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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2095

Session of

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. BERSON, RHODES, PRATT AND WHITE, MARCH 13, 1978

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 22, 1978

AN ACT

Relating to criminal history record information; providing for the protection of individual right to privacy and for the 2 completeness and accuracy of, the control of dissemination 3 of, the establishment of guidelines for the security of, and provision for quality control of criminal history record information; and providing for the right of individuals to 6 7 inspect, review and challenge the accuracy of such information and the establishment of a council to oversee the 8 administration of this act; and providing penalties for 9 10 violations of this act. 11 TABLE OF CONTENTS 12 Chapter 1. General Provisions 13 Section 101. Short title. 14 Section 102. Definitions. 15 Section 103. Applicability. 16 Section 104. Scope. 17 Section 105. Other criminal justice information. 18 Chapter 2. Completeness and Accuracy Section 201. Duties of criminal justice agencies. 19 20 Section 202. Mandatory fingerprinting.

Section 203. Disposition reporting by criminal justice

- 1 agencies.
- 2 Section 204. Correction of inaccurate information.
- 3 Chapter 3. Dissemination of Criminal History Record
- 4 Information
- 5 Section 301. General regulations.
- 6 Section 302. Access to criminal history record information.
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- 8 Chapter 4. Security
- 9 Section 401. Security requirements for repositories.
- 10 Chapter 5. Audit
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- 18 Section 701. Privacy and Security Council.
- 19 Section 702. Duties of Privacy and Security Council.
- 20 Chapter 8. Public Notice.
- 21 Section 801. Requirements of repositories relating to
- 22 public notice.
- 23 Chapter 9. Sanctions
- 24 Section 901. General administrative sanctions.
- 25 Section 902. Criminal penalties.
- 26 Section 903. Civil actions.
- 27 Chapter 10. Effective Date and Repealer
- 28 Section 1001. Repealer.
- 29 Section 1002. Effective date.
- 30 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

- 1 hereby enacts as follows:
- 2 CHAPTER 1
- 3 GENERAL PROVISIONS
- 4 Section 101. Short title.
- 5 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Criminal
- 6 History Record Information Act."
- 7 Section 102. Definitions.
- 8 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 9 have the meanings given to them in this section, unless the
- 10 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 11 "Administration of criminal justice." The activities
- 12 directly concerned with the prevention, control or reduction of
- 13 crime, the apprehension, detention, pretrial release, post-trial
- 14 release, prosecution, adjudication, correctional supervision or
- 15 rehabilitation of accused persons or criminal offenders;
- 16 criminal identification activities; or the collection, storage
- 17 dissemination or usage of criminal history record information.
- 18 "Audit." The process of reviewing compliance with applicable
- 19 Federal and State laws and regulations related to the privacy
- 20 and security of criminal history record information.
- 21 "Central repository." The central location for the
- 22 collection, compilation, maintenance and dissemination of
- 23 criminal history record information by the Pennsylvania State
- 24 Police.
- 25 "Criminal history record information." Information collected
- 26 by criminal justice agencies concerning individuals, consisting
- 27 of identifiable descriptions, DATES and notations of arrests,
- 28 detentions, indictments, informations or other formal charges
- 29 and any dispositions arising therefrom. The term does not
- 30 include intelligence information, investigative information or

- 1 treatment information, including medical and psychological
- 2 information, or information and records specified in section
- 3 104. of this act.

