime and equipment, to assist with the digitization of paper files, develop education resources and on-line SOR training courses for the public and the SOR registering agencies.

In 2016, SOR launched and continues to utilize the Mobile Sex Offender Registry Application for registering agencies. This allows registering agencies to update sex offender information while working in the field. The mobile application allows registering agencies to enter information that is directly uploaded to the registry and into NCIC.

The SOR unit provides SOR new user training, annual training for current SOR users, and training to new law enforcement officers. During this fiscal year, TBI provided new user training to 33 new users, annual training to 45 SOR users, SOR training to 338 new law enforcement officers at the Tennessee

Law Enforcement Training Academy, and 147 Department of Corrections' Probation/Parole officers.

In 2017, TBI was awarded a federal grant to improve SOR training throughout the state. SOR developed three on-line courses that are available to law enforcement. The first course, SOR 101, provides an overview of the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry. To date, 660 law enforcement personnel have completed the SOR 101. The 2nd course, SOR New User Training, provides in-depth training for those who are responsible for registering offenders. There have been 40 users complete the SOR new user training. The final on-line class, SOR Compliance Operations gives SOR agencies information on conducting a compliance operation. A total of 105 users have completed the SOR Compliance Operation on-line training.

TBI analysts assist with SOR compliance operations across the state. The SOR compliance checks are joint operations with multiple law enforcement agencies including TBI, registering agencies, and the U.S. Marshals Service. TBI analysts create intelligence packets on each registered offender for the operations which contains a copy of the most recent SOR registration form, criminal record/warrant check, and DL information. During the compliance checks, law enforcement will make contact with each registered sex offender and verify their offender information, including residence, vehicles, employment, and compliance with any offender restrictions (i.e. children present, computers/internet, and firearms) when applicable. If a registered sex offender is found in violation of SOR rules, warrants are obtained by the registering agency. During this fiscal year, 9 agencies completed compliance operations that resulted in law enforcement making contact with 741 offenders to verify compliance and 106 arrest.

During the fiscal year, the unit assigned one analyst to oversee and develop an absconder project. The goal is to provide strategic planning and operational oversight for state and local law enforcement efforts to locate, arrest, and reduce the population of 704 at-large non-compliant sex offenders classified as absconders on the Tennessee Sex Offender Registry. Analysts with the Absconder Project have partnered with the TBI Public Information Office and local law enforcement in the Fugitive Friday campaign by featuring 11 absconders on social media, enabling citizens to report information leading to 1 arrest.

Convicted sex offenders in Tennessee are required to register annually or quarterly depending on the offense and pay an annual administrative cost between \$150-\$200. Up until April 2, 2020, TBI received \$50 per offender from registering agencies. In April 2020, a new law was passed which states the \$50 administration fee will be collected by the state treasury. If the registering agency has determined the sex offender is indigent, a fee waiver must be submitted to TBI to verify they were unable to pay the administrative fee. The registering agencies are responsible for collecting the annual administration fee or submit the Fee Waiver Form if applicable.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING ANALYSIS

The Human Trafficking (HT) Unit is part of the Criminal Investigation Division. The Criminal Intelligence Unit utilizes 2 Intelligence Analysts to support the HT program statewide. In fiscal year 2020-2021, the CIU HT Analysts processed 1065 human sex trafficking tips; 740 of those tips involved minors. There were 582 HT referrals received from Department of Children's Services involving minors. HT Analysts received an additional 483 tips from other sources that were reviewed and forwarded to HT agents.

TENNESSEE MISSING CHILDREN'S CLEARINGHOUSE

The Tennessee Missing Person's Section (formerly the Missing Children's Section) of CIU is responsible for assisting law enforcement agencies with missing children and vulnerable missing adults. The Holly Bobo Act and Silver Alert were passed into law in 2021 which expands TBI's responsibilities and authorizes TBI to issue endangered missing alerts for individuals over the age of 18 who meet the specified criteria.

In May 2021, the Silver Alert Bill (TCA 38-6-121) was passed into law. The Silver Alert Bill replaces the Care Alert program. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) was designated to oversee the program, implement statewide protocols and provide training for law enforcement agencies. As a result of the bill, CIU received two additional intelligence analyst positions that will be filled in the upcoming fiscal year. TBI utilizes the media and social media to quickly notify the public for assistance in locating vulnerable, missing adults that meet the criteria set forth in the Silver Alert Bill. Since June 2021, CIU has issued 11 Silver Alerts across the state.

TBI is mandated by law to act as the clearinghouse for missing children for the State of Tennessee and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). TBI is responsible for distributing a uniform missing child report to all law enforcement agencies and the legislature once per month. By virtue of TCA 38-6-116(b)(3) and 38-6-117, the TBI is also responsible for establishing, maintaining, and managing a file of "Missing Children," for collecting any available relevant data concerning the missing children, and for disseminating the information to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Tennessee averages approximately 600 runaways per month who are entered into NCIC by local law enforcement agencies. CIU currently has 1 Intelligence Analyst who serves as the Missing Children's Clearinghouse Manager for the state.

AMBER ALERT/ENDANGERED CHILD ALERT/CARE ALERT

The CIU Missing Children's Clearinghouse Manager/Intelligence Analyst coordinates Tennessee's statewide Child Abduction AMBER Alert Plan. All CIU Intelligence Analysts serve on an on-call rotation (24 hours a day) to facilitate the rapid activation of AMBER Alerts, Missing/Endangered Children and provide support on the TBI command post as needed.

Upon the issuance of an Amber Alert, TBI utilizes the media, social media, National Weather Service, automated cell phone notifications through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) highway signs, and the Tennessee Lottery to provide information rapidly to the general public. In 2021, the TBI extended the Endangered Child Alert program to include individuals who are under the age of 21, in accordance with the Holly Bobo Act. As of August 2021, there have been 6 Amber Alert activations, 22 Endangered Child Alerts, and 47 children added to the TBI website. This unit provides training to law enforcement officers at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy four times a year, as well as throughout the year to local agencies upon request. The unit provided virtual training to over 400 law enforcement officers across the state.

GANG INTELLIGENCE

There are several Intelligence Analysts who are assigned to gather information and criminal intelligence concerning gangs in Tennessee. They meet, train, and speak with gang units and task forces across the state on a regular basis. Monthly meetings are coordinated by TBI and are held in several locations across the state. Quarterly, these participants attend a statewide gang intelligence meeting that is held at TBI headquarters, bringing investigators from throughout the state together to collaborate and share information.

FUGITIVE INVESTIGATIONS

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is also responsible for the administration of the TBI's Most Wanted Fugitive Program. To date, the unit has been directly responsible for the capture of 475 of Tennessee's most dangerous fugitives. In fiscal year 2020-2021, there were 18 Most Wanted Fugitives apprehended.

The Most Wanted Fugitive Program currently has 10 fugitives listed and strives to ensure at least two are from each of the 3 grand divisions of Tennessee. Intelligence Analysts and the TBI Public Information Office utilize media contacts for exposure of these cases and include a reward of up to

\$2,500 for information leading to the capture of a fugitive listed on the Most Wanted list. The TBI has an active online and social media presence that is also utilized for this program. Wanted bulletins are prepared by the unit and disseminated to law enforcement officers and the public. TBI agents are assigned to all Most Wanted Fugitive cases. This allows TBI to better facilitate the exchange of intelligence and information, ensuring that all pertinent leads are being followed up on, and also allowing us to pay rewards out as needed. Most Wanted Fugitive cases can be TBI originated or in support of local law enforcement investigations.

In addition to the Most Wanted Fugitive Program, the Criminal Intelligence Unit also assists the other divisions of the TBI with intelligence support of their fugitive investigations. CIU also supports the U.S. Marshals Joint Fugitive Task Force in Nashville, TN. This task force was responsible for the clearance of 595 criminal warrants for fiscal year 2020-2021.

