



# NIBIN Enforcement Support System NESS & NESS+ RMS



*ATF's Premiere Investigative Tool for NIBIN and Crime Gun Intelligence*

## WHAT IS NESS?

ATF's NIBIN Enforcement Support System is a web-based investigative tool that overlays NIBIN data with local law enforcement shooting and gun recovery information on one platform.

NIBIN data is automatically ingested nightly, providing near real-time information on interrelated violent firearm crime to investigators and intelligence specialists in the field. NESS facilitates information sharing and collaboration between ATF and law enforcement partners.

## Benefits of NESS

External NESS Users can access their Agency's data:

**NIBIN Data** – Automated import of NIBIN acquisitions and links (hit and/or leads) daily.

**eTrace** – Populated FTS ID and calculated days between purchase (or stolen) date and first NIBIN incident.

**RMS Data** – Add and view events, people, and locations associated with a shooting or gun recovery.

**Alerts** – Customizable for all new/updated NIBIN leads.

**Search** – NIBIN cases and firearms.

## NESS+ RMS

Automates the transmission of case report data from an LE Agency's RMS to the NESS application, linking shooting and firearm recovery incidents while eliminating manual entry.

### *Project Requirements*



There is no cost to your agency, but it requires an experienced IT POC/DBA from your agency to be assigned. The NESS team is not involved in associated costs for RMS vendor development, if preferred.

- ▶ NOTE: Top 100 LE Agencies contributing to NIBIN are prioritized. Please reach out to your local ATF POC for more information.



# NIBIN Enforcement Support System

Connecting the Shots | Filling in the Dots



## NESS MOU Process for State & Local Partner Agencies

Any state or local law enforcement agency that contributes to NIBIN may gain access to ATF's NESS application through ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). With access to NESS, state/local users will have quick and easy access to near real-time NIBIN information related to their agency. In addition, users will be able to see/enter their own Record Management System (RMS) information to supplement the NIBIN data. The system provides a comprehensive and organized collection of crime gun investigative data to assist investigators/analysts with identifying leads and supporting crime gun investigations.

NESS MOU Process:



### Access Request

ATF Field Division must submit a [State/Local Law Enforcement Access Request Form](#) for an agency.

- The form can **ONLY** be submitted by the ATF Field Division.
- There are three options on the access request: Access, NESS+ RMS, or Both.
  - **Access:** Agency access to the NESS application.
  - **NESS+ RMS:** Request for consideration to set up automated RMS data ingestion process for the agency's RMS data.
  - **Both:** Access to the NESS application & participation in NESS+ RMS.
- The form must be signed by an **ATF Group Supervisor** prior to submitting to NESS.

### Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

A NESS Team POC will review the access request and return a *Fillable MOU* and *Checklist* which outlines the process. The ATF POC who requested access should work with the agency and Field Division to have the MOU signed.

- The MOU must be signed by the agency's **Chief Law Enforcement Officer** and the **ATF Field Division SAC**.
  - **Two (2) agency POC's must be assigned** and named on the MOU. These representatives will be given Application Administrator access for their agency and are responsible for managing their agency's user accounts in NESS, as well as signing off on new users' access request forms and rules of behavior.
- Once the signed MOU is received, the NESS Team will review and forward to the Chief of FOD for ratification.

### NESS Access Granted

Once the FOD Chief has ratified the MOU, the NESS Team POC will send the ratified MOU along with the forms required for new users to access NESS: the [User Account Form \(UAF\)](#) AND [Rules of Behavior Form \(ROB\)](#).

- The ATF POC should provide a copy of the ratified MOU to the agency.
- The UAF and ROB must be completed by the agency App Admins and returned to the NESS Team before any other user accounts can be created. Additional agency accounts can be requested afterwards.
- All new users will receive an email, from [noreply@okta-gov.com](mailto:noreply@okta-gov.com), with a link to set up their password.

**NESS Training:** New users can register for an array of online training classes using the link below. Customized and in-person training can be requested through the NESS Team POC.

