NATIONAL CENTER FOR
MISSING & EXPLOITED
CHILDREN®

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES PORTAL

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HASH SEARCH

Law enforcement can use the Hash Search function to compare MD5 or SHA1 hash values calculated from suspected child pornography images and videos with hash values stored in the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) Child Recognition and Identification System (CRIS). The Hash Search tool assists law enforcement officers and prosecutors to perform an initial assessment during child pornography investigations.

Once the hash values are submitted to LESP, a report is generated which categorizes submitted hashes as follows:

- **Identified Child**
  These exact hash values are associated with an image/video which appears to depict at least one (1) child previously identified by law enforcement. Please be advised that these hash values may be associated with apparent child pornography images/videos as well as files that do not contain apparent child pornography.

- **Recognized Hash Values**
  These exact hash values are associated with files previously submitted to NCMEC's Child Recognition and Identification System. However, NCMEC has no additional information regarding these files, which may or may not contain apparent child pornography or depict identified children. As a result, these hash values will not be listed in the pdf version of the NCMEC Initial Hash Value Comparison Report.

- **Unrecognized Hash Values**
  These exact hash values are associated with images/videos that have not yet been submitted to NCMEC's Child Recognition and Identification System.

The report generated by the LESP will not provide specific series information. In order to receive a complete Child Identification Report, NCMEC asks that you submit copies of suspected images/videos to the federal liaisons assigned to NCMEC. By submitting your cases to NCMEC, you are also assisting with efforts to identify children still at risk. (For submission instructions, please email: **cvip@ncmec.org**)

Please refer to the guidelines & templates below on how to submit cases to NCMEC for full CVIP analysis.

NCMEC - CVIP General Submission Forms
USPIS Template Letter - CRIS Reviews
USPIS Template Letter - Identified Victim Submission
Please note, users affiliated with a federal agency that already has a submission protocols in place such as ICE and FBI, please defer to those instructions rather than the information listed above.

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