

CIBRS

The Comprehensive Incident-Based Reporting System (CIBRS) is a database of incident information from Minnesota law enforcement agencies. It is a law enforcement tool, intended to augment existing investigative practices by facilitating electronic information sharing statewide.

What is CIBRS? How Does it Work?

CIBRS is a system that collects data, submitted by local law enforcement agencies from the agency's records management systems (RMS). CIBRS accepts data from agencies across the state and subsequently makes the data available to law enforcement agencies statewide.

- Local law enforcement agencies send data to the CIBRS database as frequently as they deem appropriate, but no less than once every seven days. The information is then available to Minnesota law enforcement personnel for investigative purposes (i.e. preparing a criminal case).
- Pieces of data sent to the CIBRS database will still remain in the local agency RMS. CIBRS will not change the data's classification or availability at the local agency.
- The data in CIBRS is available only to certified law enforcement professionals. They are then allowed to search all the fields, in any combination, for records in the database as part of a criminal investigation.
- CIBRS contains no public data. Only information within CIBRS that is classified as "private" will be available to the subject of the data. Data that is part of an ongoing investigation may be classified as confidential (and unavailable to the subject of the data). The classification will expire in 120 days if not renewed by the submitting agency.
- CIBRS may not be used for non-law enforcement background checks, such as for municipal licensing or other "civil" purposes. It may only be used by designated law enforcement officers for purposes outlined in statute:
 1. Prepare a case against a person, whether known or unknown, for the commission of a crime or other offense for which the agency has investigative authority;
 2. Serve process in a criminal case;
 3. Inform law enforcement officers of possible safety concerns before service of process;
 4. Enforce no contact orders;
 5. Locate missing persons; or
 6. Conduct background investigations as required by section 626.87.

About Incident Data

Incident data include types of crime, names of individuals associated with an incident (including such items as potential suspects, witnesses, victims, and reporting parties), locations and vehicles, and arrests or other outcomes from the incident.

Who Uses CIBRS? Why?

CIBRS is only available to Minnesota law enforcement agencies. State law defines CIBRS as a system for law enforcement to use in preparing criminal cases against a person, known or unknown. It defines Minnesota law enforcement agencies that may access the system as: a municipal police department, the Metropolitan Transit Police, the Metropolitan Airports Police, the University of Minnesota Police Department, a county sheriff's department, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the Department of Natural Resources Enforcement Division, the fugitive apprehension unit of the Department of Corrections, or the Minnesota State Patrol.

How can my agency access CIBRS?

You do not need to submit data to CIBRS to use the database for investigations. Agencies must have a completed BCA Master Agreement and each user must complete training and certification. Training is available online. Contact the CIBRS Project Team at cibrs.project@state.mn.us to begin the process.