[Click the links below for more on NESS:](#)

[NESS Resources](#)

ATF Personnel Only

[Contact NESS](#)

[NESS Training](#)



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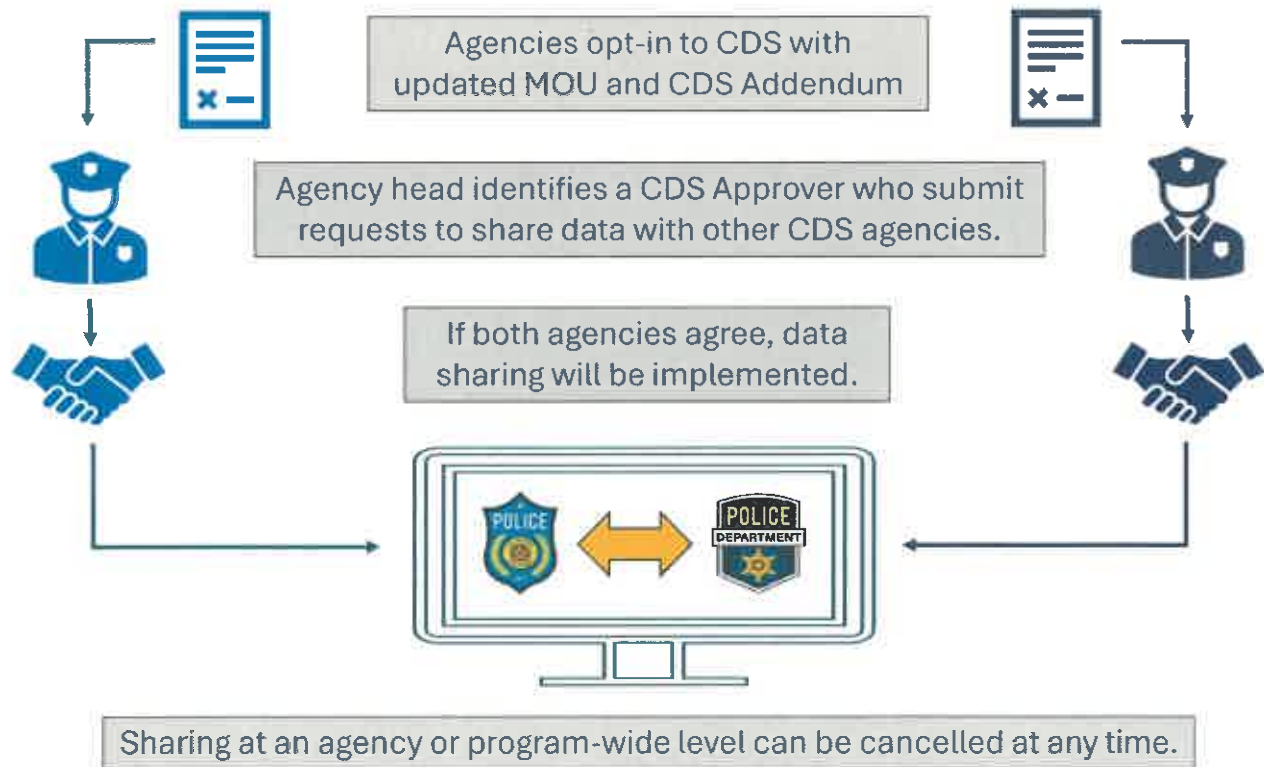


## NESS Collective Data Sharing

### What is Collective Data Sharing in NESS (CDS)?

Collective Data Sharing is a feature within ATF's NESS application that allows law enforcement (LE) agencies to participate in reciprocal data sharing. Shared data includes all NIBIN data, entered case information (people, locations, narratives) linked to their shooting or firearm recovery incidents, and Linked Crime Guns.

### How does my agency participate in data sharing?



### Benefits of Collective Data Sharing

This feature significantly enhances the ability of law enforcement agencies to fight violent firearms crimes by broadening access to potential leads in criminal investigations. Shared data includes available report case information (People, Locations, and Narratives/Summaries – see screenshot below), Linked Crime Guns, and NIBIN case information.

