

Task Force Topic: Background Check Frequency

Members: Cindy J (chair), Di T., Charon L.

Background/Historica Info: During Panel 52 the decision was made to have Background Checks once per panel.

Thought Force references (if any): None except for experience of AAPP, Alateen Coordinator and AMIASes

This is the current wording in section II.B.7

7. Per recommendation made at Feb 2013 AWSC by Sandy D-T, D#12, seconded by David H., D#4, presented to Spring Assembly May 4, 2013, voted on and passed – the Requirements are amended to add:
 - a. Background checks be required by NFA for Area AMIASes. Timing is the recommendation to Spring 2013 Assembly. If passed there, checks to be completed by current AMIASes by Fall Assembly 2013. Automatic Inactivation by AAPP after that date. For this panel, we will use VECHS and Fieldprint Florida. The next panel is to review all details of processing and technology and make necessary adjustments. The Area is to reimburse Districts for their costs.

Charge: Utilizing conference calls and other technology please have a discussion about the Background Check frequency only. This is not about continuing VECHS or changing, this is to give guidance to AMIASes about the frequency.

KBDM Questions from Thought Force (if any):

What do we wish we knew, but don't?

We do know that there are some issues with how background checks are done (fingerprinting issues, data storage) but as to the frequency the real question is should we do it once a year, once a panel or just once. These are the basic choices being made out in the worldwide fellowship.

Task Force Timeline:

Please make a proposal at the AWSC meeting in August 2015, so that our membership can know what is expected of them.

Task Force Summary / Findings:

It seems reasonable to the Task Force to have each AMIAS get a Background Check once per panel.

This seems in line with our requirements to have some kind of ongoing oversight of those involved with the Alateens, yet not putting too high of a burden on the volunteer or the Area and Districts budgets.

It seems that the current document mixes Policy (what is to be done) with Procedures (how it is to be done) and this means changes can be confusing and sometimes more difficult than is necessary.

P55 Task Force Results Final – DATE: August 4, 2015

* Consider separating policy and procedure. EX: Policy may say a “Each AMIAS will have a minimum of one background check per Panel.” while the Procedure might suggest new AMIAS gets checked at initialization, most checks be set for Year Two of each panel, but additional checks can be required at any time by some committee.

* A Procedure can be more readily changed by the person doing the work to be able to adjust to changes in WSO, Area, VECHS, etc. (like when WSO stopped taking paper forms this year. I can envision this flexibility being important if state or county law changes)

* May want to allow for additional checks if unforeseen circumstances arise. Also, want flexibility if one county school district requires more frequency.

* Try to bundle the major bulk of background check work for a time *after* the AAPP got through their first round of ReCertifications.

Task Force Recommendation:

We recommend continuing the decision made in Panel 52 that AMIASes get a Background Check once per Panel. This should be discussed at AWSC and if they agree, then there should be a motion to add this to the Area Alateen Requirements.