4 "Criminal justice agency." Any court, including the minor

5 judiciary, with criminal jurisdiction or any other governmental

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- 6 agency, or subunit thereof, created by statute or by the State
- 7 or Federal constitutions, specifically authorized to perform as
- 8 its principal function the administration of criminal justice,
- 9 and which allocates a substantial portion of its annual budget
- 10 to such function. Criminal justice agencies include, but are not
- 11 limited to: organized State and municipal police departments,
- 12 local detention facilities, county, regional and State
- 13 correctional facilities, probation agencies, district or
- 14 prosecuting attorneys, parole boards and pardon boards.
- 15 "Disposition." Information indicating that criminal
- 16 proceedings have been concluded, including information
- 17 disclosing that police have elected not to refer a matter for
- 18 prosecution, that a prosecuting authority has elected not to
- 19 commence criminal proceedings or that a grand jury has failed to
- 20 indict and disclosing the nature of the termination of the
- 21 proceedings; or information disclosing that proceedings have
- 22 been indefinitely postponed and also disclosing the reason for
- 23 such postponement. Dispositions of criminal proceedings in the
- 24 Commonwealth shall include, but not be limited to, acquittal,
- 25 acquittal by reason of insanity, pretrial probation or
- 26 diversion, charge dismissed, guilty plea, nolle prosequi, no
- 27 information filed, nolo contendere plea, convicted, abatement,
- 28 discharge under rules of the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal
- 29 Procedure, demurrer sustained, pardoned, sentence commuted,
- 30 mistrial-defendant discharged, discharge from probation or

- 1 parole or correctional supervision.
- 2 "Dissemination." The oral or written transmission or
- 3 disclosure of criminal history record information, including the
- 4 confirmation of its existence or nonexistence, to individuals or
- 5 agencies other than the criminal justice agency which maintains
- 6 the information.
- 7 "Expunge."
- 8 (1) to remove information so that there is no trace or
- 9 indication that such information existed; or
- 10 (2) to eliminate all identifiers which may be used to
- 11 trace the identity of an individual, allowing remaining data
- 12 to be used for statistical purposes.
- 13 "Repository." Any location in which criminal history record
- 14 information is collected, compiled, maintained and disseminated
- 15 by a criminal justice agency.
- 16 "Secondary dissemination." The subsequent transmission or
- 17 disclosure of criminal history record information received from
- 18 a repository or confirmation of the existence or nonexistence of
- 19 criminal history record information received from a repository.
- 20 Section 103. Applicability.
- 21 This act shall apply to persons within the Commonwealth and
- 22 to any agency of the Commonwealth or its political subdivisions
- 23 which collects, maintains, disseminates or receives criminal
- 24 history record information.
- 25 Section 104. Scope.
- 26 (a) Except for the provisions of Chapters 2, 4 and 6,
- 27 nothing in this act shall be construed to apply to:
- 28 (1) Original records of entry compiled chronologically,
- including, but not limited to, police blotters.
- 30 (2) Any documents, records or indices prepared or

- 1 maintained by or filed in any court of this Commonwealth,
- 2 including but not limited to the minor judiciary.
- 3 (3) Posters, announcements, or lists for identifying or
- 4 apprehending fugitives or wanted persons.
- 5 (4) Announcements of executive clemency.
- 6 (b) Court dockets and police blotters and information
- 7 contained therein shall, for the purpose of this act, be
- 8 considered public record.
- 9 (c) Where court dockets are not maintained any reasonable
- 10 substitute containing that information traditionally available
- 11 in court dockets shall, for the purpose of this act, be
- 12 considered public record.
- 13 (d) Nothing in this act must be interpreted to limit the
- 14 disclosure by the arresting authority, a court, or other
- 15 criminal justice agency having legal jurisdiction over the
- 16 individual to any individual or agency of the current status of
- 17 an individual involved in a criminal case in progress or for
- 18 which an individual is currently in the criminal justice system
- 19 so long as such information is disseminated no more than 180
- 20 days from the occurrence of any final official action by or
- 21 final release from the supervision, custody or jurisdiction of
- 22 that agency.
- 23 (e) Nothing in this act shall prohibit a criminal justice
- 24 agency from disclosing an individual's prior criminal activity
- 25 to an individual or agency if the information disclosed is based
- 26 on records set forth in section 104.
- 27 (f) Information collected by noncriminal justice agencies
- 28 and individuals from the sources identified in this section
- 29 shall not be considered criminal history record information.
- 30 Section 105. Other criminal justice information.