CRIMINAL CASE SUPPORT

Intelligence Analysts assigned to this section support the criminal investigations of law enforcement officers at Federal, State, and Local law enforcement agencies through the analysis of intelligence, conducting of database queries, and the production of case support and tactical intelligence products. In fiscal year 2020-2021 CIU analysts produced 6 situational awareness intelligence products and 14,249 case support and tactical intelligence products in direct support of criminal investigations being conducted in our state.

FEDERAL TASK FORCES

There are currently 4 Special Agents assigned to the Gangs, Fugitives, and Criminal Case Support section of the Criminal Intelligence Unit. These agents serve as Task Force Officers (TFO's) assigned to the following Federal task forces: 3 Special Agents are assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; 1 to the Violent Crimes Task Force in Nashville, TN, 1 to the Joint Terrorism Task Force in Nashville, TN, and 1 to the Joint Terrorism Task Force in Knoxville, TN. Finally, 1 Special Agent is assigned to the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force in Nashville, TN. These agents serve as a conduit to their various agencies and facilitate the exchange of information and intelligence.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Gangs, Fugitives, and Criminal Case Support section contains several Intelligence Analysts trained to conduct social media analysis and investigation. These analysts provide criminal case support and real time intelligence updates during TBI special operations, sex offender round ups, human trafficking operations, missing children investigations, fugitive investigations, and any other type of investigation upon request. This support is provided to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

TBI HOMELAND ONLINE RECORDS (THOR)

The Criminal Intelligence Unit serves as administrator of THOR (TBI Homeland Online Records). THOR is a joint venture between the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security that fosters information sharing for all law enforcement personnel in Tennessee. THOR is an online database that contains information regarding incidents, arrests, gang data, and suspicious activity carried out within the borders of Tennessee, as well as driver's licenses, sex offender records, TNCOP, and TN Department of Corrections records. THOR gives users the ability to query this information across all participating agencies throughout Tennessee. THOR is mobile device capable and designed to improve officer safety with information that can be obtained

anytime and anywhere via a mobile device (cell phone, tablet, etc.). THOR is the enhanced replacement for the Consolidated Records Management Systems (CRMS).

FINCEN/INTERPOL/VICAP/NAMUS

The Criminal Intelligence Unit serves as the coordinator for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) in the State of Tennessee. FINCEN is an organization established by the U.S. Department of Treasury and is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of intelligence regarding financial crimes. In fiscal year 2020-2021, TBI processed 103 FINCEN requests.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is also the coordinator for the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) in the State of Tennessee. This organization promotes mutual assistance and cooperation between police agencies all over the world. All Tennessee INTERPOL inquiries are routed through TBI. In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, TBI processed 58 INTERPOL requests.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit continues to work with the FBI's National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime (NCAVC). Law enforcement agencies within the state submit reports to TBI to be forwarded to the NCAVC. These reports are then uploaded to the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP) for analysis. TBI is the designated liaison between local agencies and the FBI for violent crime information.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit serves as the coordinator for the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NAMUS) for TBI. CIU verifies that all submittals are properly formatted and all necessary information is available for entry into the NAMUS database. CIU ensures all applicable TBI cases are entered into the database in compliance with state law. CIU also assists other federal, state, and local agencies with NAMUS inquiries and case support on cold-case homicide and missing persons investigations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT/MILITARY/BLUE ALERTS

The Criminal Intelligence Unit has a law enforcement/military threats coordinator. CIU is responsible for the collection and dissemination of intelligence related to threats made against law enforcement officers, law enforcement agencies, and service members/military installations. CIU also coordinates intelligence in partnership with various federal, state, and local agencies when dignitaries visit our state.

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is responsible for the issuance of BLUE Alerts. BLUE Alerts are activated only when a Tennessee law enforcement officer has been killed or seriously injured, and the subject is still at large. Intelligence Analysts serve on an on-call rotation to facilitate the activation of these alerts 24 hours a day. These programs utilize the media, National Weather Service radios, automated cell phone notifications, and the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) highway signs to provide information to the general public. All of these mediums along with social media are updated by various Intelligence Analysts assigned to the activation after the decision to activate the alert has been made.

EL PASO INTELLIGENCE CENTER (EPIC)

The Criminal Intelligence Unit serves as the Tennessee coordinator for the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC). One of the primary goals of EPIC is to coordinate intelligence sharing between federal and non-federal agencies, associated with narcotics and fugitives.

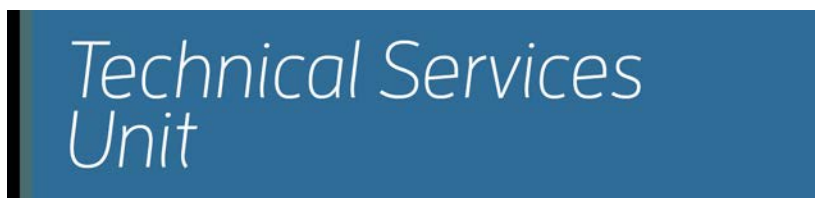
SCHOOL VIOLENCE HOTLINE

The TBI, with the assistance of the Department of Education, established a toll-free School Violence Hotline for the receipt of information relating to potential violent acts. The School Violence Hotline is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Information received over the hotline related to potential

violent acts that are in violation of state law is forwarded immediately to the appropriate law enforcement agency and designated school contact person.

TENNESSEE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (TEMA) LIAISON

Employees assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Unit serve as TBI's Emergency Services Coordinators (ESC), which is TBI's designated liaison to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA). This duty requires the attendance of monthly meetings held at TEMA. Additionally, this requires attendance at the annual TEMA ESC Conference, along with a substantial commitment to complete numerous training courses related to incident management. Also, per TBI policy and CALEA standards, ESCs are required to attend and participate in at least one designated training exercise per calendar year. ESCs are responsible for coordinating the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's roles during the activation of the Governor's Escape Plan and the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency's (TEMA) Unusual Occurrence and/or Emergency Mobilization Plans. Finally, ESC's are charged with conducting an annual review of all TBI-TEMA related policies and procedures, as well as our Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP).



TSU conducts specialized technical investigations and enhances the investigations of others through advanced capabilities. TSU agents conduct proactive investigations into a range of online harms, including internet crimes against children, threats to life communicated online, cyber-enabled fraud, and computer intrusions. TSU is also tasked with deploying and gathering evidence from advanced technologies in support of TBI Special Agents and the Tennessee law enforcement community, including digital forensic analysis and communications and geolocation evidence-gathering. TSU agents also support operations with mobile command, specialty vehicles, and radio communications assistance. In addition, TSU agents are also in charge of TBI's Electronics Detection K9.

The Technical Services Unit (TSU) was created within the TBI Criminal Investigation Division in December 2004, bringing together a range of technical and investigative disciplines from across the Bureau into one chain of command. In October 2019, TSU became part of the Technology and Innovation Division. TSU agents conduct proactive investigations into a range of online harms, including internet crimes against children, threats to life communicated online, financially motivated Cybercrime, and computer intrusions. TSU is also tasked with deploying advanced technologies in support of TBI Special Agents and the Tennessee law enforcement community involving Ambers Alerts, Fugitives, Silver Alerts and historical Cellular and network analysis. A growing percentage of the total evidence available in any criminal case exists in the digital world, moving across a wide range of devices and services. TSU ensures that TBI agents and other law enforcement officers from federal, state and local agencies can collect and understand as much of that evidence as possible. TSU currently stands at one Special Agent in Charge, two Assistant Special Agents in Charge, 16 Special Agents (one being a Fire Investigator), one Electronics Detection Canine (K9), one Intelligence Analyst, one Heavy Equipment Operator, and one Systems Administrator.

