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The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is a descriptor-based name search. If you believe you have been **erroneously denied** you may submit a request to challenge the deny decision.

The agency which processed your NICS transaction is required to have a challenge process. You may make application to the **denying agency**, i.e., the state or local law enforcement agency that processed your transaction. As an alternative to challenging directly through the denying agency, you may elect to submit your challenge to the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division.

You may request:

- 1) Reason for your firearm-related denial
- 2) Challenge the reason for your firearm-related denial

Please Visit:

<https://www.edo.cjis.gov>

For customers without Internet access, you may mail a request to the address listed below:

FBI CJIS Division
Attention: CRIMINAL HISTORY ANALYSIS TEAM 1
BTC3
1000 Custer Hollow Road
Clarksburg, WV 26306

The challenge submission **must** include:

- ✓ NICS Transaction Number (NTN)
- ✓ Your full name
- ✓ Your complete mailing address

Providing a set of your rolled fingerprint impressions prepared by law enforcement or an authorized fingerprinting agency is highly recommended to help expedite your request to challenge a deny decision.

The CJIS Division cannot release the reason for a deny over the phone.

NICS Transaction Number (NTN):



Delay

The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) is a descriptor-based name search. If you are experiencing an **extended delay**, you may submit a request to challenge the delay decision.

Options to resolving an extended delay can be found at:

<https://www.edo.cjis.gov>

It is recommended that you wait 30 days from the date of initiating the firearm-related check prior to requesting a challenge on a "delay" to give the FBI time to complete the initial transaction.

Other resolution options include:

- 1) Identity History Summary Check: Visit www.fbi.gov/checks.
- 2) Identity History Summary Challenge: Visit www.fbi.gov/checks.
- 3) Voluntary Appeal File: Visit the NICS website at <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/vaf-form-25.pdf/view>.

PLEASE NOTE: During periods of high volume receipts, the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division will not process challenges for delay decisions. If you challenge your delay decision and the FBI is not processing challenges for delays, you will receive a letter indicating such.

The CJIS Division cannot release the reason for a delay over the phone.

NICS Transaction Number (NTN):