

Record Retention

VPF records have an unlimited retention period. A record will remain in the file indefinitely or until action is taken by the entering agency to cancel the record.

Access to the VPF

NCIC operates under a shared management concept between the FBI and local, state, tribal, territorial, and federal users. Each state operates a CJIS Systems Agency through which NCIC users in that state access various systems managed by the FBI's CJIS Division. NCIC users access the VPF in the same manner they access traditional NCIC files.

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NCIC Violent Person File

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NCIC Violent Person File

In response to an increase in violence facing law enforcement officers on a daily basis, the FBI designed the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Violent Person File (VPF). The VPF was designed to provide law enforcement officers with immediate notification when encountering a person with a violent criminal history or a person who has previously threatened law enforcement.

Operating Concept for the Violent Person File

The VPF was created solely for the purpose of enhancing officer safety. The VPF is cross-searched in response to an NCIC inquiry into the Wanted Person File or the Vehicle File. There is no specific inquiry directly into the VPF.

For example: a law enforcement agency enters an individual into the VPF that meets one of the specified criteria. During a routine traffic stop by another law enforcement agency, an officer conducts a vehicle inquiry. The inquiry searches the NCIC Vehicle File and automatically searches other files in NCIC. If a VPF record exists on the individual, an immediate response will be provided to the officer. The response will alert the officer to approach with extreme caution.

Criteria for Entry into the Violent Person File

An individual may be entered into the NCIC VPF when they meet at least one of the following criteria:

1. Offender has been convicted for assault or murder/homicide of a law enforcement officer, fleeing, resisting arrest, or any such statute which involves violence against law enforcement.
2. Offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person to include homicide and attempted homicide.
3. Offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person where a firearm or weapon was used.
4. A law enforcement agency, based on its official investigatory duties, reasonably believes that the individual has seriously expressed his or her intent to commit an act of unlawful violence against a member of the law enforcement or criminal justice community.

Violent Person Criteria Field

The Violent Person Criteria (VPC) Field was created for the VPF to indicate which criterion justifies entry into the file. The VPC code, including the translation, is returned in a positive record response. The VPC codes along with their respective translations are listed below:

VPC Code	Translation
1	Assault on Law Enforcement
2	Violent Crime Homicide/ Attempted Homicide
3	Violent Crime with Weapon
4	Threat to Law Enforcement