ONLINE INVESTIGATIONS: THREATS TO LIFE & ONLINE INVESTIGATIONS

TSU has always been responsible for investigating threats to life communicated through technical means. The unit utilizes a mature set of tools, techniques, and workflows around this critical discipline. These investigations might involve social media postings, cellular communications, or digital forums where individuals indicate their intent to harm themselves or others. Because of the technical nature of the investigations, the assigned Agents need to possess sophisticated training in order to exchange legal demands with service providers, analyze proceeds, and identify and locate the individual(s)

behind the threat(s). TSU works closely with other TBI units and the rest of the law enforcement community to gather intelligence and mitigate the threat once the originating individual has been identified. During fiscal year 2020, TSU Agents investigated 106 threats-to-life case compared to 26 for the fiscal year 2019, a massive increase of 307.69%.

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC) INVESTIGATIONS

TSU houses the TBI's response to the growing threat of online child victimization. TSU Special Agents are members of the FBI Child Exploitation Task Force and TBI's Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. A number of TSU Special Agents were assigned full-time to these task forces throughout Fiscal Year 2020.

During Fiscal Year 2020, these agents processed 847 CyberTips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), compared to 677 CyberTips for the fiscal year 2019, an increase of 25.11%. Of the 847 leads received, 770 involved possession, manufacture, or distribution of child sexual abuse material (CSAM), 1 involved sex tourism, 14 involved the molestation of a minor, 1 involved the online enticement of children for sexual acts, 61 involved unsolicited obscenity directed to a child.

CYBER CRIMES INVESTIGATIONS

TSU also houses the TBI's response to Cyber Crimes for the entire state of Tennessee. TSU Special Agents are members of a Joint Cyber-Crime Task Force (JCCTF) with the FBI in Nashville. TSU Cyber Agents also work closely with the United States Secret Service (USSS) and the Department of Homeland Security (HSI).

TSU's Cyber Crime investigations function has continued to grow more sophisticated, focusing on high-level computer intrusion threats and complex international financially motivated organized crime investigations. Such threats frequently cross both national and international boundaries, requiring partnerships with private industry experts and other governmental and law enforcement agencies to combat the growing trend of computer-based crimes.

In addition, TBI's cyber investigations function has been called upon a number of times to respond to potentially criminal behavior associated with state information technology infrastructure and programs. Other current investigations involve Business Email Compromises, Ransomware, Money Mule Networks, Tech Support and Romance scams, and Election Law Violations. Primary responsibility in this area currently falls on one agent for the entire state, with support from management and other specialists as necessary.

ELECTRONICS DETECTION CANINE (K9)

In August 2020 TBI acquired an Electronics Detections Canine and trained one TSU agent to become the K9 handler. After extensive training, during Fiscal Year 2020 TSU deployed the Electronics Detection K9 and handler 17 times in support of ICAC, homicide, countersurveillance sweep, and kidnapping investigations

TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS AND SUPPORT

Communications Intelligence

TSU Agents often provide specialized assistance on an emergency basis when TBI responds to a major critical incident, like an AMBER Alert, Endangered Child Alert (ECA), fugitive investigations, homicide, or kidnapping. TSU agents work to develop actionable intelligence from all available forms of digital evidence, from mobile device location records to information in the possession of online service providers and social media platforms like Facebook and Apple.

In addition, TBI agents analyze communications records developed during investigations and provide expert testimony in court. For example, one specialty that is in increasing demand from prosecutors and investigators is the provision of maps and testimony about the location of mobile devices like cell phones during crimes.

During fiscal year 2020, TSU Agents generated 66 cellular mapping analysis and device location for TBI, Federal, State and Local Agencies.

Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR)

Tennessee Code Annotated §40-6-303(12) gives TBI the responsibility to support electronic surveillance statewide by establishing certification standards administered by TBI and requiring that application for communications intercepts be made by a TBI Special Agent in all but five of the largest counties in the state. The TSU administers this capability, providing training, guidance, and technical support for any law enforcement agency wishing to pursue electronic surveillance investigations involving Pen Registers and Title III intercepts. During fiscal year 2020 TSU personnel provisioned a range of court-authorized communications surveillances in furtherance of ongoing investigations.

Technical Surveillance

TSU Special Agents are responsible for selecting and servicing TBI's inventory of technical surveillance equipment, ensuring that criminal and drug investigators are able to gather and preserve evidence covertly and effectively during undercover operations.

TSU oversees the construction and maintenance of most of the covert video systems utilized by CID and DID and administers the video server system that stores the evidence and allows secure remote access.

Radio System and Tactical Communications

TBI is also responsible for maintenance of TBI's radio and emergency communications systems, working with other local, state, and federal agencies to ensure secure and stable communications and communications interoperability in support of emergency preparedness.

TSU personnel also support the infrastructure which allows investigators to effectively record evidentiary phone calls without alerting target subjects. TSU personnel are also supporting several initiatives to improve situational awareness and effectiveness during high-risk operations.

Command Post & Specialty Vehicles

TSU is responsible for maintaining and deploying TBI's primary Mobile Command Post (CP) and certain other Special Purpose Vehicles. A well-equipped mobile command center allows TBI to build a presence with logistical and analytical support for investigations anywhere in the state. The CP is deployed on a regular basis to support activities ranging from sex offender registry operations and search warrant executions to massive manhunts, natural disasters, and response to civil unrest. During fiscal year 2020 the Command Post was deployed on 25 different occasions. Other specialty vehicles such as search warrant trailer, restroom trailer, and heavy equipment were deployed a total of 29 times.

Training & Community Outreach

Today's technology presents investigators with new obstacles every day and we are constantly training to ensure that we can deploy as many lawfully available solutions as possible to overcome those obstacles and protect the people of Tennessee. Effective utilization of those solutions often requires specialized training and interactive support.

During the fiscal year 2020, TSU provided specialized training in a range of settings for both TBI personnel and members of the Tennessee law enforcement community. In addition, TSU personnel

