



IBIA Urges Ridesharing Companies to Implement Fingerprint-based Background Checks, Issues White Paper

WASHINGTON, DC / ACCESSWIRE / June 14, 2016 / In a new white paper, the International Biometrics + Identity Association (IBIA) explains the reasons why only background checks that include FBI and state fingerprint holdings, in addition to other biographic searches, will ensure that Uber and Lyft have the information they need to adequately assess candidates for employment. By choosing to ignore the information held in these databases, Uber and Lyft are not fulfilling their responsibility to minimize public safety risks.

IBIA's white paper provides data on the proven accuracy of fingerprint-based background checks; the quick turnaround times to process requests; the accessibility of the fingerprint collection service locations in the USA, and the ability to perform continuous vetting thanks to the FBI's new Rap Back service.

"There are significant risks in relying solely on a biographic background check," says Tovah LaDier, IBIA's Managing Director, explaining that, "Biographic searches are vulnerable to data entry errors and attempts to use false or misleading biographic information to thwart detection."

"Uber has created a business revolution based upon the use of technology," said Tovah LaDier, who notes, "It is ironic Uber would prefer an antiquated and vulnerable process by relying solely on name-based background checks of its applicants."

In the absence of a fingerprint-based background check, drivers with criminal arrest records are able to provide false biographic information to disguise their identity and background, thereby exposing the public to an avoidable level of risk. The popularity of a new business model for ride hiring does not justify exemption from statutes and regulations that exist to protect the safety and security of the traveling public.

Uber and Lyft's stance is in sharp contrast to the widespread and growing use of fingerprint-based background checks. These checks are now required for employment in a wide variety of professions that involve the safety and security of the public, access to sensitive information, unescorted access to restricted areas, or unmonitored access to vulnerable populations.

Fingerprint background checks are required for employment in a long list of occupations including taxi drivers, airport workers, teachers, real estate professionals, mortgage brokers, security guards, day care workers, home health aides, nurses, government employees, and even most school volunteers.

Despite numerous government mandates at local, state, and national levels to include Uber and Lyft drivers among this list, the companies have strongly fought such regulation, and have pulled out of cities that have instituted such public safety measures, exposing their customers to avoidable risk.

Download IBIA's new white paper at www.ibia.org/resources/white-papers.

About IBIA:

IBIA advances the adoption and responsible use of technology-based identification solutions for managing human identity to enhance security, privacy, productivity, and convenience for individuals, organizations, and governments. To

effectively carry out its mission, IBIA focuses on three core activities: Advocacy, Connections, and Education. For more, please visit www.ibia.org.

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SOURCE: International Biometrics + Identity Association