- 1 Nothing in this act shall be construed to apply to
- 2 information concerning juveniles unless they have been
- 3 adjudicated as adults, nor shall it apply to intelligence
- 4 information, investigative information, treatment information,
- 5 including medical and psychiatric information, caution indicator
- 6 information, modus operandi information, wanted persons
- 7 information, stolen property information, missing persons
- 8 information, employment history information, personal history
- 9 information, nor presentence investigation information. Criminal
- 10 history record information maintained as a part of these records
- 11 shall not be disseminated unless in compliance with the
- 12 provisions of this act.
- 13 CHAPTER 2
- 14 COMPLETENESS AND ACCURACY
- 15 Section 201. Duties of criminal justice agencies.
- 16 It shall be the duty of every criminal justice agency within
- 17 the Commonwealth to maintain complete and accurate criminal
- 18 history record information as required by the Privacy and
- 19 Security Council as provided in Chapter 7 AND TO REPORT SUCH
- 20 information at such times and in such manner as required by the
- 21 provisions of this or other acts.
- 22 Section 202. Mandatory fingerprinting.
- 23 (a) Fingerprints of all persons arrested for a felony,
- 24 misdemeanor or summary offense which becomes a misdemeanor on a
- 25 second arrest after conviction of that summary offense, shall be
- 26 taken by the arresting authority, and within 48 hours of the
- 27 arrest, shall be forwarded to, and in a manner and such a form
- 28 as provided by, the central repository.
- 29 (b) Where private complaints for a felony or misdemeanor
- 30 result in a conviction or offenses under 18 Pa.C.S. § 3929

- 1 (relating to retail theft), the issuing authority shall order
- 2 the defendant to submit for fingerprinting by the municipal
- 3 police of the jurisdiction in which the offense allegedly was
- 4 committed or in the absence of a police department the State
- 5 police. Fingerprints so obtained shall be forwarded immediately
- 6 to the central repository.
- 7 (c) The central repository shall transmit the criminal
- 8 history record information to the criminal justice agency which
- 9 submitted the fingerprint card.
- 10 Section 203. Disposition reporting by criminal justice
- 11 agencies.
- 12 (a) All criminal justice agencies, including but not limited
- 13 to, courts, county, regional and State correctional institutions
- 14 and parole and probation agencies, shall collect and submit
- 15 reports of dispositions occurring within their respective
- 16 agencies for criminal history record information, within 90 days
- 17 of the date of such disposition to the central repository as
- 18 provided for in this section.
- 19 (b) Courts shall collect and submit criminal court
- 20 dispositions as required by the Administrative Office of
- 21 Pennsylvania Courts.
- 22 (c) County and regional correctional institutions shall
- 23 collect and submit information regarding the admission, release
- 24 and length of sentence of individuals sentenced to local and
- 25 county institutions as required by the Bureau of Correction.
- 26 (d) County probation and parole offices shall collect and
- 27 submit information relating to the length of time and charges
- 28 for which an individual is placed under and released from the
- 29 jurisdiction of such agency as required by the Pennsylvania
- 30 Board of Probation and Parole.

- 1 (e) The Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, the
- 2 Bureau of Correction, the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and
- 3 Parole and the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons, shall collect and
- 4 submit to the central repository such information necessary to
- 5 maintain complete and accurate criminal history record
- 6 information. Such criminal history record information shall be
- 7 submitted in accordance with the standards for completeness and
- 8 accuracy promulgated by the Privacy and Security Council. Each
- 9 state agency listed in this subsection shall submit to the
- 10 central repository any reports of dispositions occurring within
- 11 their respective agencies and such information reported from
- 12 county and local criminal justice agencies.
- 13 Section 204. Correction of inaccurate information.
- 14 (a) Within 15 days of the detection of inaccurate data in a
- 15 criminal history record, regardless of the manner of discovery,
- 16 the criminal justice agency which reported the information shall
- 17 comply with the following procedures to effect correction:
- 18 (1) Correct its own records.
- 19 (2) Notify all recipients, including the central
- 20 repository, of the inaccurate data and the required
- 21 correction.
- 22 CHAPTER 3
- 23 DISSEMINATION OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION
- 24 Section 301. General regulations.
- 25 (a) No dissemination of criminal history record information
- 26 is permitted except as provided for by this act or by rule of
- 27 court promulgated by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania or by
- 28 resolution of either House of the General Assembly. No
- 29 administrative rule or regulation promulgated by any
- 30 Commonwealth agency, referring to or inferring the need for