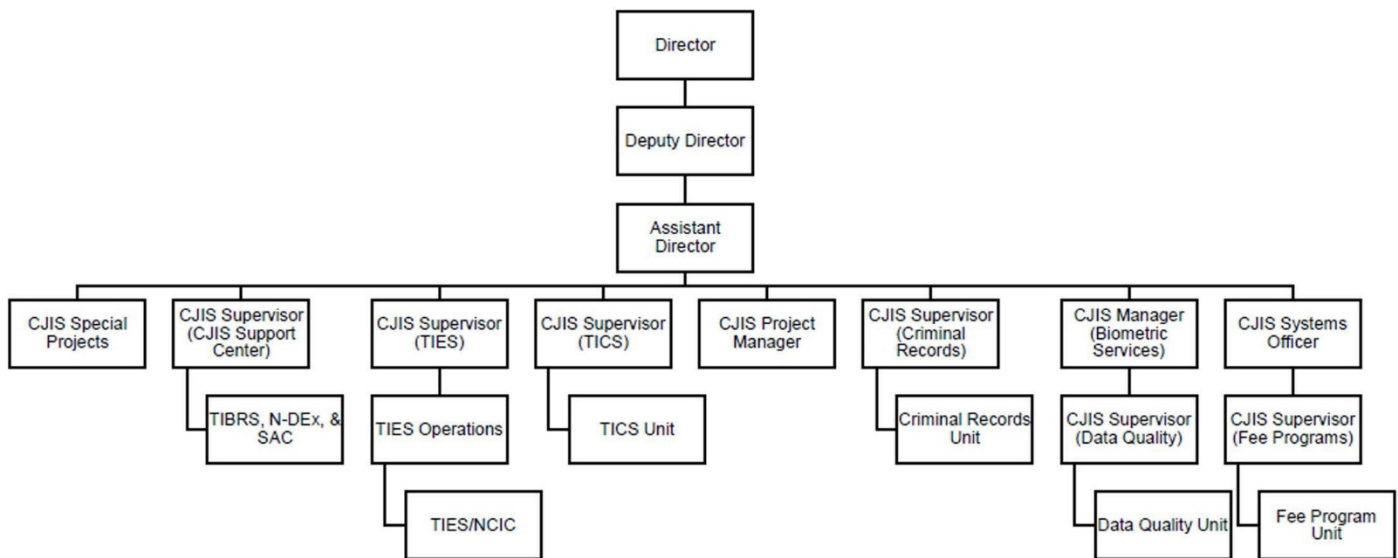
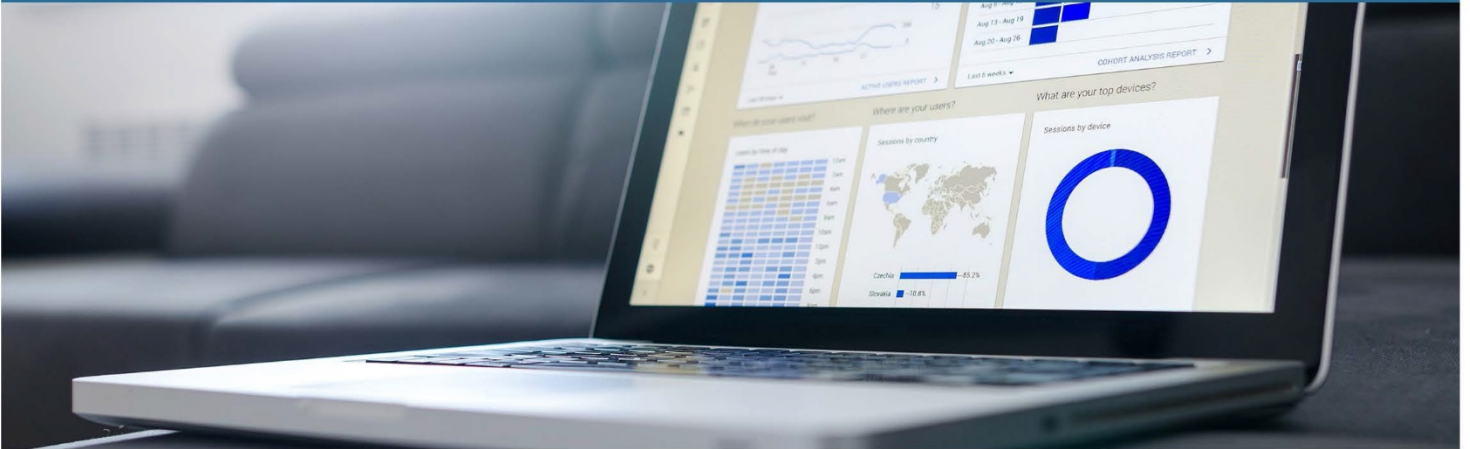
conducted presentations involving Cyber Crime, ICAC and Internet Safety to civic groups and multiple private industry organizations.

DIGITAL FORENSICS

TBI's digital forensics function is housed within TSU. One ASAC and ten Special Agents assigned to digital forensics are responsible for preserving and analyzing digital evidence from computer systems and mobile devices seized during investigations. They also perform enhancements of audio and video files. Three of these agents are assigned to regional offices in Knoxville and Jackson to provide TSU with regional presence. Three agents were recently hired to fill vacancies in the forensics labs, two in Nashville and one in Knoxville. They are currently going through law enforcement and Special Agent as well as digital forensics training.

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, TSU digital forensics personnel received 544 cases consisting of 802 individual items of digital evidence. This represents a 17% increase in number of cases over the previous fiscal year. On average, 30% of the cases worked by TBI digital forensic examiners will be TBI cases; the other 70% of cases are worked for other federal, state, and local agencies. Looking at the cases, 442 were mobile devices only, 60 were computer forensic examinations, and the rest ranged from technical assists and digital/audio enhancements. Traditionally, 25% are death investigations, 20% involve some form of child exploitation, 25% are drug investigations, 5% involve theft or robbery, 5% are public corruption investigations, and 5% are fraud investigations, with the remainder varying among other offenses. During the same period, TSU performed 7 vehicle infotainment center extractions.

CJIS



The **Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division** provides support for local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies, including the different divisions within TBI. Support comes in the form of a wide variety of complex systems such as the state repository of criminal history records and the system for background checks, including background checks for potential gun purchasers.

The CJIS Division provides support and service for local, state and federal criminal justice agencies, including the different divisions within TBI. Support comes in the form of a wide variety of complex systems such as the state repository of criminal history records and the system for background checks, including mandated background checks for potential gun purchasers, teachers, and medical licensure.

The CJIS Division of TBI is responsible for requiring the development, maintenance, and distribution of certain information relating to crime, criminals, and criminal activities for the benefit of all state and local criminal justice agencies in Tennessee. Additionally, CJIS requirements mandate the division to perform fingerprint-based background checks for several areas of employment including, but not limited to, school personnel, health related employees, and those persons who assist vulnerable populations such as persons with developmental and physical disabilities. The CJIS Division is also responsible for performing name-based checks for the approval of sales and pawn redemptions for all firearm transactions in Tennessee pursuant to the Federal Brady Act. In addition, the division also performs in-state, name-based records checks from inquiries submitted by the public.

The CJIS Division also houses the Tennessee Crime Information Center (TCIC), which acts as a communications hub during normal business hours and assumes emergency communications responsibilities within the TBI after hours, on weekends and holidays. The TCIC provides services twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

This year, throughout the global pandemic, the CJIS Division was able to perform all necessary services for the public, including services for fellow law enforcement agencies. The dedication of the employees of the CJIS Division to the protection of our citizens ensured that these vital services continued throughout several emergency situations, including the pandemic.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES (CJIS) SUPPORT CENTER

The CJIS Support Center encompasses the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), TBI's Statistical Analysis Center, the National Data Exchange System (N-DEx) and the personnel tasked to work within those programs including one CJIS Supervisor and eight CJIS Support Specialists. While CJIS Support Specialists are located in other areas of the Bureau, those working in the CJIS Support Center include three auditors, two trainers (one vacant), one providing data support, including data processing and data quality, one for data analysis and one specialist whose primary responsibility is the publishing of data.

Of the programs within the CJIS Support Center, the newest is Law Enforcement Related Deaths (LERD). This program includes data collection for Use of Force in incidents, (UoF), Arrest Related Non-Forcible Deaths (ARNFD), and Deaths in Custody Reporting Act (DCRA). The CJIS Support Center is also responsible for managing Tennessee's participation in the National Data Exchange System (N-DEx). The N-DEx system provides law enforcement officers with immediate access to criminal justice records from tens of thousands of agencies across the nation. Users can view multiple types of reports including, but not limited to, incident and arrest reports, booking and incarceration reports, pre-trial investigations, and probation and parole records. The N-DEx collaboration function, which allows users to invite authorized members from other qualified agencies, enables users to team up with other investigators to quickly and securely share images, videos, charts, graphs, notes, case reports, etc. Visualization tools depict associations between people, places, things, and events on charts or maps. With the subscription and notification feature, investigators will receive notifications if other users are searching for the same criteria or if a new record related to one of their investigations enters the system.

N-DEx is capable of providing a snapshot of an encountered person, including available criminal records, associations, identifiers, and photographs and a search of N-DEx will return results that include any related information found within the nationwide system. The Person Entity View gathers information from all of these records and presents it in an easy to read format, allowing a law enforcement officer to quickly view all related reports and narratives as a single document. A search of an address will alert the officer if past interactions with the criminal justice community have occurred.

