

## Volunteer Screening Solutions

### Abuse and the Volunteer Organization

Child abuse within volunteer organizations has become an issue of national importance. With the passage of the Volunteers for Children Act, volunteer organizations have the potential of being held liable for negligent hiring if their volunteers sexually molest a child, elderly or disabled person in their care and if the volunteer has been previously convicted of a relevant crime.

The National Foundation to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse offers the following information regarding the abuse of children:

- ❖ **1 in 3 girls and 1 of 6 boys** have been subjected to some form of sexual abuse by age 18.
- ❖ A child is abused in the United States **every 13 seconds**.
- ❖ There are an estimated **60 million survivors** of childhood sexual abuse in America today.
- ❖ **46% of child molesters are non-family** members who are known to their victims.
- ❖ **42% of current offenders** with a child victim and a prior criminal history had a **past conviction for a violent crime**.

The mobile nature of modern society has made thorough criminal background screening a more arduous task than ever before. Add to this the reluctance of many applicants to divulge information about criminal sexual offenses and employers are faced with a daunting challenge. Fortunately, InfoMart offers **VolunteerScreen** — a quick and affordable solution for identifying sex offenders on a multi-jurisdictional scale.



### The InfoMart Difference

InfoMart combines our screening services with our nationally recognized community service activism to develop a suite of Volunteer Screening Solutions, which identifies the criminal past of volunteers and works within the restrictive budgets of volunteer organizations. InfoMart has designed its **VolunteerScreen** product specifically for those organizations having a significant pool of volunteers and accountable under Public Law 105-251.



## VolunteerScreen Services

### National Social Security Search

An identity verification and fraud search matching the Social Security Number to the issued name. This search can reveal all names used by the volunteer, the volunteer's current address and multiple known addresses over a 7-year history. Addresses obtained can be additionally used in expanding a volunteer's criminal history search.

### Multi-State Criminal Search

A Multi-State Criminal Search, which can contain a wealth of criminal information otherwise undisclosed by a volunteer. The Multi-State Criminal Search contains record information from states representing over 90% of the population and has over 200 million records. The Multi-State Criminal Search is an effective "pre-screen" tool which, combined with a jurisdiction criminal history search, identifies criminal history records that otherwise would never be discovered.

### Multi-State Sex Offender Search

Tapping the resources of a comprehensive private criminal history database, InfoMart's Multi-State Sex Offender scan searches records spanning 48 states, providing employers with almost instantaneous results, and much-improved peace of mind.

### Criminal History

InfoMart will perform a jurisdiction search on all positive records matching your volunteer in either the Multi-State Criminal or the Multi-State Sex Offender searches. InfoMart performs the most accurate criminal records searches of any applicant-screening provider in the industry with our ability to personally inspect records in every county, state and federal courthouse. These searches can include checks for felony and misdemeanor arrests and/or convictions of any volunteer.



## Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) Compliance

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) ensures consumer reporting agencies and users of consumer reports follow appropriate guidelines. These guidelines assure accurate and confidential handling of consumer information. As a Consumer Reporting Agency, InfoMart has developed its **VolunteerScreen** service to ensure your compliance with the FCRA.

On October 9, 1998 the Volunteers for Children Act was signed into law as Public Law 105-251, amending the National Child Protection Act of 1993. This law affects any business or organization providing care, treatment, education, training, instruction, supervision, or recreation for children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities... whether public, private, for-profit, not-for-profit, or voluntary.

With this amendment, if a volunteer or employee of an organization sexually molests a child, elderly person or individual with a disability in his or her care and if it can be shown this volunteer or employee had previously been convicted of a relevant crime in the United States that organization may be held **liable for negligent hiring**.



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