King County Regional AFIS made its first hit in April 1988 on an Auburn rape case. The suspect was convicted in Superior Court. Since then, numerous other crimes have been solved through the use of AFIS...

Brutal Rape at Senior Care Center

In July 2017, a man broke into a room at a senior care center in SeaTac and brutally assaulted and raped a 71-year-old resident. Detectives had no suspects. AFIS staff processed the crime scene and lifted a print that produced a suspect name in just over 24 hours after the crime. A warrant was issued and the suspect was arrested two days later. "Without that fingerprint... we certainly wouldn't be here as quickly as we are", said Lisa Mulligan, SeaTac Police Chief.

As of January 2018, the suspect is awaiting trial. This charge qualifies under the Washington State Three Strikes Law.

Attempted Robbery Turned Homicide

In January 2017, a man was robbed, shot, killed, and dumped in the parking lot of a Federal Way apartment complex. Several days later, the victim's vehicle was found abandoned and set on fire. With no leads, AFIS staff examined the victim's vehicle for latent evidence. Latent prints were collected and identified, which assisted detectives in their investigation.

In March 2018, prosecutors charged a suspect with first-degree murder. He is being held on $1 million bail while awaiting trial.

Mobile ID: A "Must Have" Resource

An officer reported three successful field identifications in the same week. The first was a person of interest in a Newcastle burglary. The second was a driver who gave a false name and whose driving status had been revoked. The third confirmed the identity of a suspected burglar's female associate.

"The response times were fast and the mobile fingerprint scanner was easy to use. This is an absolutely fantastic tool and is quickly becoming a 'must-have' resource in the field," Officer Scott McDonald, Newcastle Police.

And there are many more stories !

AFIS Program Overview

King County's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is a property tax levy funded program that provides staff and technology to support criminal fingerprint identification services for all 39 cities, transit services, and unincorporated areas of the county. This regional approach provides enhanced services through shared resources:

1. To quickly identify arrested individuals, preventing the wrongful release of those using false names, and establish accurate criminal history records.

2. To identify crime scene fingerprints and palmprints that aid in investigations and provide evidence in court.

Strategic Benefits
- Invests in centralized staff and technology with an overall lower cost than agencies funding their own
- Contributes to information sharing among agencies
- Supports task forces, special initiatives, and major crime investigations
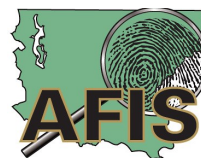
Technology
- The AFIS database searches and stores biometric records
- 53 Livescan devices capture prints, photos and demographics for transmission to the local, state, and federal identification systems
- 270 Mobile ID devices, used by officers in the field to identify people within minutes

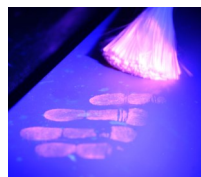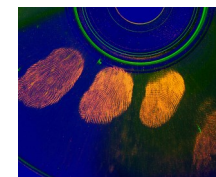**For more information please contact:**
afis@kingcounty.gov

Or visit us on the Web!
www.kingcounty.gov/afis

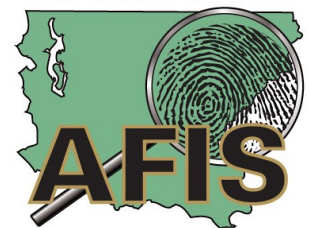# KING COUNTY REGIONAL AFIS PROGRAM

Automated Fingerprint Identification System

PROGRAM MISSION

The Regional AFIS Program promotes public safety and contributes to crime reduction by providing fingerprint identification services and technology to criminal justice agencies throughout King County.
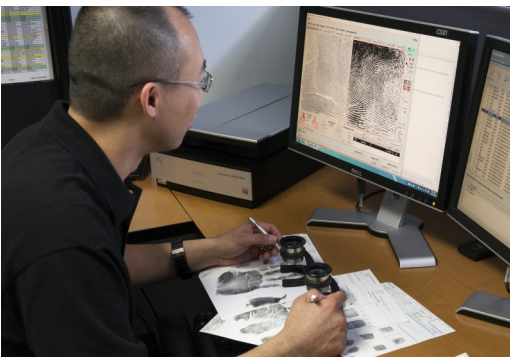
Arrest Identification

Police agencies and correctional facilities throughout King County use Livescan to collect and transmit fingerprint images to the AFIS database for search. The goal is to ensure that anyone using a false name is identified prior to their release from custody, preventing them from evading warrants, or hiding criminal records. This also ensures individuals aren't held wrongfully under other's warrants.