As of June 30, 2021, Tennessee has recruited 1,530 active users from multiple agencies, including some federal agencies, throughout the state to participate in the N-DEx system. Initially implemented by the FBI, NIBRS (National Incident Based Reporting System) improved the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement. Tennessee's crime reporting model, deemed "TIBRS", captures details on each single crime incident, including information on victims, known offenders, victim to offender relationships, arrestees and property involved in each offense reported within the incident.

In addition, each incident can contain up to ten offenses, allowing for even more detailed reporting. TIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances of a crime such as location, time of day, and any arrest or clearance that occurred subsequent to the investigation. The Uniform Crime Reporting Program, once used by Tennessee, reported only an aggregate monthly tally of crimes. These included ten offenses plus an additional twenty offenses, which collected only arrest data. TIBRS data currently collects information on fifty-four offenses and an additional ten offenses containing arrestee data only.

The FBI has made nationwide implementation of NIBRS a top priority because the program provides statistics that are more useful. Proper use of this information promotes better planning, informed policing and more informed policy-making decisions.

To increase participation, the UCR Program collaborated with the Bureau of Justice Statistics to transition the UCR Program to a NIBRS-only data collection by 2021. The vision for NIBRS is to become the law enforcement community standard for collecting crime data, which will help law enforcement and communities around the country use resources more strategically and effectively.

At the request of the FBI, the CJIS Division has committed one person to act as a liaison during the UCR to NIBRS transition. The CJIS liaison continued to assist other states in 2020, including Alabama, Washington, Oregon, and Nevada via phone calls, emails, and Teams meetings. Visits to Kentucky and South Carolina will be scheduled in late 2021 or early 2022, depending on the situation with the pandemic. Although all states are not transitioned yet, they are working toward that end with the liaison providing them much-needed guidance. CJIS TIBRS Trainers also provide a host of training, including Introduction to Data Collection and RAC Orientation, both of which are required for new RACs (Reporting Agency Coordinators). These classes provide insight to TIBRS and the state reporting software, both of which incorporate federal and state statutes and reporting requirements. All TIBRS classes are eight hours long, with the exception of RAC Orientation/Crimelnsight (four hours). Other training classes available through the CJIS Support Center and provided at no cost to agencies, include TnCOP, the no-cost reporting software, TIBRS Overview and Report Writing classes for officers and law enforcement personnel, classes at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, TBI Agents classes and a TIBRS Review class for the seasoned TIBRS personnel. The 2020 Annual TIBRS Conference was cancelled due to the pandemic, but plans have been made to hold the 25th Anniversary TIBRS Conference in September 2021. TIBRS unit personnel also developed online classes in order to provide an opportunity for new Reporting Agency Coordinators (RACs) to receive their required introductory training. In all, the CJIS Support Center trainer taught 851 persons in forty-eight classes.

The TIBRS program was originally set up to accept data from the agencies on a monthly basis. At the onset of the pandemic, the Governor's Office tasked the CJIS Support Center with determining a way to obtain data more quickly. Within four months, the CSC implemented weekly data submissions, allowing much faster access to the data. Biweekly reports are generated, providing insight as to the potential impact the pandemic was having on crime in Tennessee.

The CJIS Support Center is also responsible for annual publications such as 'Crime in Tennessee,' 'Crime on Campus,' 'School Crime Report,' 'Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA),' 'Hate Crime,' 'Law Enforcement-Related Deaths (LERD),' 'Domestic Violence' and the TBI's Annual Report.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT UNIT/TCIC/TIES OPERATIONS

The National Crime Information Center, or NCIC, accessible by virtually every law enforcement and criminal justice agency in the nation, and considered the lifeline of law enforcement, is a clearinghouse of crime data available twenty-four hours a day, three hundred and sixty five days per year. It helps law enforcement and criminal justice agency personnel apprehend fugitives, locate missing persons, recover stolen property, and identify terrorists. It also assists law enforcement officers in performing their duties more safely and provides information necessary to protect the public.

Launched in 1967, NCIC began with 5 files and 356,784 records. The database currently consists of 22 files. There are seven property files containing records of stolen articles, boats, guns, license plates, parts, securities, and vehicles. There are 14 persons files, including: Supervised Release; National Sex Offender Registry; Foreign Fugitive; Immigration Violator; Missing Person; Protection Order; Unidentified Person; Protective Interest; Gang; Known or Appropriately Suspected Terrorist; Wanted Person; Identity Theft; Violent Person; and National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Denied Transaction. The system also contains images that can be associated with NCIC records to help agencies identify people and property items. The Interstate Identification Index, which contains automated criminal history record information, is accessible through the same network as NCIC.

Tennessee's Information Enforcement System (TIES), housed in the Law Enforcement Support Unit of the CJIS Division, operates under the same guidelines as those fashioned by the FBI. The TIES Operation Unit, available twenty-four hours a day, seven days per week, also houses the Tennessee Crime Information Center (TCIC) and assumes emergency communications responsibilities within the TBI after hours and on weekends. In addition to the emergency communications responsibilities, TIES Operations personnel are responsible for providing technical support for local, state, and federal agencies with connectivity to the TIES network and monitoring the performance of that same network.

In order to ensure all users follow standard operating procedures and reinforce system security and system use, LESU maintains TIES trainers to teach various classes to law enforcement and criminal justice agency employees. Classes include a Basic Certification class, the annual TIES conference, TIES Review class and a TAC Orientation class held six times per year. The TIES training staff is also available to present at local agencies during in-service or other requested times.

During the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, TIES trainers were responsible for the training of 252 students during thirty-one Basic Certification on-site classes. There were 251 students who utilized in-house training to obtain Basic Certification.

There were eight TAC Orientation classes held with 90 participants. The TIES User Group Conference was held in March with two sessions for a total of 305 participants.

NCIC users must follow a number of rules in order to ensure the privacy and integrity of the data. In order to do this, each agency must validate its records, including undergoing a periodic audit by LESU's NCIC auditors. During the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, the auditors completed 112 audits, thus ensuring the data quality and integrity of the system.

TENNESSEE INSTANT CHECK SYSTEM

The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS), established for Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs), mandates information to be supplied immediately on whether the transfer of a firearm would be in violation of Section 922 (g) or (n) of Title 18, United States Code, or state law.

NICS, a national system, checks available records on persons disqualified from receiving firearms. The FBI, through a cooperative effort with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and local and state law enforcement, developed the system. The NICS is a computerized background check system designed to respond instantly on most background check inquiries so the FFLs (Federal Firearms Licensees) receive an almost immediate response.

The Tennessee Instant Check System (TICS) began operation on November 1, 1998. The requirements of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922(t)) were incorporated into the Tennessee gun transfer statute with an amendment to T.C.A. § 39-17-1316. This amendment required TBI to establish and maintain a background check system that meets or exceeds the requirements established by the Brady Act for continuing recipient background checks on all firearms transactions except those specifically excluded by law. To meet these requirements, TICS accesses all databases in the reference chart below when processing the required TICS/NICS background check of any person seeking to purchase a firearm from a licensed firearm dealer or to redeem a firearm from pawn from a licensed firearm dealer.

In TICS, 78.5% of all firearm transactions processed in less than five minutes.

During the time period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 period, staff in TICS processed 733,423 total transactions with 715,005 (or 97.4%) being approved. 18,411 of the remaining transactions resulted in a denial. Personnel in the TICS Unit also identified 1,151 wanted persons, resulting in an apprehension at the scene. The unit also identified 363 stolen firearms during the transaction process, verified later by law enforcement and subsequently returned to the owners.

