





**Mississippi**  
**Board of Examiners for**  
**Social Workers and Marriage & Family Therapists**  
**Jackson, MS 39296-4508**  
**Post Office Box 4508**  
**601-987-6806/Fax: 601-987-6808**  
**[www.swmft.ms.gov](http://www.swmft.ms.gov)**

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR FINGERPRINT CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECK

The Mississippi Statute 73-53-11 requires a **fingerprint based criminal history record information check and a sex offender registry check** for each applicant for licensure. The checks must be obtained from the appropriate governmental authority or authorities and must be received by the Board within one-hundred eighty (180) day of the completed application. The appropriate governmental authority is the Mississippi Department of Public Safety, Criminal Information Center (CIC) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

The fingerprint criminal history and sex offender registry checks apply to an applicant seeking licensure or reinstatement as a Licensed Social Worker (LSW), Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW), Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW), Licensed Marriage Family Therapist Associate (LMFTA) and Licensed Marriage Family Therapist (LMFT).

**Beginning January 1, 2011, the Board of Examiners requires that applicants complete a “Request for Fingerprint Card Form” that is located on the Board’s website at [www.swmft.ms.gov](http://www.swmft.ms.gov) and emailed or mailed to the Board’s Office if you are a new applicant. The Board will charge a processing fee of \$50.00 to process background checks. The fee is payable online to the Mississippi Board of Examiners for SW/MFT. You will be able to email the request to [info@swmft.ms.gov](mailto:info@swmft.ms.gov) and log into the licensee or applicant portal to pay this fee online.**

After receiving the applicant’s request and payment, the Board will mail you a traditional fingerprint card. Please follow the following instructions for completing the cards:

- ☞ Applicants must have picture identification (driver’s license). Applicants should have their fingerprints rolled by a local Law Enforcement Agency, such as a local police department or sheriff’s department. Be prepared to pay a fee for having the fingerprint card executed as some law enforcement agencies charge a fee. The fingerprints must be taken by an appropriately trained law enforcement official. The fingerprint card must be signed by a law enforcement official in the appropriate block.
- ☞ Additional fingerprint cards are available from the Board’s office upon request. The Board’s contact information is available at the top of this letter.
- ☞ Fingerprint cards must be completely filled out. Required information includes: full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, sex, height, weight, hair color, eye color, place of birth (state or country only), citizenship, and reason fingerprinted. Reason fingerprinted should be pre-filled with the following statement: “Applicant for SW or MFT Licensure, Miss. Ann. 73-53-11”.
- ☞ The fully completed card should be mailed to: Mississippi Board of Examiners for SW/MFT, P.O. Box 4508, Jackson, MS 39296-4508. Please do not allow the fingerprints to smudge.
- ☞ The Board will process your completed fingerprint card. Your fingerprint images will be forwarded to the FBI for identification through the national system. It may take up to two (2) weeks for your criminal

history record information check to be completed. The completed criminal history and sex offender registry checks must be received by the Board office before an individual's application will be considered for licensure.

- ☞ Please note that if your fingerprint card is rejected, you will be notified in writing and processing of your application will be delayed.

## **PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT**

**Authority:** The FBI's acquisition, preservation, and exchange of fingerprints and associated information is generally authorized under 28 U.S.C. 534. Depending on the nature of your application, supplemental authorities include Federal statutes, State statutes pursuant to Pub. L. 92-544, Presidential Executive Orders, and federal regulations. Providing your fingerprints and associated information is voluntary; however, failure to do so may affect completion or approval of your application.

**Principal Purpose:** Certain determinations, such as employment, licensing, and security clearances, may be predicated on fingerprint-based background checks. Your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics may be provided to the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency, and/or the FBI for the purpose of comparing your fingerprints to other fingerprints in the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) system or its successor systems (including civil, criminal, and latent fingerprint repositories) or other available records of the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency. The FBI may retain your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics in NGI after the completion of this application and, while retained, your fingerprints may continue to be compared against other fingerprints submitted to or retained by NGI.

**Routine Uses:** During the processing of this application and for as long thereafter as your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics are retained in NGI, your information may be disclosed pursuant to your consent, and may be disclosed without your consent as permitted by the Privacy Act of 1974 and all applicable Routine Uses as may be published at any time in the Federal Register, including the Routine Uses for the NGI system and the FBI's Blanket Routine Uses. Routine uses include, but are not limited to, disclosures to: employing, governmental or authorized non-governmental agencies responsible for employment, contracting, licensing, security clearances, and other suitability determinations; local, state, tribal, or federal law enforcement agencies; criminal justice agencies; and agencies responsible for national security or public safety.

### **Applicant Notification and Record Challenge**

Your fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI. You have the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information contained in the FBI identification record. The procedure for obtaining a change, correction, or updating an FBI identification record are set forth in Title 28, CFR, 16.34. You can find additional information on the FBI website at <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/background-checks>

# Acceptable Fingerprint Card Example

Completed cards should be mailed to: MBOESWMFT, P.O. Box 4508, Jackson, MS 39296-4508.

APPLICANT <small>FOR THE EMPLOYER'S USE ONLY</small>		LEAVE BLANK		TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION IN BLACK		FBI		LEAVE BLANK	
SIGNATURE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED Jane E. Doe		LAST NAME: NAME Doe		FIRST NAME Jane		MIDDLE NAME Ella			
RESIDENCE OF PERSON FINGERPRINTED 425 Adams Court Lark, MS 38770		ALIASES AKA		U R I MS920476Z BD EXAM SOCIAL WORK JACKSON, MS		DATE OF BIRTH: DOB M/M/YY 01 02 2001			
DATE 1/5/14		SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL TAKING FINGERPRINTS Sharon Linsphay		CITIZENSHIP CTZ USA		SEX F		RACE Blk	
EMPLOYER AND ADDRESS 837 4th Street Merry, MS 38740		YOUR NO. OCA		HEIGHT 5' 2"		WEIGHT 123		EYES Brn	
PLACEMENT OF BIRTH Applicant of SW or MFT Licensure, Miss. Code Ann. Section 73-53-11		FBI NO. FBI		ARMED FORCES NO. MNU		HAIR Brn		PLACE OF BIRTH: POB Flowood, MS	
						LEAVE BLANK			