AFIS staff ensure fingerprints, palmprints, mugshots, and arrest information are reported quickly to state and federal systems, so that courts, law enforcement, and licensing agencies have access to the most current criminal records possible. These records aid in investigations, warrant and background checks, and sentencing determinations.
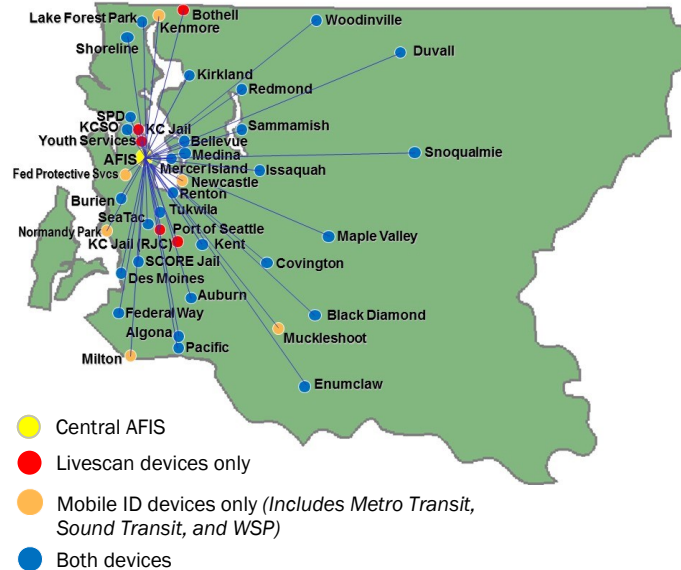
Additionally, AFIS works with identity theft victims and identifies unknown injured, unconscious, or deceased persons.

Program Technology

Automated Fingerprint Identification System

"AFIS" is a biometric identification system that uses digital imaging technology to obtain, store, and analyze print data. The program provides AFIS search capability to support all law enforcement agencies within King County.

Lake Forest Park • Bothell • Kenmore • Woodinville
Shoreline • Duvall
Kirkland • Redmond
SPD • KCSO • KC Jail • Sammamish
Youth Services • Bellevue • Medina • Snoqualmie
AFIS • Mercer Island • Issaquah
Fed Protective Svcs • Newcastle • Renton
Burien • Tukwila
SeaTac • Port of Seattle
Normandy Park • Kent • Maple Valley
KC Jail (RJC) • SCORE Jail • Covington
Des Moines • Auburn
Federal Way • Black Diamond
Algona • Muckleshoot
Milton • Pacific
Enumclaw

- 🟡 Central AFIS
- 🔴 Livescan devices only
- 🟠 Mobile ID devices only *(Includes Metro Transit, Sound Transit, and WSP)*
- 🔵 Both devices

The AFIS Program supports 53 Livescans and 270 handheld Mobile ID devices located throughout the county at various police agencies and correctional facilities.
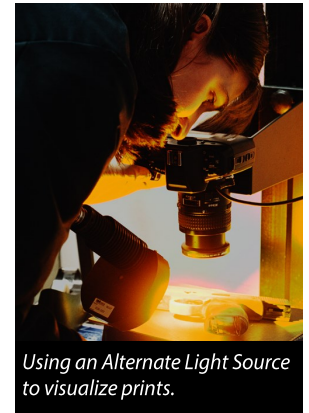

Dusting with black powder
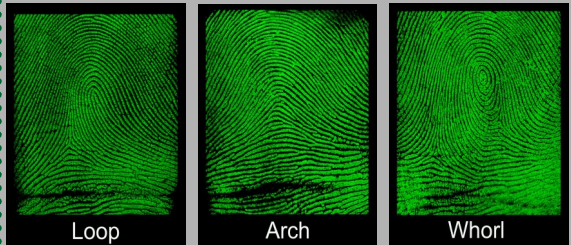
Crime Scene Identification

Prints recovered from crime scenes are known as latent prints. Examiners use various techniques to reveal prints left on evidence to identify potential suspects.

Using an Alternate Light Source to visualize prints.

When there are no known suspects, latent prints are searched against millions of prints in the AFIS database. AFIS produces a list of potential matches based on ridge detail within the print. Examiners then compare the latent prints to prints on file to determine who left the impressions. Examiners commonly testify in court regarding conclusions reached.

Friction Ridge Patterns

| Loop | Arch | Whorl |