Database	Description
TCHR (Tennessee Criminal History Repository)	This file is maintained by the TBI and is supported by arrest fingerprint cards. Persons who are convicted felons cannot legally possess a firearm.
NCIC (National Crime Information Center)	This database maintains files on wanted persons, protection orders, deported felons, U.S. Secret Service Protective (persons who may pose a threat to the President and/or others afforded protection by the U.S. Secret Service), foreign fugitives, SENTRY File (persons currently under supervision of the Federal Bureau of Prisons), Convicted Person on Supervised Release File and the Convicted Sexual Offender Registry.
III (Interstate Identification Index)	This is the national repository for criminal history record information.
NICS (National Instant Check System)	The federal instant background check system maintained by the FBI. It houses databases on Denied Persons, Illegal/Unlawful Aliens, Controlled Substance Abusers, Dishonorable Discharges, Citizenship renunciants and Mental Defectives/Commitments.



BIOMETRIC SERVICES SECTION

TBI serves as the state repository for fingerprint-based criminal records information in the state of Tennessee. The Biometrics Services Center (BSC) is responsible for the processing and maintenance of all information related to the repository, as well as for several associated legislatively mandated duties and programs. These duties include the processing of all criminal law enforcement applicant and civil applicant fingerprint information, and other associated records functions including the processing of final court dispositions, applications for pre-trial and judicial diversions, court orders for expungement of criminal records, and other matters of clerical maintenance of information in the records repository. The BSC utilizes the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) to process each submission of fingerprint information to determine the identification of an individual using fingerprint characteristics to build the criminal record in the repository. The Biometrics Services Center includes the Data Quality Unit, the Criminal Records Unit, and the Fee Programs Unit.

DATA QUALITY UNIT

The Data Quality Unit received 581,071 fingerprint submissions during Fiscal Year 2020-2021, a decrease of 2% compared to the 595,984 submissions received during 2019-2020. Less than 1% of the fingerprint submissions received have missing, inaccurate or incomplete descriptor, arrest data, or otherwise considered unclassifiable. Fingerprints reject back to the contributor if unclassifiable or rejected due to missing or incomplete data. Criminal arrest fingerprints made up 51% (295,278) of the submissions received, compared to 325,006 received during the previous Fiscal Year, a decrease of 9%. Fee and Law Enforcement Applicant fingerprints accounted for the remaining 49% (285,793) of the fingerprint submissions received, compared to 270,978 during the previous Fiscal Year, a 5% increase.

CRIMINAL RECORDS UNIT

The Criminal Records Unit expunges criminal history information upon receipt of an order, signed by a judge, from the court. The FBI, upon receipt of processed Tennessee records, removes those charges from the federal criminal history records maintained in the federal repository. The Criminal Records Unit successfully processed 59,202 expungement orders, many containing multiple charges, received by the courts during the pertinent time period and the unit processed 13,793 diversion applications.

The Criminal Records Unit also enters final court disposition information into the state repository. Disposition information, sent to TBI by law enforcement agencies, court clerks from the ninety-five counties, and municipal courts, provides information relative to the outcome of the judicial process for each arrest. The Criminal Records Unit received 394,847 dispositions during the Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021. 377,148 dispositions were processed and 34,590 dispositions were rejected due to missing information or the inability to link the disposition to an arrest.

FEE PROGRAMS UNIT

The Fee Programs Unit provides criminal background information to the public, upon receipt of a proper request and associated fee. The Tennessee Open Records Information Services (TORIS) background checks are "name-based" checks only and do not involve the submission of fingerprints. The information provided to the requestor is Tennessee criminal history information only. During Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the unit processed 248,539 TORIS checks resulting in a 19% increase from the prior Fiscal Year.

The Fee Programs Unit also processes fingerprint-based background checks through the Tennessee Applicant Processing Services system, or TAPS system. TAPS background checks are nationwide and only applicable entities mandated by the Tennessee Legislature are qualified to fingerprint applicants through the TAPS system. Some examples of applicant types include healthcare workers, teachers, unarmed guards, childcare employees, and those seeking to obtain a handgun carry permit. The Fee Programs Unit processed 270,788 applicants with Handgun Carry Permits applicants comprising the highest-reported applicant type at 27% during the Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

CJIS PROJECT MANAGER

The CJIS Division Project Manager handles CJIS special projects and NCHIP/NARIP/SAC grant-funded projects. The Project Manager oversees all aspects of projects, including coordination with state and TBI information systems; liaison duties with vendors; and coordination of CJIS grants and contracts. Current projects in the planning or execution phase include RapBack, a project designed to notify a non-criminal justice agency of a criminal charge in the event of an arrest involving an applicant; the Domestic Violence Flagging Project; AFIS upgrades; and several internal application upgrade projects.

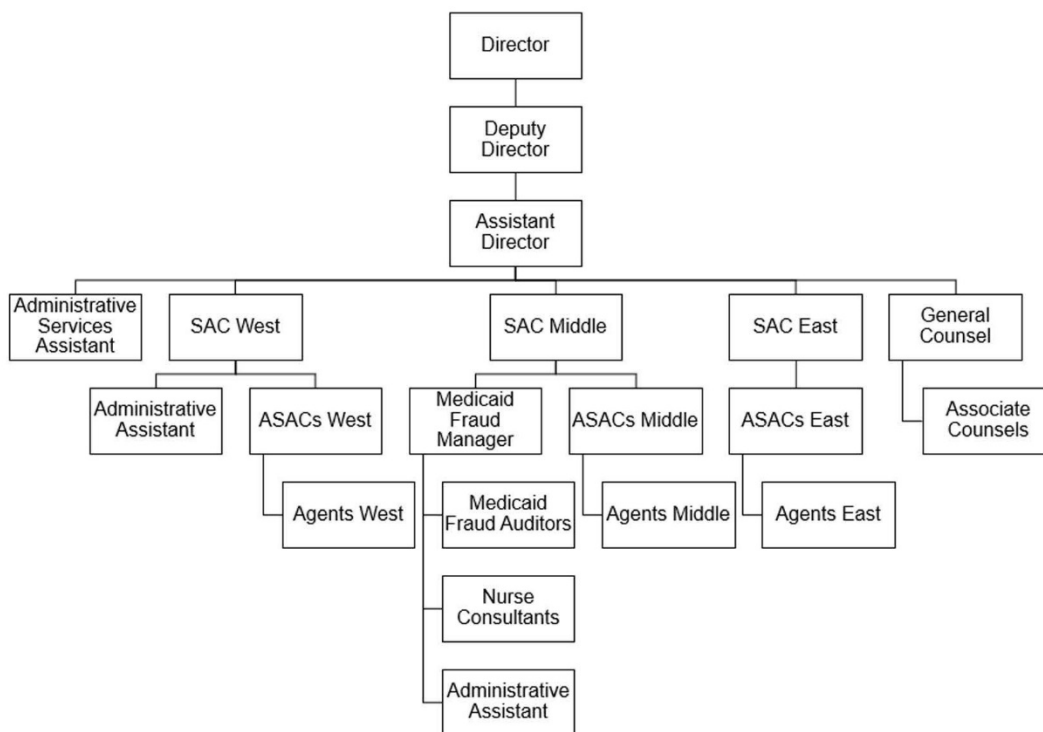
STATE OF TENNESSEE FBI CJIS SYSTEMS OFFICER (CSO)

The CJIS Systems Officer (CSO) monitors system use, enforces system discipline, and ensures users follow proper CJIS operating procedures. The CSO is also a member of the CJIS Advisory Policy Board (APB). The CJIS Systems Officer serves as a liaison for the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council, NLETS, and SEARCH, a research and analysis network whose primary goal is to collect, share and analyze innovative and timely knowledge, information, best practices, services and solutions for justice information sharing.

CJIS SPECIAL PROJECTS

The CJIS Division uses the services of a CJIS employee who acts as a quality control consultant and oversees special projects, which are chosen specifically by the Assistant Director. Projects requested prior to the end of the fiscal year include the improvements in the collection and dissemination of metrics for each unit in the CJIS division, an overhaul of the TIES billing procedure and a review of the audit system for background checks for non-criminal justice entities. Projects completed during the fiscal year include the coordination of a partnership with Harvard University regarding a recidivism study and assistance to the CJIS Support Center in several of their new responsibilities.

