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NOHA CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS/ APPENDIX I VULNERABLE SECTOR SEARCH

*A **Personal Criminal Record Check** is an official verification of any criminal charges which have been brought against an individual.*

*A **Vulnerable Sector Check/Verification** is used to determine the possible existence of a criminal record and/or a sexual offence conviction for which an individual has received a pardon.*

Remember that criminal records checks are only one component of the ten step process!

Criminal Records Checks:

There are limitations to Criminal Records Checks

- They are only good up to the checking day; a recent conviction may not show.
- There are lags in sending records from one country to another.
- The individual may be using an alias, so only fingerprint checks will ensure they are "clear."
- Relying solely on Criminal Record Checks is dangerous—a false sense of security may be created. Unfortunately, many abusers and sex offenders have never been convicted of a crime.
- The individual may have obtained a "pardon" and, therefore is no longer on the list.
- The information may not be available because the conviction occurred while the individual was protected by the Young Offenders' Act.

Vulnerable Persons Checks/Verifications

- New automatic query of flagged pardoned sex offender records based on the gender and date of birth of the applicant.
- Fingerprints are now required to complete a Vulnerable Sector Verification when the gender and date of birth of an applicant matches a pardoned sex offender record.
- Ensures that individuals, who have obtained a legal name change, are properly screened for pardoned sex offender records.
- Vulnerable Sector Verifications are treated as priority requests when fingerprints are submitted to the RCMP

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