- 1 criminal history record information, shall be sufficient
- 2 authority for the dissemination of criminal history record
- 3 information.
- 4 (b) Any criminal justice agency which disseminates criminal
- 5 history record information must indicate to the recipient that
- 6 the information disseminated is only that information contained
- 7 in its own file, the date of the last entry, and that a summary
- 8 of the Statewide criminal history record information may be
- 9 obtained from the central repository.
- 10 (c) Except during joint criminal investigations, no
- 11 secondary dissemination of criminal history record information
- 12 is permitted except as provided for by this act.
- 13 (d) No duplication of criminal history record information by
- 14 any agency or individual receiving criminal history record
- 15 information is permitted.
- 16 (e) All noncriminal justice agencies or individuals or
- 17 agencies receiving criminal history record information must
- 18 return to the disseminating agency or destroy, in accordance
- 19 with an agreement with the repository, all such information
- 20 received upon completion of the specific purpose for which
- 21 criminal history record information was received; nor shall such
- 22 information be permanently incorporated into the files or
- 23 records of the agency or individual receiving it.
- 24 (f) Repositories must enter as a permanent part of an
- 25 individual's criminal history record information file, a listing
- 26 of all persons and agencies to whom they have disseminated that
- 27 particular criminal history record information and the date and
- 28 purpose for which the information was disseminated. Such listing
- 29 shall be maintained separate from the record itself.
- 30 (g) Repositories shall ensure that criminal history record

- 1 information is disseminated only to agencies or individuals
- 2 authorized by the provisions of this act to receive such
- 3 information.
- 4 (h) No agency or individual shall confirm or deny in any
- 5 manner the existence or nonexistence of criminal history record
- 6 information to any person or agency not eligible to receive the
- 7 information itself unless such information is obtained from
- 8 records identified in section 104. of this act.
- 9 (i) Any noncriminal justice official, agency or organization
- 10 requesting criminal history record information prior to receipt
- 11 of any such criminal history record information, must sign a
- 12 contract with the repository from which it is seeking criminal
- 13 history record information, agreeing to abide by the provisions
- 14 of this act. Any such noncriminal justice official, agency or
- 15 organization entering into such a contract with a repository is
- 16 bound by and subject to the provisions of this act.
- 17 (j) Except as otherwise provided in this act, no criminal
- 18 history record information acquired from repositories other than
- 19 the central repository shall be permanently incorporated into
- 20 the files or records of the criminal justice agency or
- 21 individual and must be destroyed upon completion of the specific
- 22 purpose for which such information was received.
- 23 Section 302. Access to criminal history record information.
- 24 (a) Access to criminal history record information shall be
- 25 limited to:
- 26 (1) Criminal justice agencies for the purpose of the
- 27 administration of criminal justice and criminal justice
- agency employment.
- 29 (2) Auditors working under the direction of the Privacy
- 30 and Security Council.

- 1 (3) Such other individuals and agencies authorized by
 2 statute to receive criminal history record information or
 3 which require criminal history record information to
 4 implement a statute expressly referring to criminal conduct
 5 and containing either requirements or exclusions or both
 6 expressly based upon such criminal conduct.
 - (4) Agencies of Federal, State and foreign governments authorized by statute to conduct investigations determining employment suitability or eligibility for security clearances.
 - (5) (i) The chief executive of any Federal, State or local government or any governmental body of the same required to confirm an appointment or nomination for the purpose of determining the suitability of a potential appointment or nomination of an individual to a governmental position.
 - (ii) The office of the Governor may make a request to any repository for an oral report concerning the contents of the criminal history record information maintained on a prospective appointee to a Commonwealth board or commission. A copy of the criminal history record information will be provided upon receipt of fingerprint identification of the subject about whom criminal history record information is sought.
 - (iii) The office of the Governor, in order to assist the Governor in the exercise of the pardoning power provided by Article IV, section 9 of Constitution of Pennsylvania.
- 29 (6) Defense counsel, through the court, for the purpose 30 of obtaining criminal history record information about a

