



Why Real Time County Courthouse Searches Are Necessary

When performing a comprehensive background screening, it is imperative to perform the best available search possible. This includes the Instant “National” Search. This instant “national” search is an important component of a comprehensive screening process, but it should only be used as a supplemental search as part of a total screening process. Below are examples of why real time county records pulled from county courthouses are necessary.

An applicant in Houston, Texas, was screened using both an instant “national” Search, a real time state of Texas Department of Public Safety search, and a real time county record search in Harris County, Texas. This search was performed by Affordable Searches on May 22, 2007. On the real Time Harris County search, this applicant was found to have a Felony charge of Injury to a child under the age of 15, in which she received Deferred Adjudication on May 16, 2007. There was no mention of this charge using the online “national” database search or the Texas Department of Public Safety search, even though the Texas Department of Public Safety and Harris County records were searched on the “national search.”

An applicant in Maryland was screened using both an instant “national” search and a real time county courthouse search in Howard County Maryland. The instant ‘national’ search came back with no record on this applicant, while the real time courthouse search came back with two Misdemeanor Assault charges, one in April of 2004, and one that is still pending. This was not picked up by the instant “National” search due to the incompleteness of the data in the search.

An applicant coming from Richardson County Nebraska was checked by using an instant “national” search. No criminal records were found. In performing a real-time county search in Richardson County Nebraska, two felony burglary charges, and five misdemeanor charges were found. The charges dated back to 2001, and this applicant spent time in jail for the felony charge, and was given probation for the misdemeanor charge.

An applicant in Johnson County Kansas was checked using by an instant “national” search and no records were found. In performing a real-time county search in Johnson County Kansas, a misdemeanor theft charge was found. The charge was for theft under \$500, filed in February of 2004.

An applicant in Montgomery County Texas, was found to have an open warrant for her arrest for Misdemeanor theft \$500-\$1500. This Regular Warrant was issued on 09/07/2007 checking real-time county records in Montgomery County Texas. This was not picked up on the instant ‘national’ search.

An applicant in Brazos County Texas was screened by Affordable Searches on February 7, 2008, the very same day a State Felony Theft of Property Charge \$1,500-\$20,000 was filed against the applicant. This charge would not have been reported in any instant “national” database. The only place this filing would have been Reported were the real time county courthouse records from Brazos County Texas that was checked.

An applicant was checked by Affordable Searches on February 19, 2008, using both an instant “national” search and a real time county courthouse record search in Baltimore County Maryland. The instant search showed no record found, while the real time county courthouse search revealed on open disposition for a misdemeanor-theft/scheme slated for trial in March 2008. The file date on this charge was 01/12/2008.

An applicant was checked by Affordable Searches on May 28, 2008 using both an instant on-line “national” database search and real time records in Harris County, Texas. The instant “national” database check pulled up a record on this applicant of Larceny (Free Text). When real time records from Harris County, Texas were pulled, two additional convictions were found- one being a Misdemeanor charge of Theft by Check, while the other charge was an Aggravated Assault On A Peace Officer where the penalty was reported as 4 years in the Texas Department of Corrections.