



25102 PROCEDURE – E-GALLERY FACIAL IMAGING

Version: 2.1 **Last Updated:** 07/09/11 **Review Date:** 09/09/09

ECHR **Potential Equality Impact Assessment:** **Low**

This procedure should be read in conjunction with 25100 Policy – Photographic and Video Identification.

1. About This Procedure

- 1.1. This procedure explains how the Hampshire Constabulary will implement the e-Gallery Facial Imaging software package.
- 1.2. This procedure is aimed at all police officers and police staff who will either use the system themselves or require an operator to interrogate it on their behalf.
- 1.3. Facial Imaging enables any 'captured image,' written description of a person or e-fit to be digitally compared with suspects who have been photographed in custody by means of RMS.
- 1.4. The software currently holds 250,000 images from RMS / PMS and is updated periodically.
- 1.5. The software works in such a way that the search is based on the centre of the pupils of the image and therefore the full face of the person must be in view.
- 1.6. This system has the potential of being successful in the identification of suspects across a wide range of offences. By identifying a suspect quickly considerable resources can be saved not to mention the enhanced ability to retrieve forensic evidence.
- 1.7. This system is purely an intelligence gathering tool.

2. Risk Assessments / Health & Safety Considerations

- 2.1. N/A.

3. The Procedure

- 3.1. The eGallery program is a 'web application' which is a secure system within the force Intranet.



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- 3.2. The program is available to the whole Constabulary although only the following OCUs / Departments currently have authorised users:
 - 3.2.1. 1 OCU (VCRU) / 3 OCU (VCRU) / 4 OCU (Digivue Team) / MCD (Hulse Road) / FICU / FIMU (Tannery House)/ Animal Rights Team (Netley). FIB is likely to join the list in due course.
- 3.3. Where a Police Officer attends the scene of a crime the officer should undertake to seize any 'captured image' recorded of potential offender(s) and witnesses(s) in the usual way, ensuring strict continuity of any evidence is secured. Additionally any witnesses should provide a detailed statement giving full descriptions of those persons involved.
- 3.4. On the seizure of such images, CCTV and wet film images, in which ever form presented, should be placed into a fully completed sealed numbered exhibit bag and should be produced in an appropriately worded statement. Mobile phone images can also be examined against eGallery.
- 3.5. Where no 'captured image' is available of the suspect(s) an e-fit should be considered in the normal way.
- 3.6. The OIC is responsible for taking this evidence to his / her nominated trained / authorised person(s) on this system. This evidence should be accompanied by a request form G64, located on Standard Forms, under Scientific Services.
- 3.7. The nominated trained person should only accept for examination a properly completed exhibit bag and request form. Having accepted the exhibit bag, the authorised person should suitably endorse the exhibit label part of the bag.
- 3.8. If description only is provided, due to the size of the RMS database it is imperative that the system is given the best possible description to search on to reduce a large number of 'hits' being returned.
- 3.9. The eGallery program has been written with integrity and a clear audit trail as a key part of the system. All transactions are timed and dated and the result of any examination will be entered onto the relevant RMS occurrence by means of a C21 eGallery report form. This will be undertaken by the authorised user. No actual images of possible suspects identified by eGallery will be placed onto RMS, just the details of that / those person(s).
- 3.10. It is extremely important to understand that this system is not designed to replace a video identification procedure. It is only to be used for intelligence purposes whereby the Police and or witnesses



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do not know who the suspect(s) or witnesses are. This system merely provides them with a tool to potentially identify someone.

- 3.11. In the event of a suspect 'hit' within the system, consideration should then be made, after further research, to arrest that person and if appropriate to hold a video identification procedure. The tasking of an Intelligence Unit may be considered for use in conducting background checks. All relevant exhibits should be returned to the OIC on completion of use. Using RMS, Officers maybe tasked by the authorised user or by an Intelligence Unit.
- 3.12. As with the original photo identification parades great care must be taken by the OIC where a 'hit' is achieved in who is shown the product. In particular witnesses, which might include Police staff, should not be shown the result so as to prevent any compromise in the event of a video identification procedure being necessary.
- 3.13. Please note that at no stage during any interview process should this system be referred to. This system does not give a percentage score of likeness to the image captured or described. It cannot in anyway be considered as evidence suitable for court. Any disclosure during the arrest and interview process should refer only to the original image or witness statement.
- 3.14. Where eGallery is used in any criminal proceedings leading to a court case it will be recorded on the MG6C in compliance with Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996

4. Roles And Responsibilities

- 4.1. It is the responsibility for the manager of the respective OCU / Department to ensure that the procedure is correctly implemented. In particular that a clear audit trail is available of all work carried out using this system for integrity purposes and that an additional prescribed spreadsheet is maintained in order to measure performance.
- 4.2. Where an intelligence package is produced and handed to an OIC it will be the responsibility of the OIC to ensure that material is retained and recorded, in compliance with CPIA.

5. Administration

- 5.1. All eGallery searches should be recorded and retained within the relevant OCU / Department. This includes the original request form.



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- 5.2. Owing to the variance in practices across the Constabulary, it is accepted that each OCU / Department will develop their own local policies / procedures to support this FPP in general.

6. Monitoring And Evaluation

- 6.1. The system is owned by the Custody Policy and Development Department.
- 6.2. The prisoner photographs are captured as part of the Custody Procedure for the booking into custody of prisoners. It is estimated that 99% of all prisoners irrespective of their age, ethnicity or age are photographed during their period in custody.
- 6.3. A quality control process is undertaken periodically in respect of the new images that are uploaded from the RMS into the Face Recognition database.
- 6.4. The Custody Policy and Development Department will produce performance figures from the spreadsheets as mentioned in paragraph 4.1. and from interrogation from the eGallery software.

7. Review

- 7.1. This Procedure will be reviewed six monthly by the Custody Policy and Development Department.

8. Related Policies, Procedures and Information Sources

8.1. Related Policies

- 8.1.1. 25100 Policy – Photographic and Video Identification
- 8.1.2. 00900 Policy – Bail - at section 6.2 – Obtaining of Prisoner Photographs
- 8.1.3. 24800 Policy – Covert Tactics & Surveillance

8.2. Information Sources

- 8.2.1. RIPA 2000
- 8.2.2. Office of Surveillance Commissioners' Procedure and Guidance January 2005



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8.2.3. AD203 - Equality Impact Assessment

Origin: Custody Policy and Development