- 1 client or witness with regard to a case in progress.
- 2 (7) (i) Individuals and agencies for the express
 3 purpose of research, evaluative or statistical
 4 activities, pursuant, or other services required for

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6 agreement with the disseminating agency which authorizes

7 access to criminal history record information, limits the

use of criminal history record information to research,

administration of criminal justice PURSUANT to an

evaluative or statistical purposes and ensures the

confidentiality and security of the criminal history

record information, consistent with this act. Such

individuals and agencies are bound by and subject to the

13 provisions of this act.

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- (ii) Requests by any noncriminal justice agency, individual or organization for criminal history record information for research or statistical purposes, requiring the identity of persons about whom such records are maintained, must be approved by the Privacy and Security Council. Any individual or agency requesting criminal history record information for research or statistical purposes must submit a research proposal to the Privacy and Security Council.
- 23 (8) Officials of correctional facilities or
 24 institutions, with the consent of the individual about whom
 25 information is sought, may disseminate criminal history
 26 record information to prospective employers or other
 27 individuals, when such information is helpful in obtaining
 28 employment or rehabilitating the individual about whom the
 29 information relates.
- 30 (9) Any individual, upon request and proper verification

- of identity, for the purpose of reviewing his own criminal
- 2 history record information, according to the procedure set
- 3 forth in Chapter 6.
- 4 (10) Agencies authorized to issue visas or grant
- 5 citizenship.
- 6 (11) Individuals and agencies authorized by a court
- 7 order to receive criminal history record information relating
- 8 to a case in progress.
- 9 (b) (12) The Pennsylvania Department of Banking, the
- 10 Pennsylvania Insurance Department and the Pennsylvania
- 11 Department of Education shall have access to criminal history
- 12 record information maintained in the central repository for the
- 13 purpose of determining the employment suitability of any
- 14 employee; or nomination or appointment of directors, trustees
- 15 and proposed officers; for the granting of charters; issuance of
- 16 any license, certificate or permits; or the revocation or
- 17 suspension of such license, permit or certification of any
- 18 agency, institution, individual or affiliate thereof over which
- 19 they have legal authority or jurisdiction, including services
- 20 performed under contract or other written agreement by any such
- 21 agency, institution or individual.
- 22 (c) (B) Fingerprint identification of the individual about
- 23 whom information is requested shall be required under paragraphs
- 24 (3), (5)(i) and (10) of subsection (a).
- 25 Section 303. Expungement.
- 26 (a) Criminal history record information shall be expunded in
- 27 a specific criminal proceeding when:
- 28 (1) no disposition has been received or, upon request
- 29 for criminal history record information, no disposition has
- 30 been recorded in the repository within 18 months after the

- date of arrest AND the court of proper jurisdiction certifies <-
- 2 to the directory DIRECTOR of the repository that no <---
- disposition is available and no action is pending.
- 4 Expungement shall not occur until the certification from the
- 5 court is received and the director of the repository
- 6 authorizes such expungement; or
- 7 (2) a court order requires that such nonconviction data
- 8 be expunded.
- 9 (b) Criminal history record information may be expunged
- 10 when:
- 11 (1) an individual who is the subject of the information
- reaches 70 years of age and has been free of arrest or
- prosecution for ten years following final release from
- 14 confinement or supervision; or
- 15 (2) an individual who is the subject of the information
- has been dead for three years.
- 17 (c) Requests for criminal history record information which
- 18 has been expunged must be answered only with a statement that no
- 19 such information exists.
- 20 (d) Notice of expungement shall promptly be submitted to the
- 21 central respository which shall notify all criminal justice
- 22 agencies which have received the criminal history record
- 23 information to be expunged.
- 24 (e) Public records listed in section 104 shall not be
- 25 expunged.
- 26 CHAPTER 4
- 27 SECURITY
- 28 Section 401. Security requirements for repositories.
- 29 Every criminal justice agency collecting, storing or
- 30 disseminating criminal history record information shall ensure

