

THE BIOMETRICS IDENTITY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (BIMA) & DOD BIOMETRICS

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The Biometrics Identity Management Agency (BIMA) is a premier United States Department of Defense organization dedicated to protecting the nation through the employment of biometric capabilities. The BIMA Leads DoD activities to program, integrate, and synchronize biometric technologies and capabilities and to operate and maintain the DoD's authoritative biometric database to support the National Security Strategy. Forensics, like access (physical or logical), transaction logging and surveillance, is a capability area of biometrics. Unlike the other applications, however, this one deals specifically with identification sciences, and involves the discovery and analysis of biometric signatures "left behind" from unseen individuals to determine their identity and association with a particular object or other individual, and helps attribute them to an event. BIMA activities objectively serve to facilitate the widest possible support to all who use and benefit from biometric capabilities in support of U.S. national security objectives.

Consistent with this year's objectives, BIMA hopes to present information using the International Symposium on Human Identification to: facilitate an introduction and understanding of DoD Biometrics and its role in forensic identification; present advances made in defense biometrics in recent years; reveal how BIMA cooperative technical exchanges and diplomacy enhance biometrics in military operations and intelligence, and concurrently support national and international criminal investigation and the administration of justice; highlight current challenges in the employment and expansion of defense biometric capabilities; and invite the international forensics and biometrics community to exchange information and ideas and work with us to develop solutions for meeting common global security concerns in the future.

The BIMA takes an active role, along with our partners in the DoD forensics communities of interest, in contributing to the determination of how we designate, disperse and manage our continually expanding capabilities in forensic science – particularly biometrics – in addition to continuing in its role as a service provider for biometric data storage, matching and sharing.