



Cuyahoga County Sheriff  
Frank Bova

## CUYAHOGA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MOBILE OFFENDER RECOGNITION & INFORMATION SYSTEM

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### PURPOSE

The Mobile Offender Recognition and Information System (MORIS) enables law enforcement to use an iris scan to accurately identify a suspect in custody. An iris scan, which detects unique patterns in an individual's eyes, can reduce the time it takes to identify a suspect in custody.

Effective immediately, per order of the Sheriff of Cuyahoga County, all Cuyahoga County law enforcement personnel authorized to use the MORIS technology will strictly adhere to the following policies:<sup>1</sup>

- Any use of MORIS by an unauthorized individual is strictly prohibited.
- Any use of MORIS beyond the scope of its intended purpose, whether by an authorized or unauthorized individual, is strictly prohibited.
- It is prohibited to use MORIS as a general surveillance tool, i.e. an authorized law enforcement officer must either have probable cause or meet the *Terry*<sup>2</sup> exception prior to detaining a suspect.
- Data from a MORIS scan may only remain in the MORIS database if the authorized officer has probable cause or meets the *Terry* exception. If there is unfounded use of MORIS, the unlawfully detained suspect's information will be deleted from the database.
- Prior to using MORIS on a suspect, and as long as the deputy has probable cause or meets the *Terry* exception, an authorized law enforcement officer may handcuff the suspect.

MORIS technology is a valuable tool in protecting the citizens of Cuyahoga County. As with all Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department policies, law enforcement officers are responsible for their strict adherence. Any misuse of this technology will not be tolerated and may result in a CCSD investigation.

Frank Bova  
Sheriff

<sup>1</sup> The CCSD policies enumerated in this document are in addition to Cuyahoga County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, specifically: §15: *electronic equipment and communications*

<sup>2</sup> *Terry v. Ohio* 392 U.S. 1 (1968) - U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution permits a law enforcement officer to stop, detain, and frisk persons who are suspected of criminal activity without first obtaining their consent, even though the officer may lack a warrant to conduct a search or Probable Cause to make an arrest. This type of police encounter is constitutionally permissible only when an officer can articulate a particularized, objective, and reasonable basis for believing that criminal activity may be afoot or that a given suspect may be armed and dangerous.