- 1 the confidentiality and security of criminal history record
- 2 information by providing that wherever such information is
- 3 maintained, a criminal justice agency must:
- 4 (1) Institute procedures to reasonably protect any
- 5 repository from theft, fire, sabotage, flood, wind or other
- 6 natural or man-made disasters.
- 7 (2) Select, supervise, educate and train all personnel
- 8 authorized to have access to criminal history record
- 9 information.
- 10 (3) Ensure that, where computerized data processing is
- 11 employed, the equipment utilized for maintaining criminal
- 12 history record information is solely dedicated to purposes
- related to the administration of criminal justice, or, if the
- 14 equipment is not used solely for the administration of
- criminal justice, the criminal justice agency shall be
- 16 accorded equal management participation in computer
- operations used to maintain the criminal history record
- 18 information.
- 19 (4) Provide that criminal history record information
- 20 maintained in a repository is disseminated upon proper
- validation only to those individuals and agencies authorized
- 22 to receive the information by the provisions of this act.
- 23 CHAPTER 5
- 24 AUDIT
- 25 Section 501. Annual audit of repositories.
- 26 (a) The Privacy and Security Council shall establish an
- 27 auditing team to conduct annual audits of the central repository
- 28 and of a representative sample of all repositories to ensure
- 29 that the provisions of this act are upheld.
- 30 (b) Persons conducting the audit shall be provided access to

- 1 all records, reports and listings required to conduct an audit
- 2 of criminal history record information, and all persons with
- 3 access to such information or authorized to receive such
- 4 information shall cooperate with and provide information
- 5 requested by the auditing team.
- 6 (c) The auditing team shall prepare a report of deficiencies
- 7 and recommendations for the correction of such deficiencies.
- 8 Upon the completion of every audit, the audited agency shall
- 9 carry out the recommendations within a reasonable period of time
- 10 unless the audit report is appealed to the Privacy and Security
- 11 Council and the appeal is upheld.
- 12 (d) The Privacy and Security Council shall have the power to
- 13 modify the corrective measures ordered by the auditing team.
- 14 Section 502. Quality control.
- 15 Each repository shall establish effective procedures, in
- 16 compliance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Privacy
- 17 and Security Council, for the completeness and accuracy of
- 18 criminal history record information.
- 19 CHAPTER 6
- 20 INDIVIDUAL RIGHT OF ACCESS AND REVIEW
- 21 Section 601. Right to access and review.
- 22 (a) Any individual or his legal representative has the right
- 23 to review, challenge, and appeal the accuracy and completeness
- 24 of his criminal history record information.
- 25 (b) Persons incarcerated in correctional facilities and
- 26 institutions may authorize a correctional employee to obtain a
- 27 copy of their criminal history record information for the
- 28 purpose of review, challenge and appeal.
- 29 Section 602. Procedure.
- 30 (a) The Privacy and Security Council shall promulgate rules