RMS Data	LE Case #	LE Agency	Exhibit Category	Crime Type	Event Date/Time	Location	Involved People	LE Partner	Linked Crime Gun(s)
[Entered]	2019-0002500	IL-SAMPLE PD	Test Fire	Weapons Violation	04/23/2024 00:00 (CT)	820 Madison Ave. Madison, IL 62060	Athena Lemus (M) Taylor Brewster (S-K)	John Smith	
[Entered]	24-1085000	MO-AGENCY CO PD	Casing	Assault	03/24/2024 00:00 (CT)	212 S Grand Blvd. Saint Louis MO 63103	Aleksander Luna (W)	Juliet Doese	7830-04-01131 7830-24-01133
[Entered]	24-6134000	MO-AGENCY CO PD	Casing	Weapons Violation	02/21/2024 00:00 (CT)	6622 Chippewa St. Saint Louis MO 63109	Jayson Klonders (OP) Samantha Fooks (RAS) Taylor Brewster (PAS)		

For further information, contact your local ATF POC, or [NESS\\_Support@atf.gov](mailto:NESS_Support@atf.gov)



## Collective Data Sharing

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### ➤ **What is Collective Data Sharing (CDS)?**

Collective Data Sharing is a feature within ATF's NESS application that will allow state/local Law Enforcement (LE) Agencies to participate in reciprocal data sharing. Each LE Agency will manage their own data sharing agreements. CDS will be available nationwide (i.e., reciprocal agreements are not restricted to the state in which the LE Agency is geographically located). Shared data includes:

- *NIBIN Data*
- *eTrace Data* – Trace ID and calculated Time to First Shooting
- *Linked Crime Guns* – Other NIBIN firearms (crime guns) at the same scene
- *People* – Suspects, Witnesses, Victims, etc.
- *Locations* – Incident address and locations associated to People
- *Narratives/summaries* of events linked to shootings/firearm recoveries

#### ➤ **How does an Agency participate in CDS?**

For new agencies requesting access, ATF POC will submit the NESS Access Request Form to start the MOU process. The ATF POC will be provided the updated MOU and CDS Addendum for the agency to complete. The head of agency must complete the CDS Addendum electing an Approver. Once both forms are filled out in their entirety, send to [NESS\\_Support@atf.gov](mailto:NESS_Support@atf.gov) for ratification. Next steps will be provided in ratification email.

#### ➤ **What if an agency already has a ratified MOU on file?**

To participate in CDS, the agency is required to sign the newest version of the MOU and CDS Addendum. They cannot only submit the CDS Addendum.

#### ➤ **With whom can an agency share data?**

Each agency has the ability to share with **any** other law enforcement agency in the country (i.e., there is no restriction for the other agency to be in your state). This is an individual agency-to-agency agreement.

#### ➤ **Can an agency opt into CDS at a later date?**

Yes, as long as the agency has the newest version of the MOU on file with the NESS Team.

#### ➤ **Can an agency opt out of data sharing?**

Yes. They can opt out of sharing data with individual agencies in NESS (Reference CDS Approver Guide). To remove themselves from the 'Available Agency' list in NESS, refer them to [NESS\\_Support@atf.gov](mailto:NESS_Support@atf.gov)

#### ➤ **Can ATF Field Division personnel manage CDS on behalf of an agency?**

No, that is the sole responsibility of the agency's CDS Approver.



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➤ ***Can I download a list of all agencies with whom Random PD is sharing from NESS?***

No, any such requests will need to be submitted to [NESS\\_Support@atf.gov](mailto:NESS_Support@atf.gov)

➤ ***Can I restrict visibility of specific cases/info from CDS?***

No, the first version of CDS is all or nothing.

➤ ***If an agency fully opts out of CDS, are they able to opt back in again?***

Yes. If it will be the same Approver listed on the CDS Addendum, no updated documentation is needed. If head of agency elects a different Approver, they will need to complete the CDS Approver Change Request Form. To note, if they opt out and opt back in, none of their shared agencies will be saved and they will be starting over. Reach out to [NESS\\_Support@atf.gov](mailto:NESS_Support@atf.gov) for the necessary forms.