ABOUT THE NDI

The purpose of the National Decertification Index (NDI) is to serve as a national registry of certificate or license revocation actions relating to officer misconduct.

The NDI currently contains

30,000
PLUS ACTIONS

reported by 45 agencies.

The NDI is a pointer system only. There are no records contained in the NDI. Records are housed in participating state government agency databases and should be verified with the contributing authority. Inclusion in the NDI does not necessarily preclude any individual from appointment as an officer.

Do you really know who you are hiring?

Become better informed through the National Decertification Index (NDI)
OREGON CASE SHOWS NDI WORKS
Submitted by the Director of Oregon’s Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

The following illustrates the benefit of the NDI. The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPST) revoked the police certification of Sean Sullivan on July 19, 2005. Sullivan, a Police Officer in Coquille, Oregon, was convicted of two counts of harassment. As part of his sentencing, Sullivan was ordered to surrender his State of Oregon police officer certification and never work in any capacity as a police officer. DPSST entered Sullivan’s name in the NDI as an officer whose certification had been revoked.

Since that time Sullivan has attempted to gain employment as a police officer in two other states. Three months after his conviction in Oregon, Sullivan applied to be a police officer in Klawock, Alaska. On his application he indicated that he had never been convicted of a crime nor had his police certification been revoked in any state. Later that month he applied to be a police officer in Cedar Vale, Kansas. On his application he again marked that he had never been convicted of any crimes. Sullivan was hired and served as Police Chief in Cedar Vale until May 12, 2006 when Kansas POST became aware of his revoked status and began an investigation. Kansas also looked into allegations that Sullivan may have engaged in other unlawful conduct while serving as a police officer. The NDI was used as a vehicle by both states to identify the Oregon revocation and take appropriate action.

WHY SHOULD I USE THE NDI?
The IADLEST National Decertification Index is a powerful tool for law enforcement agency hiring authorities to use when performing background investigations on potential candidates.

IS THE NDI A BLACKLIST?
No. The NDI is a pointer system. We do not store any specific data about an officer’s case. We merely indicate that there is information about the officer in a particular state and we provide information about where more detailed information may be obtained.

WHO REPORTS ACTIONS AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS?
The only authorities permitted to enter records into the NDI are the certifying agency in each state. In most cases, it will be the State Peace Officer Standards and Training agency (POST)

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR REPORTING AN ACTION ON AN OFFICER?
The criteria is determined by each POST independently in accordance with their own policies. However, only findings sufficient for a state’s official sanction of misconduct are accepted into the NDI.

The International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) is an international organization dedicated to the improvement of public safety personnel. Its members include Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) directors and other public safety training professionals. IADLEST serves as the national forum of POST agencies, boards, and commissions and training academies throughout the United States.