- 1 and regulations to implement this section and shall establish
- 2 reasonable fees.
- 3 (b) Any individual requesting to review his or her own
- 4 criminal history record information shall submit proper
- 5 identification to the criminal justice agency which maintains
- 6 his or her record. Proper identification shall be determined by
- 7 the officials of the repository where the request is made. If
- 8 criminal history record information exists the individual may
- 9 review a copy of such information without undue delay for the
- 10 purpose of review and challenge.
- 11 (c) The individual may challenge the accuracy of his or her
- 12 criminal history record information by specifying which portion
- 13 of the record is incorrect and what the correct version should
- 14 be. Failure to challenge any portion of the record in existence
- 15 at that time will place the burden of proving the inaccuracy of
- 16 any part subsequently challenged upon the individual.
- 17 Information subsequently added to such record shall also be
- 18 subject to review, challenge, correction or appeal.
- 19 (d) All criminal justice agencies shall have 60 days to
- 20 conduct a review of any challenge and shall have the burden of
- 21 proving the accuracy of the record. If the challenge is deemed
- 22 valid, the appropriate officials must ensure that:
- 23 (1) The criminal history record information is
- 24 corrected.
- 25 (2) A certified and corrected copy of the criminal
- 26 history record information is provided to the individual.
- 27 (3) Prior erroneous criminal history record information
- disseminated to criminal justice agencies shall be destroyed
- or returned and replaced with corrected information.
- 30 (4) The individual is supplied with the names of those

- 1 noncriminal justice agencies and individuals which have
- 2 received erroneous criminal history record information.
- 3 (e) (1) If the challenge is ruled invalid, an individual
- 4 has the right to appeal the decision to the Privacy and
- 5 Security Council within 30 days of notification of the
- 6 decision by the criminal justice agency.
- 7 (2) The Privacy and Security Council shall have the
- 8 authority to conduct administrative appeal hearings in
- 9 accordance with the act of June 4, 1945 (P.L.1388, No.442),
- 10 known as the "Administrative Agency Law."
- 11 (3) The decision of the Privacy and Security Council may
- be appealed to the Commonwealth Court by an aggrieved
- individual.
- 14 Section 603. Individual rights on access and review.
- Any individual exercising his or her right to access and
- 16 review under the provisions of this chapter, shall be informed
- 17 when criminal history record information is made available that
- 18 he or she is under no obligation to divulge such information to
- 19 any person or agency.
- 20 CHAPTER 7
- 21 PRIVACY AND SECURITY COUNCIL
- 22 Section 701. Privacy and Security Council.
- 23 (a) There is hereby created a Privacy and Security Council,
- 24 which shall function independently of but for administrative
- 25 purposes shall be in the office of the Governor.
- 26 (b) The Privacy and Security Council shall consist of the
- 27 Attorney General, the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State
- 28 Police, the State Court Administrator, the President pro tempore
- 29 of the Senate shall appoint one member, and the Speaker of the
- 30 House shall appoint one member, a local chief of police and one

- 1 private citizen to be appointed by the Governor.
- 2 (c) Each member shall be eligible for reappointment and the
- 3 Governor shall fill vacancies by appointing a person to fill the
- 4 unexpired term.
- 5 (d) The council shall elect one member of the Privacy and
- 6 Security Council as chairperson thereof, to serve as such at the
- 7 pleasure of the Governor.
- 8 (e) Members of the Privacy and Security Council shall
- 9 receive no compensation but shall be entitled to receive
- 10 reimbursement for travel and other necessary expenses incurred
- 11 in the performance of their duties as members of the Privacy and
- 12 Security Council.
- 13 Section 702. Duties of Privacy and Security Council.
- 14 The Privacy and Security Council shall have the power and
- 15 authority to:
- 16 (1) Establish rules and regulations for criminal history
- 17 record information with respect to security, completeness,
- 18 accuracy, individual access and review, quality control and
- 19 audits of repositories.
- 20 (2) Establish a uniform schedule of reasonable fees for
- 21 the costs of reproducing criminal history record information
- 22 for individual access and review and for research or
- 23 statistical purposes and access by noncriminal justice
- 24 agencies.
- 25 (3) Conduct hearings to further the purposes of this
- 26 act.
- 27 (4) Make investigations concerning all matters touching
- 28 the administration and enforcement of this act and the rules
- and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 30 (5) Issue subpoenas over the signature of the chairman,