Medicaid Fraud Control



The authority of the **Medicaid Fraud Control Division**, as established by Code of Federal Regulation and State Statute, is to investigate and prosecute Medicaid provider fraud cases, as well as patient abuse and neglect and financial exploitation cases, that occur in nursing homes and "board and care" facilities.

The Medicaid Fraud Control Division (MFCD) was established in June 2019 with the addition of 24 new positions and is currently staffed with 61 employees comprised of supervisors, agents, auditors, nurse consultants, and administrative staff. The Division is divided into three regions: Middle, West, and East and is headquartered in Nashville with regional offices in Johnson City, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Columbia, Jackson, and Memphis.

The authority of the MFCD, as established by Code of Federal Regulation and State Statute, is to investigate and prosecute Medicaid provider fraud cases as well as patient abuse and neglect and financial exploitation cases that occur in nursing homes and "board and care" facilities. The MFCD, along with its counterparts in 50 other states the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands, investigates and assists in the prosecution of some of the largest and most complex Medicaid provider fraud cases. In addition, the MFCD also aids in the recovery of Medicaid (TennCare) program dollars taken by fraudulent means. The MFCD recognized nationally as the Tennessee Medicaid Fraud Control Unit is a member of the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU). Being a member of NAMFCU is vital to the current and future success of the MFCD as well as the other member states and territories due to the nationally ever-expanding areas of provider fraud against the government.

The MFCD primarily refers fraud cases for federal prosecution to the United States Attorneys' offices in Tennessee's three federal districts, while abuse cases are prosecuted under state law by the District Attorney Generals in that respective region. The MFCD, which is required to be recertified annually by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General (HHS OIG), receives reimbursement of 75% of its costs from the federal government. While the total state and federal expenditures for the MFCD for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 were approximately \$7.2 million with the cost to the state being approximately \$1.8 million, the MFCD was able to take advantage of those operating expenditures and assist in the identification of over \$27.7 million of fraud.

Medicaid (TennCare) Provider Fraud

During the July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 reporting period, the MFCD opened 72 fraud cases and closed 85. Fraud investigations typically focus on health care providers who obtain improper payments for services rendered (or not rendered) to TennCare recipients. Various fraudulent schemes commonly encountered include billing for services not provided, billing for more hours than are in a day, kickbacks, falsifying credentials and billing twice for the same service. During this reporting period, the MFCD had 14 indictments, 10 convictions and \$11.6 million in criminal recoveries for various fraud cases investigated.

The Division has also seen an increasing number of civil cases, which fall under the Tennessee Medicaid False Claims Act, originally passed in 1993 and codified at Tenn. Code Ann. § 71-5-181, *et seq.* Each false claim can result in a civil penalty of not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) and not more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), plus up to three (3) times the amount of damages that the state sustains. During this reporting period, the MFCD assisted in 10 civil settlements which resulted in approximately \$4.2 million in recoveries.



Patient Abuse

Patient abuse and neglect and financial exploitation investigations are an important area of MFCD jurisdiction that continues to grow as evidenced by our aging and vulnerable population and increased number of referrals. During this reporting period, the MFCD received and reviewed 2,966 referrals. The MFCD opened 54 cases of alleged patient abuse and referred 1,570 abuse referrals to other agencies, including the Tennessee Department of Health, which is responsible for the state Abuse Registry. The remainder of the referrals lacked necessary elements for criminal investigation and were referred back to the referring agency for appropriate action. The MFCD obtained 9 indictments on abuse related cases and 2 convictions during this reporting period.

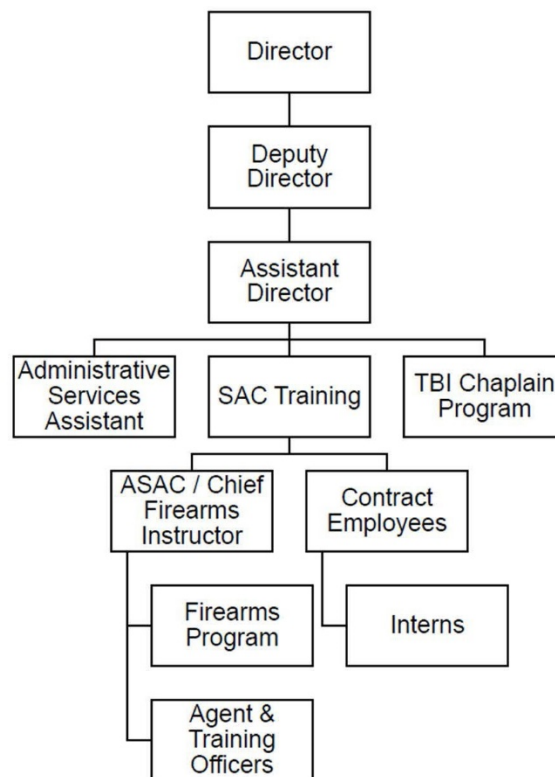
Global Cases

The MFCD is the lead state agency for the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU) "global cases," which have historically been the most financially productive segment of the MFCD cases involving violations of state and/or federal law. The MFCD also works very closely with the Medicaid Fraud and Integrity Division of the Tennessee Attorney General's Office on these cases. Medicaid fraud global settlements (and investigations) typically arise in connection with a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) investigation against a Medicare provider.

When investigating these Medicare cases, the federal government often turns to the state MFCUs, which takes the lead role in investigating and negotiating the Medicaid portion of the cases. Additionally, each state has the authority to exclude a convicted provider from its health care programs, and defense attorneys are unlikely to settle the case without the involvement of the affected states. DOJ typically contacts NAMFCU about an emerging case or a potential settlement, and NAMFCU appoints an investigative or settlement team, as warranted. Members of the Tennessee MFCD have participated on NAMFCU global teams and are currently appointed to investigative and settlement teams.

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the MFCD participated in 9 global settlements, with approximately \$11.9 million in federal and state dollars recovered. These monies are included in the total funds MFCD identified.

Training



Recognizing that the image and perception of the Bureau rests on each employee, TBI emphasizes the continuing and latest training and professionalism of all employees. Therefore, the mission of the **Training Division** is to provide oversight, guidance, and inspire through excellence in training and research.

The mission of the TBI Training Division is to equip and provide effective and evidence-based training to TBI employees and law enforcement personnel across the state. The Training Division utilizes a combination of matching federal and state grant funding to continue operations in the most cost-effective manner. The Training Division consists of 12 positions to include commissioned and non-commissioned personnel with a wide range of specialized experience that enables all personnel to contribute to the development and administration of training courses for law enforcement across the state. The Division provides ongoing training opportunities as well as specialized academies to local city and county law enforcement at little or no cost to their departments.

Training Efforts

In 2020, the Training Division faced unprecedented challenges related to the pandemic and quickly migrated our Special Agent academies to a virtual platform. This challenge highlighted the necessity to expand our online learning resources through TBI Learn. Prior to the lockdowns, the Training Division conducted over 875 hours of in-person training with 2,517 law enforcement representatives from around the country on a wide variety of topics including crime scene investigation and documentation, de-escalation, interviewing and interrogation, drug investigations, mental health, digital evidence and recovery, and leadership. In addition, the Division also spearheads the TBI Special Agent Academy, which is attended by all new Special Agents.

In August 2020, the Training Division's annual TBI City and County Investigation School successfully graduated 23 law enforcement officers from two weeks of intense training in conducting investigations. The TBI Director's Academy, which focuses on pre-supervisory leadership training to TBI employees, was successful with its sixth graduating class of 17 employees in August of 2020.



The TBI State Academy provides advanced training courses in leadership, constitutional law, communications intelligence, financial investigations, human trafficking, crime scene investigation, and undercover investigations. In September 2019, 18 investigators from across the state completed six weeks of intensive training and graduated from the 8th annual TBI State Academy.

