

## Policies regarding fingerprinting and background checks

Information compiled January 23, 2006

**The Question:** Does your agency fingerprint any employees or prospective employees for the purposes of a criminal check through the state patrol? If so, which employees? What other background checks do you conduct?

**Columbia County Public Transportation** says... We do not do any finger printing. We do the Washington State Criminal Background check online.

**Community Transit** says... We do not do this.

**CUBS** says... We do criminal history background checks through the State Patrol for transit drivers as they could have children or disabled adults on the buses. We do more extensive backgrounds on other employees in the City, i.e. police and fire but I'm not sure that you care about that as it is not really related to transit.

**Everett Transit** says... We conduct the Washington State Patrol background check. We do not fingerprint.

**Grant Transit** says... we do not fingerprint...we contract out for all of our operations, so we do not do background checks.

**Grays Harbor Transit** says... We do not do any fingerprinting, we use the WSP-Helpwatch web site to do our background checks.

**Intercity Transit** says... Under normal circumstances we do background check only as pre employment on our **transit drivers**. The only other positions which we do checks on are those positions that would come into contact with clients (vulnerable adults, minors, etc) on a one-on-one basis. Those positions are: **Dial A Lift Manager, Travel Training Coordinator, and ADA Coordinator**.

We do criminal background checks through the Washington State Patrol, but we do not have them finger printed. If we hire an employee into one of the above positions who has lived out of state during the last 10 years, we do an out of state background check on them through DataQuest (800) 285-5490.

**Island Transit** says... We just run a felony background check on all new employees. We run DMV background checks on all new employees and vanpool drivers.

**Jefferson Transit** says... No fingerprinting. Standard WSP criminal background for all EE's.

**Kitsap Transit** says... We don't do fingerprinting of new employees, but we conduct criminal background checks of safety sensitive employees. Sybil Laners in my department (478-0275) conducts those and she can give you the details of the sources she uses. I don't have those details. Sybil is out of the office until 1/31/2006.

**Mason Transit** says... We do not fingerprint any employees or prospective employees. We only obtain written consent for a background check. However, we do obtain consent for a complete background check. Not just the elder and child abuse as required by law.

**Twin Transit** says... We do not fingerprint employees or prospective employees. We do run criminal background checks through the State Patrol on all prospective employees.

**Valley Transit** says... We do a Washington State Patrol criminal check without the finger prints.

**Whatcom Transit** says... We do not do fingerprints. I'll be interested to find out if others do.

**WSTIP** says... "...there is no requirement that you fingerprint transit operators. You have the discretion to fingerprint prospective employees but are not required to do so. In a similar vein, you have the authority—but not the obligation—to fingerprint those of your employees who have unsupervised contact with children or “vulnerable adults” in order to obtain criminal history record information from the state patrol on such persons. The statutory authorization for that is RCW 43.43.830 et seq."