- after approved by a majority of the members of the council,
- 2 to require the attendance of witnesses and the production of
- 3 records and papers pertaining to any investigation or inquiry
- 4 concerning matters relating to this act. The fees for such
- 5 witnesses for travel and attendance shall be the same as for
- 6 witnesses appearing in the courts and shall be paid from
- 7 appropriations made to the council.
- 8 (6) Institute, through the office of the Attorney
- 9 General, civil and criminal proceedings for violations of
- 10 this act and the rules and regulations adopted thereunder.
- 11 (7) Conduct annual audits of the central repository and
- of a representative sample of all repositories within the
- Commonwealth, collecting, compiling, maintaining and
- disseminating criminal history record information.
- 15 (8) Appoint such employees and agents as it may deem
- 16 necessary.
- 17 (9) Define which noncriminal justice agencies may have
- 18 access to criminal history record information as provided in
- 19 section 302.
- 20 (10) Carry out all other powers, duties and
- 21 responsibilities given to it by this act.
- 22 CHAPTER 8
- 23 PUBLIC NOTICE
- 24 Section 801. Requirements of repositories relating to public
- 25 notice.
- 26 Repositories maintaining criminal history record information
- 27 shall inform the public and post in a public place, notice of
- 28 the existence, purpose, use and accessibility of the criminal
- 29 history record information they maintain and the requirements of
- 30 the repository for identification on individual access and

- 1 review.
- 2 CHAPTER 9
- 3 SANCTIONS
- 4 Section 901. General administrative sanctions.
- 5 Any person, including any agency or organization, who
- 6 violates the provisions of this act or any regulations or rules
- 7 promulgated under it may:
- 8 (1) Be denied access to specified criminal history
- 9 record information for such period of time as the Privacy and
- 10 Security Council deems appropriate.
- 11 (2) Be subject to civil or criminal penalties or other
- remedies as provided for in this act.
- 13 (3) In the case of an employee of any agency who
- violates any provision of this act may be administratively
- disciplined by discharge, suspension, reduction in grade,
- transfer or other formal disciplinary action as the agency
- 17 deems appropriate.
- 18 Section 902. Criminal penalties.
- 19 A person employed by a government agency commits a misdemeanor
- 20 of the third degree, if such person:
- 21 (1) knowningly KNOWINGLY requests, obtains or seeks to
- 22 obtain criminal history record information in violation of
- 23 this act; or
- 24 (2) disseminates, maintains or uses criminal history
- 25 record information knowing such dissemination, maintenance or
- use to be in violation of this act.
- 27 Section 903. Civil actions.
- 28 (a) The Privacy and Security Council, through the Attorney
- 29 General, or any other individual or agency may institute an
- 30 action in a court of proper jurisdiction against any person,

- 1 agency or organization to enjoin any criminal justice agency,
- 2 noncriminal justice agency, organization or individual violating
- 3 the provisions of this act or to compel such agency,
- 4 organization or person to comply with the provisions of this
- 5 act.
- 6 (b) (1) Any person aggrieved by a violation of the
- 7 provisions of this act or of the rules and regulations
- 8 promulgated hereunder, shall have the substantive right to
- 9 bring an action for damages by reason of such violation in a
- 10 court of competent jurisdiction.
- 11 (2) A person found, by the court, to have been aggrieved
- by a violation of this act or the rules or regulations
- promulgated hereunder, shall be entitled to actual and real
- 14 damages of not less than \$100 for each violation and to
- reasonable costs of litigation and attorney's fees. Exemplary
- and punitive damages of not less than \$1,000 nor more than
- 17 \$10,000 shall be imposed for any violation of this act, or
- the rules or regulations adopted hereunder, found to be
- 19 willful.
- 20 CHAPTER 10
- 21 EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEALER
- 22 Section 1001. Repealer.
- 23 All acts and parts of acts are repealed insofar as they are
- 24 inconsistent herewith.
- 25 Section 1002. Effective date.
- 26 (a) This act shall take effect in 90 days except Chapter 7
- 27 and section 202 which shall take effect on July 1, 1979.
- 28 (b) Required expungement provision in section 303 (a)(1) is
- 29 not applicable to criminal proceedings initiated or completed
- 30 prior to the effective date of this act unless requested by the

1 individual as provided in Chapter 6.