The Division is responsible for oversight of TBI's Citizens' Academy, which provides Tennessee residents a first-hand look into the Bureau's mission and operations. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Citizen's Academies were postponed.

The Training Division works closely with the TBI Human Resources Unit with providing support in recruitment and retention efforts that reflect our commitment to building a diverse workforce representative of the communities we serve.



In collaboration with the Human Resources Unit and Professional Standards Unit, the Training Division ensures all TBI management, staff, sub-recipients, contractors, and service beneficiaries meet the provisions of Title VI and IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the minimum requirements to ensure compliance with its rules, laws, and regulations.



FIREARMS PROGRAM

TBI's Firearms Program and Chief Firearms Instructor are housed within the TBI's Training Division. The mission of our Firearms Training Program is to develop and deliver a comprehensive and consistent firearms training curriculum that provides new agent trainees, current special agents, and uniform officers the skills needed to safely and effectively use firearms in the performance of their duties. Our experienced firearms training instructors assigned to the Training Division also offer certification and recertification training to all TBI firearms instructors who provide training to agents in the field and in support of our commitment to local and state law enforcement partners. Last year TBI Firearms Instructors trained 360 current agents with two (2) yearly qualifications/trainings and trained 50 newly hired Special Agents during the TBI Special Agent Academy. The Firearms program also trains current agents in close quarter battle (CQB) regularly to include simunitions training to gain realistic experiences in training. The Firearms Program also trains on the TI Trainer, which is a simulated training program that allows real world use of force experiences and allows the agent to learn de-escalation and less lethal tactics. This training is also offered to outside agencies as well as local law enforcement.

FIRE INVESTIGATORS TRAINING PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATION

The goal of the TBI Fire Investigation Training Program to provide specialized training in fire and explosion investigations to TBI Fire Investigators, federal, state, and local emergency agencies that meet the requirements established by NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator, and by the federal and state courts for providing testimony as an expert in the field of fire and explosion investigations (Federal Rules of Evidence Rule 702 – Testimony by Expert Witnesses).

The TBI Fire Investigation training program is divided into two parts, (1) Internal, encompassing training provided to TBI Fire Investigators and other employees of TBI, and (2) External, training provided to federal, state, and local emergency agencies by TBI.

TBI LEARN

Since its inception in 2013, over 25,000 Tennessee law enforcement officers have accessed TBI's online learning platform to receive free training in human trafficking, the state's sex offender registry, absconders, emergency vehicle operations, methamphetamine awareness, social media investigations, CALEA, and Crime Laboratory ANLAB accreditation. In addition, users have access to tutorials in crime scene processing, sex offender registration, CQC, and respirator usage, along with pocket guides focused on fentanyl and the state's sex offender registry.

In 2020, over 4,000 law enforcement personnel across the state completed TBI Learn courses. In addition, TBI Learn tracks employee compliance with OSHA, state, and federal training requirements. and provides employees access to leadership advancement courses for the TBI Director's Academy and field agent training.

CLOSE QUARTER CONFLICT CONTROL (CQC)

Throughout the Bureau there are approximately 12 Agents that, as an additional duty, serve as regional instructors for the Training Division's Close Quarter Conflict Control (CQC) program. CQC instructors teach all aspects of use-of-force conflict resolution, outside of the sighted use of firearms. As a group, they have well over 150 years of experience in various martial arts and defensive tactics systems including, but not limited to, Krav Maga, Strategic Self Defense Grappling, Greco-Roman Wrestling, Pressure Point Control Tactics, Wado-Ryu Karate, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and various eclectic martial arts. Among the plethora of skills taught by these instructors are handcuffing, weapon retention, less-lethal force options, de-escalation techniques, situational awareness and self-defense.

All Agents in the Bureau will annually receive two to four hours of CQC training from these instructors. Newly hired Agents receive 40 hours of CQC training in the Agent's Academy. Over the years, CQC instructors have taught other local and state agencies in and outside of the field of law enforcement. During this past fiscal year, the instructors of the CQC program have initiated three ongoing projects: developing virtual training amid the COVID-19 pandemic, authoring best practices for local department's defensive tactics programs, and partnering with the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA) to develop a POST-certified defensive tactics instructor certification course. When completed, these projects will undoubtedly have a positive impact on law enforcement throughout the State of Tennessee. During the COVID-19 pandemic, a virtual CQC course was developed and published through TBI Learn for all commissioned personnel.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE (EVOC)

The Training Division's Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) is a 40-hour program that instructs newly-hired special agents on how to properly and safely operate Bureau-issued emergency vehicles. The course is comprised of eight hours of classroom instruction and 32 hours of a practical driving course, including nighttime training. Subject areas and practical exercises include vehicle dynamics, liability, and pursuit management of emergency and non-emergency vehicles. Each agent who attends must pass both the written exam and the precision EVO course in a specified time frame. 2020 was the inaugural year of the TBI EVO Course and has since been attended and successfully completed by all newly-hired special agents.

VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation offers an unpaid internship opportunity for full-time students who are interested in law enforcement careers and are pursuing an undergraduate, graduate or post-graduate degree from an accredited college or university. The program provides an exciting insider's view of TBI operations and gives the student an opportunity to explore career opportunities within the Bureau. This program is housed within the Training Division. Internship opportunities are available at TBI Headquarters in Nashville, as well as TBI field office locations across the state.

Glossary

ACIST: Automated Criminal Intelligence System of Tennessee
ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act
AFIS: Automated Fingerprint Identification System
AIMS: Automated Information Management System
APU: Applicant Processing Unit
ASAC: Assistant Special Agent in Charge
ASCLD/LAB: American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board
BSC: Biometric Services Center
CALEA: Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.
CCH: Tennessee Criminal History File
CID: Criminal Investigation Division
CIU: Criminal Intelligence Unit
CJIS: Criminal Justice Information System
CRU: Criminal Records Unit
CSC: CJIS Support Center
DEA: Drug Enforcement Administration
DID: Drug Investigation Division
DUI: Driving Under the Influence
EEO: Equal Employment Opportunity
EPIC: El Paso Intelligence Center
FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation
FinCEN: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network
FLIR: Forward Looking Infrared System
GTFME: Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication
HCFA: Health Care Finance Administration
HIDTA: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
IASIU: Internal Association of Special Investigation Units
LAN: Local Area Network
LEIC: Law Enforcement Information Coordinator
LIMS: Laboratory Information Management System
MFCU: Medicaid Fraud Control Unit
NAMFCU: National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units
NCAVC: National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crimes
NCIC: National Crime Information Center

NLETS: National Law Enforcement Telecommunications Systems
OIR: Office of Information Resources
ONDCP: Office of National Drug Control Policy
POC: Point of Contact
POS: Point of Sale
RISS: Regional Information Sharing System
ROCIC: Regional Organized Crime Information Center
SAC: Special Agent in Charge
STOP: Tennessee Orders of Protection File
TABC: Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission
TAPS: Tennessee Applicant Processing Services
TBCI: Tennessee Bureau of Criminal Identification
TBI: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
TCA: Tennessee Code Annotated
TCIC: Tennessee Crime Information Center
TCIS: Tennessee Crime Information System
THP: Tennessee Highway Patrol
THUMP: Tennessee Homicide, Unidentified Bodies and Missing Persons File
TIBRS: Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System
TICS: Tennessee Instant Check System
TIES: Tennessee Information Enforcement System
TnCOP: Tennessee Crime Online Portal
TNG: Tennessee National Guard
TORIS: Tennessee Open Records Information Services
TRAP: Tennessee Repository for the Apprehension of Persons
UCR: Uniform Crime Reporting
VICAP: Violent Criminal Apprehension Program





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