



**CHANDLER POLICE  
DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS**  
*Serving with Courage, Pride, and  
Dedication*

Order

**F-07 FIELD INVESTIGATIONS**

Subject

**600 Mobile Identification  
Device**

Effective

**11/15/13**

**Summary**

To establish operational guidelines for the Mobile Identification Device (MorphoIDent)

**A. DEFINITION**

The Mobile Identification Device (MorphoIDent) is a handheld mobile fingerprint recognition device used to communicate with the Arizona Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AZAFIS) and/or the FBI's Repository for Individuals of Special Concern (RISC).

**B. PURPOSE**

The purpose and use of MorphoIDent is to scan fingerprints from a suspect to compare against existing prints in the Arizona Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AZAFIS) and the FBI Repository of Individuals of Special Concern (RISC) to provide a rapid positive identification to the officer in the field. The possible identifications will be limited to subjects maintained in the searched databases and does not preclude a record from existing in other biometric or name-based repositories. MorphoIDent is only an aid to the identification of a person and shall not be used as the sole grounds for establishing probable cause for arrest.

**C. POLICY**

The MorphoIDent system will only be used by personnel who have received training in the proper use of the equipment

1. **VOLUNTARY CONSENT:** During a lawful reasonable suspicion detention, MorphoIDent may be used in situations where the subject to be fingerprinted gives a knowing and willing voluntary consent to the use of the identification device.
  - a. The suspect may limit or withdraw consent at any time
  - b. If consent is withdrawn, use of the mobile identification device is **not** authorized, its use must stop immediately, and the officer may not force or coerce the suspect to submit to the use of the identification device
2. **WITHOUT CONSENT:** The MorphoIDent may be used without the consent of the suspect:
  - a. Upon arrest of the suspect;
  - b. If authorized in the execution of a valid search warrant; or
  - c. If specifically required by statute
  - d. If allowed pursuant to court order

#### **D. AUTHORIZED USE**

1. **AN OFFICER MUST BE ABLE TO ARTICULATE AND JUSTIFY** the authorized and appropriate use of the mobile identification device based on policy, training, experience, and assessment of the circumstances
2. **PRIOR TO AN ARREST OR DURING A LAWFUL DETENTION**, MorphoIDent may be used **with the consent** of the suspect if the officer has reasonable suspicion:
  - a. The suspect to be printed has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a criminal offense and there is a justifiable and reasonable belief the fingerprint scan will establish or nullify the suspect's connection to the criminal offense
  - b. The suspect to be printed is subject to an arrest warrant and there is justifiable and reasonable belief the fingerprint scan will establish or nullify the suspect's identity in the execution of the warrant
  - c. The subject intentionally gave a false or fictitious name, residence address, or date of birth to the officer when cited for a traffic violation or other misdemeanor
  - d. The subject is a witness to a criminal offense and intentionally gave a false or fictitious name, residence address, or date of birth to the officer
3. **SUBSEQUENT TO AN ARREST**, MorphoIDent may be used **without the consent** of the arrested suspect to verify the identity of the suspect to assist the officer in determining the appropriate handling, transporting, and routing of the suspect
4. **THE MOBILE IDENTIFICATION DEVICE MAY BE USED without** the consent of the suspect if a suspect's fingerprints are required in the execution of a valid search warrant or specifically required by statute or authorized by court order
  - a. Reasonable force may be used to gain the suspect's compliance with the search warrant or court order. An officer shall use the least amount of force needed to execute the search warrant.
  - b. A suspect's failure to comply may constitute interfering with judicial proceedings (ARS 13-2810(a)(2))
5. **NONSTANDARD USE OF THE MOBILE IDENTIFICATION DEVICE**
  - a. Requires notification and authorization by a supervisor
  - b. Examples include:
    - 1) A request from an outside law enforcement agency to fingerprint a suspect in custody. The requesting agency must comply with the procedures of this policy and any other applicable department policies and procedures
    - 2) A traffic fatality investigation in which there is no other reasonable means of identifying a victim

***E. UNAUTHORIZED USE***

1. Not to be used for random or general investigative or intelligence gathering
2. Officers shall adhere to all department policies including biased based profiling
3. Any unauthorized use may result in disciplinary action

