CJIS Information Letter   March 16, 2001

The CJIS Division provides contributors with information to assist them in successfully processing fingerprints in the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS). This electronic integration of fingerprints and criminal histories is designed to quickly process submissions containing images in the 14 fingerprint blocks (ten rolled impressions and four plain or "flat" impressions). However, rejected fingerprint submissions slow the identification process. The following information lists the most common problem areas in the IAFIS, in order of frequency, that cause fingerprint submissions to be rejected.

Five Most Common Reasons for Rejection in the IAFIS

Reject Code	Error Condition	Error Description	Explanation
L0113	The charge is not serious.	This submission references an arrest charge representing a noncriterion offense.	Criminal fingerprint submissions with a noncriterion offense can be processed if they are submitted with a retention status of "N".
L0008	The quality of the characteristics is low.	The quality of the characteristics is too low to be used.	If the FBI's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) cannot read the card because the quality of the characteristics is low, the System will reject the card.
L0118	ITN Image Quality/Sequence Error	Erroneous or incomplete fingerprint(s) are on the images. The fingerprints or hands are out of sequence, printed twice, or missing with no reason given.	The CJIS Division provides a free-text message with this code specifying the reason for rejection.
L0116	Fingerprint Pattern Quality Error	Fingerprint pattern(s) are not discernible.	If FBI fingerprint examiners cannot discern the fingerprint patterns, they will reject the card.
L0115	Other QC Error	A quality control (QC) error has occurred.	The CJIS Division provides a free-text message with this code. The most common message is "clarify charge."

Top Seven FBI/IAFIS Rejects Codes* Based on August 06-August 07 data

No.	Percent of total rejects	Reject Code	Condition	Description	Additional Information	How to Prevent
1	43%	L0008	Characteristics Quality Low	The quality of characteristics is too low to be used.	This reject occurs when the image quality score is above the acceptable threshold as determined by IAFIS.	Ensure each fingerprint is rolled fully and clearly. Ensure delta(s) and core(s) are present for each fingerprint.
2	14%	L0118	ITN Image Quality / Sequence Error	Erroneous or incomplete fingerprint (s) on images: fingers or hands out of sequence; printed twice; (and / or) missing (fingerprints) and no reason given.	This reject occurs when the fingerprint images are not in the correct sequence or images are missing without a reason given. The two acceptable reasons for missing images are Amputation or Unable to Print.	Ensure each rolled fingerprint is in the correct position by comparing with the fingerprint impressions taken simultaneously (plain/flat impressions). Ensure a reason is provided for any missing images. Use either Amputation or Unable to Print.
3	10%	L0116	Fingerprint Pattern Quality Error	Fingerprint pattern(s) not discernable.	This reject occurs when the images are poor quality as determined by an FBI Fingerprint Examiner.	Ensure each fingerprint is rolled fully and clearly. Ensure delta(s) and core(s) are present for each fingerprint.
4	8%	L0032	Duplicate DOA and DOS	Cannot update subject's record because date of arrest (DOA) (MM/DD/YYYY) and corresponding date of arrest suffix (DOS) (MM/DD/YYYY) already exist.	This reject occurs most often in Criminal fingerprint submissions. It occurs when the fingerprint submission is a duplicate.	Do not submit the same transaction multiple times.
5	7%	H0001	Required Header Element Missing	Mandatory Element [X] was not supplied in message header (X is the field element).	This reject occurs when a mandatory field is not supplied, such as Date Of Arrest (DOA). The specific field missing should be defined in a free-text message accompanying the reject code.	Ensure the submission data contains all mandatory fields.
6	3%	L0117	Fingerprint Pattern Area Error	Insufficient pattern area(s) recorded for identification purposes.	This reject occurs when the fingerprint images have not been rolled fully (from "nail to nail").	Ensure each fingerprint is rolled fully and clearly. Ensure delta(s) and core(s) are present for each fingerprint.
7	3%	E0004	EFTS Record Parse Error	EFTS logical record type [X] containing Image Designation Character (IDC) of [Y] in message does not comply with message. Contents or Length field values or the record is not parseable.	This reject occurs when the fingerprint images are not compliant to the FBI's Electronic Fingerprint Transmission Specification (EFTS)/Electronic Biometric Transmission Specification (EBTS).	Ensure data elements are consistent with the FBI's Electronic Fingerprint Transmission Specification (EFTS)/Electronic Biometric Transmission Specification (EBTS).