



## **Massachusetts Becomes First State to Fully Implement Iris Biometric Technology *BI2 Technologies System Continues to Expand Across the Nation***

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Two years ago, a sheriff in a small county in Massachusetts had a vision to use emerging biometric technology to help identify missing children and adults. It is only fitting then that Massachusetts recently became the first state in the nation to fund Iris Recognition Biometric Technology for each Sheriff's Office in the Commonwealth.

In May 2005, Hampshire County Massachusetts Sheriff Robert Garvey helped launch the Children's Identification and Location Database (The CHILD Project(TM)). His office was the first to become part of a secure nationwide network and registry that enables law enforcement and social service agencies to positively identify missing children and adults through biometric technology. Based on his success, the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association was able to secure state funding, which allowed them to obtain the systems for each of the Commonwealth's fourteen sheriffs.

Developed by Plymouth, Massachusetts based BI2 Technologies, the easy-to-use systems were implemented across the Commonwealth in less than one month. In less than two years, Sheriff Garvey's initial idea has already expanded into 25 states and has grown into a national system that can also track inmates and sex offenders through the use of iris biometric recognition technology .

BI2 Technologies uses a specialized video camera to capture a detailed close-up of a person's iris and then system's biometric software makes a template or 'map' of each iris pattern, for storage in the registry. To verify identity later, an individual simply looks back into an iris camera, and the system compares the patterns in the individual's iris against the templates stored in the system. If there's a match, the identity is verified within seconds.

"A single click of the camera could help make the difference between a missing child or senior citizen winding up in harms way or making it home safely," said Sheriff Garvey. "We have been working with our community partners in the schools and at the Councils on Aging to enroll as many people as possible into The CHILD Project(TM) and its companion system, Senior Safety Net(TM)."

Since The CHILD Project(TM) was first launched in 2005, over 70% of the nation's sheriffs have asked to participate. Galveston County Texas Sheriff Gean Leonard purchased his system in late 2006. "As Sheriff, the safety and well being of our children and seniors in the communities of Galveston County is of my utmost concern and responsibility. By implementing The CHILD Project(TM) and Senior Safety Net(TM) Iris Recognition System, I firmly believe that we have added a necessary and important tool to help protect our kids and seniors in the event they become missing. As such, I

would strongly recommend this innovative technology to all public safety and law enforcement agencies across the nation."

Other sheriffs across the nation were quick to recognize the benefits of Iris Recognition Technology and expanded its use beyond identifying missing children and adults. Sheriff Jim Pendergraph of Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, North Carolina led the charge. Working with the Sheriff's Office, BI2 Technologies expanded their technology to develop a system that tracks inmates from intake through release and another that can positively identify convicted sex offenders anywhere in the nation in a matter of seconds.

The Inmate Recognition & Identification System (I.R.I.S.(TM)) eliminates the possibility of human error from the release process by requiring iris recognition, giving sheriffs the confidence that only those inmates scheduled for release will be released.

The Sex Offender Registry and Identification System (SORIS(TM)) is a secure, web-based national system that registers and positively identifies Convicted Sex Offenders using the most mathematically unique biometric - the iris. According to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), there are almost three convicted sex offenders living in our communities on probation or parole for every convicted sex offender in jail or prison. The DOJ also reports that, on average, released child molesters were four times more likely to be rearrested for a sex crime than non-sex offenders.

"I believe today, agencies across the country need to avail themselves of the newest, most effective technologies in our efforts to serve the community," said Sheriff Pendergraph. "To this end, the Mecklenburg county Sheriff's Office recently implemented the use of I.R.I.S.(TM) and SORIS(TM) in our operations. Our intent is to use this highly advanced technology across multiple areas of the agency - from inmate intake and release to verification of sex offender identity."

Like his fellow sheriffs across the nation, Sheriff Pendergraph has embraced the use of new technology as envisioned by Sheriff Garvey two years ago. "With the added benefit of using the same technology to perform community functions such as registering senior citizens and children for identification in the event they become missing, I believe we have added another layer of service to the agency and the community at large," said Sheriff Pendergraph.

BI2 Technologies ([www.bi2technologies.com](http://www.bi2technologies.com)) is a privately held Massachusetts corporation that develops, sells, designs, implements, integrates and supports biometric technologies. The Company is located in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Sean G. Mullin, President and CEO of BI2 Technologies said, "We were honored to be selected for the first statewide implementation of iris biometric technology in the nation. I am very pleased and proud that we were able to install and implement our statewide solutions on-time and on-budget. I believe with the leadership and vision of Sheriffs across the nation, such as Sheriffs Pendergraph, Garvey and Leonard, more states will follow over the next several years."

BI2 Technologies' offers iris recognition biometric technologies and services that are commercially viable, available, installed, and successfully used by numerous Sheriffs' Offices and other law enforcement and educational agencies across the nation.

BI2 Technologies' wholly owned subsidiary, The Child Project, LLC ([www.thechildproject.org](http://www.thechildproject.org)) develops, sells, designs, implements, integrates and supports a specific iris recognition-based biometric technology to locate and identify missing children and adults.