



Combined DNA Index System (CODIS)

The CODIS is a nationwide database maintained by the FBI of DNA specimens collected from persons under criminal investigation. In the Department of Defense (DoD), all DNA specimens collected from persons under criminal investigation are submitted to the United States Army Criminal Investigations Laboratory (USACIL) for analysis and entry into the CODIS.

Governing statutes and regulations: Title 34, United States Code, Sections (§§) 12592 and 40702, Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, § 28.12, DoDI 5505.14, *DNA Collection and Submission Requirements for Law Enforcement, and AFMAN 71-102, Air Force Criminal Indexing.*

Basis for entry: DNA is collected at the same time as fingerprints pursuant to DoDI 5505.11, *Fingerprint Reporting Requirements*, based on probable cause that the person committed a qualifying offense. AFMAN 71-102, paragraph 5.2.; DoDI 5505.14, paragraph 1.2.c. Probable cause is defined by AFMAN 71-102 as a “determination that there are reasonable grounds to believe that an offense has been committed and that the person to be identified as the offender committed it.” Qualifying offenses are serious or significant offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice or the United States Code punishable by imprisonment. DoDI 5505.11, paragraph 1.2.b. Non-serious offenses not subject to indexing in the CODIS include drunkenness, disturbing the peace, and minor traffic violations, identified in DoDI 5505.11, paragraph 1.2.d, as well as other minor offenses listed in AFMAN 71-102, Attachment 5. If not previously collected, DNA is collected upon referral of charges, entry into pretrial confinement, or conviction. DoDI 5505.14, paragraph 1.2.c.

Contents of entry: Name of person from whom DNA was collected, offense(s) for which DNA was collected, date of collection of DNA, number assigned to DNA kit submitted to USACIL, and date of receipt of DNA by USACIL.

Impact of entry: Once entered in this database, a person’s DNA is subject to comparison with other DNA profiles used to solve crimes and link serial offenders. Entries are permanent unless expungement is requested and granted.

Access to this database: All law enforcement agencies in the United States and in some overseas locations may submit and compare DNA samples in the CODIS. Information gathered from this database also may be utilized in judicial proceedings and by population statistics databases if personal identifying information is removed.

Criteria for removal: Entries will be expunged, or removed, from the CODIS if current or former military members were not convicted of any offense at a general or special court-martial. Actions inconsistent with conviction, that would result in expungement, include: administration of nonjudicial punishment, administrative separation, referral to a summary-court-martial, dismissal or withdrawal of all charges, or reversal of the conviction on appeal. DoDI 5505.14, paragraphs 4.1., 4.2., and 4.7. Entries for civilians will be expunged if they were not convicted of any offense or if their convictions were overturned. DoDI 5505.14, para. 4.7.d.

Expungement requests: Current military members submit their expungement requests, with indorsements from their servicing legal office and commanders in the grade of O-4 or above, to daf.cjic.expungements@us.af.mil. Former military members submit their expungement requests to the Clerk of the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals, af.jah.filing.workflow@us.af.mil. Civilians submit their expungement requests to USACIL, Attention: CODIS Branch, 4930 N. 31st Street, Forest Park, GA 30297. For additional information on expungement requests, including templates to be used to request expungement, please visit: <https://www.osi.af.mil/About/Expungement-Request/>.

