Facial Recognition

NYS DMV: FR Program

Deputy Commissioner Thomas Higgins

Safe Drivers · Safe Vehicles · Secure Identities · Saving Lives
NYS DMV’s FR Program

- February 2010 – NYS DMV FR implemented:
  - Begins with all daily images captured on January 28, 2010 and one photo from every active, suspended or revoked record in our database.

- March 2010 – FR begins running historical (legacy) photos for database cleansing.
- October 2010 – Complete running all 14,651,236 legacy photos.
- February 2016 - Upgraded to latest Morpho FR Platform. Initiated new legacy scrub.
- NYS captures approximately 10,000 to 12,000 images each day.
NYS DMV’s FR Program

• August 2017 - over 21,300 “Possible Fraud” investigations opened, over 3,750 arrests, and over 15,200 cases have been resolved administratively.

• All data is being reviewed by NYS Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research (ITSMR):
  
  • 50% of the individuals identified are suspended or revoked under at least one name. And 20% are suspended or revoked under both records.
  
  • ITSMR analysis showed that more than 70% of the confirmed cases are for individuals where at least one of the multiple records has a significant traffic safety issue.

• Matches have been shared with other state and federal agencies including Labor, Medicaid to identify instances of benefit fraud.
Multi-State Initiative

- In 2014, NYS and NJ conduct “pilot” exchange of CDL images.
- Pilot identified 62 individuals licensed in both jurisdictions with different names, DOB’s and Social Security Numbers.
- Several hundred suspended in one jurisdiction with same name, DOB and Social Security number in the other jurisdiction (valid).
- NYS DMV awarded FMCSA grant to implement multi-state FR initiative.
- In 2017, NYS DMV entered into agreements with MD, NJ and Conn to exchange CDL images.
New Jersey Pilot Matches

Magdy H Elseimy
7/18/55
Valid CDL C in NJ
2 additional header records in NY

Magdy H Moustafa
Valid Class E in NY
7/18/55
New Jersey Pilot Matches

Sekoudit G. Sidibe
6/16/62
Valid CDL Class A Hazmat-NJ

Sidibe D. Sekou
8/18/1962
Suspended CDL in NY
New Jersey Pilot Matches

ORRIN PLASS
Identity Theft Victim
Suspended CDL A in NJ
Continued to use this identity after Legal name change for all infractions.

ALONZO VASQUEZ
New Jersey Pilot Matches

Mr. Jaime Altanirano
Suspended NJ CDL A
4 convictions for DWI
Multiple suspensions for insurance issues
Multiple moving violations
Expired 2013
Naturalized US Citizen

Mr. Jose M Muriel
Valid NYS CDL A
Obtained via NJ Reciprocity 8/27/06
Has tickets driving vehicles owned by Mr. Altanirano
The Real Mr. Jose Muriel

Serving life sentence in Puerto Rico.
Other Mr. Jose Muriel's utilizing same full name, DOB and Social Security

Massachusetts  
Florida  
Connecticut

Puerto Rico  
New York
FR Matches That Impact Other States

Ronald C. N.
6/5/19**
Expired Class DM
Surrendered to PA 3/28/05
1 open suspension - Driver Assessment
Paid tickets issued in NYC in 2016

Ronald C. Moreira
6/5/19**
Expired Non-Driver ID
37 open suspensions - all moving violations
FR Matches That Impact Other States

Gene Harris
5/11/71
Expired NYS Class D
18 Open Suspensions

Eugene Harris
5/11/71
Expired CDL C
Surrendered to PA 5/19/09
Multi-State Initiative

• We are scheduled to begin exchanging CDL images with MD, NJ and Conn by the end of the year.

• How it will work:
  • Daily CDL image captures will be exchanged each night. Potential matches will be de-conflicted by the most recent issuing state.
  • For example, potential match from NYS CDL transaction with a NJ record. NYS is the most recent issuing jurisdiction. NYS will analyze images, conduct review and, if applicable, open an investigation. NYS will alert NJ. Both states will work cooperatively to resolve all issues and evaluate criminal prosecution.
  • CDL renewals will generate image (old image) comparison with other jurisdictions.
Trends and Findings

- Subjects engaged in this type of fraud are aware that DMV utilizes FR and are adapting.

- Many of the subjects will present a lower class than the vehicle they are driving. For example, many of the truck drivers we have identified will utilize a Class D license and present it while driving the truck. We have seen trends where this results in a ticket for operating out of class instead of the true violation they were stopped for. We see the same with Class D and livery drivers presenting non-driver ID’s when they are stopped.

- We noticed many CDL drivers will downgrade their license to a class D before a suspension or revocation takes affect to avoid entries in CDLIS.

- CDLIS which is available at no charge has been a valuable tool for combatting CDL Fraud.
Trends and Findings

• We have electronically verified all Social Security numbers since 2003 so all valid records in NY and most jurisdictions have a verified SS#.

• We see numerous Social Security numbers that are utilized in multiple jurisdictions at the same time without alerts from SSA. It would assist jurisdictions if we could be notified if a number has been already used.

• Many of the subjects possessing licenses in different jurisdictions are jumbling or using variations of the names but the same SS# in multiple jurisdictions.

• Although the use of Puerto Rico identity packages has been prevalent and continues to be prevalent, we are starting to see documents from other territories. In the past year, NY DMV investigators arrested over 80 individuals who utilized counterfeit identity packages from the US Virgin Islands and we are starting to see an increase in documents from the Mariana Islands (Guam).

• We utilize permissive revocations to the last known address.
For More Information

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