



LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION NETWORK Query Criteria and Record Entering Practices

This correspondence is being distributed to authorized Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) user agencies to communicate alternatives to traditional LEIN query and record entering practices, in light of the Michigan Secretary of State's (SOS) revised policy for changing the sex-indicator on SOS-issued identification. Please refer to the [November 18, 2019, press release](#).

LEIN Queries

LEIN's basic name query criteria requires name, race, sex, and date of birth (DOB). Records (hits) are returned based on a combination of these fields, whereby names are converted using a soundex algorithm and the DOB is used to generate a date range. Race and sex are used to further filter hits, matching on the exact value (male or female) used in the query criteria, in addition to a value of "Unknown." The values for the sex field are M (Male), F (Female), and U (Unknown).

For example, a LEIN query for a male will only return records where the subject has a sex value of M or U. A LEIN query for a female will only return records where the subject has a sex value of F or U. A LEIN query for an "unknown" sex will return records where the subject has a sex value of M, F, or U.

In light of the revised SOS sex-indicator policy, agencies may find it useful to submit LEIN queries using a sex value of U to ensure all possible records are returned. Based on the LEIN query criteria, however, agencies should be aware that the number of records returned in response to a query by unknown sex will be significantly higher and should ensure responses are reviewed thoroughly.

Entering Records into LEIN

The SOS policy revision may result in more discrepancies between existing records obtained through LEIN and current SOS records and identification provided. In order for LEIN to be an effective tool, all available data shall be entered into LEIN to increase the possibility of a LEIN hit and to aid in correct identification (i.e. pack the record).

When an agency encounters conflicting information as it relates to an individual's sex, records entered into LEIN shall be entered using a sex value of U. This will prevent missed responses due to the sex value discrepancy and will ensure the record is returned, regardless of the sex value used in a LEIN query. Agencies must maintain documentation verifying the discrepancy for audit purposes.

For example, a warrant entered into LEIN in 2018 for John Doe, DOB: 1/15/1971, indicates a sex value of male. Criminal history records also indicate John Doe is a male. John Doe has now updated his sex-indicator on his SOS-issued driver's license from male to female. A new warrant is issued for John Doe indicating a sex of female. A subsequent SOS query of John Doe indicates a sex of female. Criminal history records still indicate John Doe is a male. The new warrant should be entered into LEIN using a sex value of U. As a result, regardless of the sex used in a LEIN query on John Doe, DOB: 1/15/1971, the warrant will be returned.

Questions regarding this functionality should be directed to the LEIN Field Services Unit at 517-241-0667, or by email at MSPLEINFSS@michigan.gov.