Federal Bureau of Investigations Next Generation Information Rap Back Questions and Answers

1. What is Rap Back?

Answer: Rap Back stands for Record of Arrest and Prosecution BACK. This is a Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) service that allows authorized government agencies to receive notification of activity on individuals who hold positions of trust or who are under criminal justice supervision or investigation, thus eliminating the need for repeated background checks on a person from the same applicant agency.

2. Is Rap Back part of Continuous Evaluation?

Answer: No, Rap Back and Continuous Evaluation are elements of the new Trusted Workforce 2.0 Continuous Vetting framework. Your cognizant personnel security office will analyze information gathered from the continuous evaluation system, Rap Back and other sources to make a determination on continuing your access authorization. This can be done in place of, or in conjunction with a periodic reinvestigation.

3. What do FBI Rap Back checks look for?

Answer: An FBI Rap Back check includes a list of public federal misdemeanor and felony convictions. The check may include basic information about the charge, conviction, and resulting incarcerations.

4. How far back does an FBI Rap Back check go?

Answer: The FBI provides the entire Criminal History Record for the individual. There is no time limitation.

5. What happens if something comes up on my Rap Back?

Answer: The personnel security office with cognizance over your eligibility for access to classified information will process the information in accordance with established processes and procedures.

6. How will I know if I need to be refingerprinted?

Answer: Individuals required to be refingerprinted will be contacted by their Cognizant Personnel Security Office or other security official, who will then provide them with instructions on how to begin the process and the timeframe by which they have to complete enrollment and refingerprinting.

7. What happens if I refuse to get refingerprinted?

Answer: Your cooperation if/when contacted to provide updated fingerprints is imperative in the determination of your continued eligibility for access to classified information in accordance with Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 710, Procedures for Determining Eligibility for Access to Classified Matter or Special Nuclear Material, section 6. You may elect not to cooperate; however, such refusal may prevent DOE from reaching an affirmative finding required for continuing your access authorization. In this event, any access authorization then in effect may be administratively terminated.

8. Where do I go to be refingerprinted?

Answer: You will be directed to your local authorized USAccess enrollment station.

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9. When will I be enrolled in Rap Back?

Answer: In accordance with the Executive Correspondence dated January 15, 2021, from the Director of National Intelligence in their role as the Security Executive Agent and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management in their role as the Suitability and Credentialing Executive Agent, the Department anticipates having their entire cleared population enrolled in Rap Back no later than September 30, 2022.

If you have further questions regarding the department's enrollment in the Rap Back System send to: OfficeofDepartmentalPersonnelSecurity@hq.doe.gov