

**FBI POLYGRAPH**

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[REDACTED]  
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**APPLICANTS**

**POLYGRAPH**

**AN ESSENTIAL INVESTIGATIVE TOOL**

JULY 2001

**HISTORY**

**PROGRAM INITIATED 1978**

M

[REDACTED]

# **FBI APPLICANT SCREENING PROGRAM**

## **BACKGROUND**

IN MARCH OF 1994 THE DIRECTOR OF THE FBI IMPLEMENTED THE FBI'S APPLICANT SCREENING PROGRAM. SINCE THAT TIME APPROXIMATELY 27,500 APPLICANT SCREENING EXAMINATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED. FBI EXAMINERS RECEIVE THEIR BASIC TRAINING AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLYGRAPH INSTITUTE (DODPI) AND ARE SUBSEQUENTLY REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS AS WELL AS FBI SPONSORED SEMINARS, IN-SERVICES AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING SESSIONS.

## **TEST ADMINISTRATION**

FBI APPLICANT SCREENING EXAMINATIONS ARE ADMINISTERED PRIOR TO ANY BACKGROUND

INVESTIGATION. UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION, THE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION IS INITIATED. THE FBI'S APPLICANT SCREENING EXAMINATION CONSISTS OF TWO PHASES, THE FIRST ADDRESSES THE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ISSUES, THE SECOND ADDRESSES INVOLVEMENT WITH ILLEGAL DRUGS AND THE ACCURACY OF THE APPLICATION. PRIOR TO EVERY EXAMINATION ALL APPLICANTS MUST VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO UNDERGO TESTING AND ARE REQUIRED TO REVIEW AND SIGN A CONSENT FORM. THE TESTING FORMAT AND PROCEDURES ARE STANDARDIZED AND COMPLY WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICES WITHIN THE FEDERAL POLYGRAPH COMMUNITY. FBI EXAMINERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO QUESTION OR DISCUSS MATTERS RELATED TO ALTERNATE LIFE STYLES, GENDER, RACE OR SEX UNLESS VOLUNTEERED BY THE APPLICANT OR SPECIFICALLY AT ISSUE IN CONNECTION WITH SUITABILITY FOR EMPLOYMENT.

#### ADJUDICATION

EVERY APPLICANT SCREENING EXAMINATION IS REVIEWED WITHIN THE FBI POLYGRAPH UNIT FOR PROPER TEST PROCEDURES, DOCUMENTATION, CHART ANALYSIS, AND FINAL OPINION AS TO PASS, FAIL OR INCONCLUSIVE. NO RESULTS ARE FINAL UNTIL THE REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED. IF THE RESULTS ARE INCONCLUSIVE, A RETEST WILL BE REQUESTED. ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS ARE FORWARDED TO THE FBI HEADQUARTERS BUREAU APPLICANT EMPLOYMENT UNIT (BAEU) FOR FINAL ADJUDICATION, APPLICANT DISPOSITION AND NOTIFICATION. UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

AND ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, BAEU MAY GRANT AN APPEAL TO AN APPLICANT AND DIRECT THAT FURTHER TESTING BE CONDUCTED.

## STATISTICS

THE BELOW TABLE REPRESENTS APPLICANT SCREENING STATISTICS FROM MARCH OF 1994 THRU JUNE OF 2001:

PASS	20,136	74%
FAIL	5,824	21%
INCONCLUSIVE	1,440	5%
TOTAL EXAMS	27,240	

OF THE 5,824 APPLICANTS DETERMINED TO HAVE FAILED THEIR EXAMINATION, 3,995 OR 69% PROVIDED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DURING THE POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN CONCERNING THEIR APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT. OF THOSE THAT FAILED, 2330 OR 40% PROVIDED INFORMATION THE NATURE OF WHICH WAS SUCH THAT THEY WERE NOT CONSIDERED SUITABLE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING FOR FBI EMPLOYMENT.

# **FBI HEADQUARTERS QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

- EXAMINER SELECTION**
- BASIC TRAINING**
- INTERNSHIP**
- CERTIFICATION**
- CONTINUING EDUCATION**
- QUALITY CONTROL**
- FBI EXAMINER'S MANUAL OF OPERATIONS**
- DIRECT OVERSIGHT OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

**FBI POLYGRAPH PROGRAM OUTSIDE**

## **INITIATIVES**

- NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POLYGRAPH COURSE
- INTERVIEW AND INTERROGATION TRAINING
- SPONSOR FEDERAL INTERAGENCY CONFERENCE
- OVERSEAS POLYGRAPH SCREENING/DRUG INITIATIVES
- IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR FBI AGENTS
- MEMBER OF THE DODPI SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE
- MEMBER OF DODPI SECURITY COMMITTEE
- ASSISTANCE TO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES THAT DO NOT HAVE POLYGRAPH PROGRAMS

## **UTILIZING POLYGRAPH RESULTS**

- INFORMATION FORWARDED TO SECURITY PROGRAMS UNIT FOR EVALUATION OF CLEARANCE

## PROCESSING IN PERSONNEL SECURITY MATTERS

-INFORMATION FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU  
APPLICANT EMPLOYMENT UNIT FOR DETERMINING  
APPLICANT SUITABILITY FOR EMPLOYMENT

-RESULTS PROVIDED TO FIELD AGENTS FOR  
DIRECTION AND GUIDANCE IN INVESTIGATIONS

-RESULTS ARE PRIVILEGED INFORMATION WITH  
LIMITED DISSEMINATION

## POLYGRAPH TECHNOLOGY

-CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF  
COMPUTERIZED POLYGRAPH TESTING

-UPGRADING LAPTOP AND PRINTER TECHNOLOGY

-UPGRADING ANALOGUE POLYGRAPH COMPONENTS