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Specification for Electronic Submissions

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Note: Please make certain to provide this information to your Informational Technology person at your institution and to your electronic fingerprint vendor / service provider.

**ABA National FBI
Fingerprint Service**

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The following specifications describe the requirements to submit electronic fingerprint transactions to the ABA's Fingerprint Store n Forward System (ABA SnF). By using the ABA SnF you have enabled connectivity to the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). The ABA SnF is capable of receiving ANSI NIST/FBI Electronic Biometric Transmission Specifications (EBTS) 8.0 compliant submissions for processing to the IAFIS. The ABA SnF interface provides an industry standard, open connectivity path for any system vendors that wish to connect and submit electronic fingerprint submissions through the ABA SnF.

To submit to the ABA SnF, the submission must be sent as a base64 MIME encoded email. The submission must also conform to the current EBTS Version 8.0 specifications and contain data in all mandatory fields. It is recommended that the selected livescan and cardscan vendor(s) be provided this interface specification **prior** to submitting electronic submissions.

System Connectivity:

A standard means of TCP/IP connectivity is required to connect to the ABA SnF system. The means of connectivity should be in accordance with your institution's standard practices. This requires one or more of the following scenarios to exist or be implemented:

- (a) A dial-up network that is available to both the ABA SnF and the submitting machine. CHAP authentication is used and it is recommended that 56kb modems be utilized to maximize submission throughput. Contact your institution's Network Administrator to verify and/or test the dial-up connectivity.
- (b) A CD containing your fingerprint files can be mailed to the ABA offices, and we can then upload the files to the ABA Snf.
- (c) A WAN connection to the ABA SnF is available using a VPN. ABA requires a LAN-to-LAN connection, using ABA's security policy (IKE 3DES, SHA-HMAC, DH Group 2, preshared key, IPSec 3 DES SHA-HMAC, no PFS) to connect from the submitting site. Contact your institution's Network Administrator to verify and/or test the connectivity.

System Protocol(s):

The ABA SnF requires that submitting system(s)/vendor(s) send fingerprint submissions using Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP). SMTP is a TCP/IP application that allows the transfer of mail from one system to another. The details of this protocol are defined in the following standards:

- 1) RFC 821 – Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)
- 2) RFC 822 - Standard for the format of ARPA Internet text messages
- 3) RFC 1652 - SMTP Service extensions for 8-bit MIME transport
- 4) RFC 1521 - MIME Part One: Mechanisms for specifying and describing the format of Internet Message Bodies
- 5) RFC 1522 - MIME Part Two: Message header extensions for NON-ASCII Text

NOTE: The SMTP system must be compatible with the above RFC's.

The body of the SMTP message must be base-64, MIME encoded and single part.

NOTE: The data should NOT be sent in an attachment. The header of the message should include the following parameters:

Date:
From:
To:
Subject:
MIME-Version:
Content-type:
Content-Transfer-Encoding:

The field contents are defined as:

Date: The date and time of which the SMTP message was sent.

From: The mail address, in the form of [user@host.domain](#), which the message is from. Example of a mail address for the submitter device; [id_admin@altascan1.aba.com](#).

To: The mail address, in the form of [hostname@domain.name](#), which the message is being sent to. This will be either the test or live account on the ABA SnF. **All** test submissions should be addressed to [62sub_debug@altascansnf.aba.com](#).

Contact the ABA SnF administrator for connectivity and testing parameters prior to submitting. Live submissions will be addressed to [62sub_in@altascansnf.aba.com](#) Please do not submit to this e-mail address until you have been told to do so by your contact at the ABA.

Subject: This field contains the message subject. This field should always be set to “Electronic Ten Print Submissions”

MIME-Version: This field specifies the MIME version that the data was encoded with.

Content-Type: This field specifies the type of body contained in the mail message (application/octet-stream) and an additional attribute for the attachment name (name=efts.sub). The attachment name should be separated by a semi-colon and should always be efts.sub for all 10 print submissions to the ABA SnF.

Content-Transfer-Encoding: This field specifies the encoding algorithm that was used on the body of the message. This field should always be set to base64.

When sending a compliant SMTP message, the *typical* SMTP header will look like the following example:

```
Date: Wed May 10 14:25:16 2000
From: id_admin@altascan1.aba.com
Organization: ALTASCAN
To: 62sub_in@altascansnf.aba.com
Subject: AltaScan Electronic Ten Print Submissions
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: application/octet-stream; name=efts.sub
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64
```

Data Requirements:

All Electronic 10-print or “flats” submissions to the ABA SnF must be compliant with ANSI NIST/EBTS Version 8.0 standards. Compliant products can be identified by looking at the FBI’s homepage,

<http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cjisd/iafis/cert.htm>.

NOTE: Institutions who submit to the ABA must comply with the CJIS Concept of Operations for American Bankers’ Association Electronic Processing document, dated June 6, 2001. The minimum record set includes Type 1, 2 and 4 or 14 records for each submission. All EBTS mandatory fields must be sent.

A copy of the EBTS may be obtained at the following website: www.fbibiospecs.org

In addition, the following EFTS fields should contain the provided data elements to meet the ABA’s requirements:

1.007 – DAI The Designation Agency Identifier (DAI) should contain the value “WVIAFIS0Z”. **NOTE:** There is a zero (0) before the Z.

