

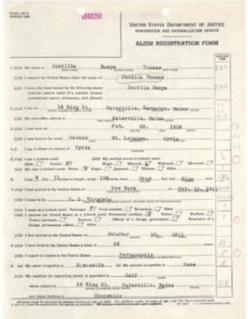
National Archives 2025 Genealogy Series

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Join us in May and June for our annual series on family history research!



2025 Genealogy Series

Welcome!

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is pleased to present this educational series of lectures on how to conduct family research.

NARA's mission is to preserve and provide access to the records of the government of the United States of America. We are thrilled to share our records that relate to family history and to make those records available to you through the Genealogy Series.



About the Sessions

Our presentations will demonstrate how to use federal resources at the National Archives and Records Administration for genealogical research.

National Archives experts are presenting from our locations across the United States. Sessions are intended for beginners to experienced family historians—all are welcome!



Join the Conversation

Participate with the presenters and other family historians during a session's premiere

Live Chat on YouTube: Log in and type your questions and comments

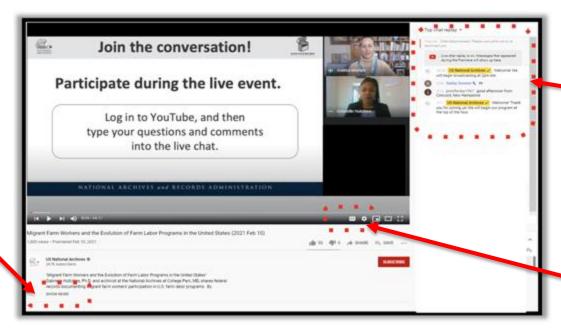
Follow @USNatArchives on X and join the Genealogy Series conversation using #GenealogySeries2025



Instructions

Show More

- slides
- handout
- evaluation



Chat

- log in
- participate
- ask questions

Closed Captions

Videos and presentation materials remain available after the premiere date.



Schedule

Tuesday, May 13, 1 p.m. ET

- Welcome and Introductions
- Revealing Ties to Espionage in the Office of Strategic Services Records
 Presenter: Molly Kamph

Wednesday, May 21, 1 p.m. ET

• From the Territory of Montana to the Republic of Vietnam; Researching Native American Veterans in the National Archives, 1881–1966

Presenters: Cody White, Kayla Dawkins, Rose Buchanan, and Leo Belleville

Tuesday, June 3, 1 p.m. ET

Washington, DC, Law and Order: Cops and Robbers, 1861–1991

Presenter: M Marie Maxwell



Schedule

Wednesday, June 11, 1 p.m. ET

• Disaster Preparedness and Response for Family Collections

Presenters: Sara Holmes and Sara Leonowitz

Tuesday, June 17, 1 p.m. ET

- Researching Immigrant Ancestors: Alien Registration (AR-2) Forms
 Presenters: Elizabeth Burnes and John LeGloahec
- Closing Remarks



Session Overview

Washington, DC, Law and Order: Cops and Robbers, 1861–1991

Discover how troublemakers—and those who pursue them—can leave a record behind them. This presentation will highlight what may be found in the Metropolitan Police's Personnel Case Files and the Index to Criminal Cases (Record Group 351) and Dockets (Record Group 21). Other DC police and criminal records, including basic strategies for locating FBI records, will be briefly addressed.



Presenter Biography



M Marie Maxwell

M Marie Maxwell served as a processing archives specialist at the National Archives in Washington, DC. For nearly 20 years, she processed and worked with several District of Columbia-focused record groups. She is currently serving as an archivist in the Special Access and FOIA Program at the National Archives at College Park, MD.



Washington, DC, Law and Order: Cops and Robbers, 1861–1991

M Marie Maxwell
Archivist, National Archives at College Park



Overview

- Criminal justice system: police, suspects/criminals, and others
- District of Columbia
 - Washington City/Old City/Georgetown
 - Washington County
- Record Group 21, Records of District Courts of the United States
- Record Group 351, Records of the Government of the District of Columbia
- Other resources
 - Record Group 65, Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
 - Record Group 60, General Records of the Department of Justice (DOJ)



Record Group 21

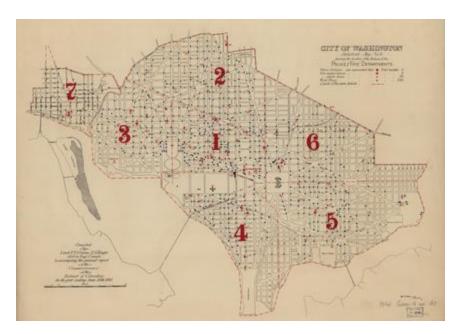
Records of District Courts of the United States

Records of U.S. District and Other Courts in the District of Columbia, 1801– Present

- Records of the Washington County Term of the U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Columbia (USCCDC)
- Records of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (USDCDC, 1801–63)
- Records of the U.S. Criminal Court for the District of Columbia
- Records of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia (SCDC, 1863–1936) and its successor, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (USDCDC, 1936– Present)



Record Group 351



Map No.9: Police and Fire Departments, 1880. Source: Library of Congress.

Records of the Government of the District of Columbia

- Administrative History
- General Records, 1838–1978
 - Records of the Office of the Mayor
 - Records of the "Territorial Government"
 - Records of the Temporary and Permanent Boards of Commissioners
 - Records of the Office of the Corporation Counsel
 - o Records of the Office of the Aging
 - Records of the City Council
- Records Relating to Construction, Engineering, Land, and Transportation, 1791–1968
- Records of the Metropolitan Police, 1851–1970
- Records Relating to Charitable and Reformatory Institutions, 1845–1965
- Records of the City of Georgetown, DC, 1791–1897
- Records of the County of Washington, DC, 1819–1900



DC Cops

1870 Census, Washington, Ward 4

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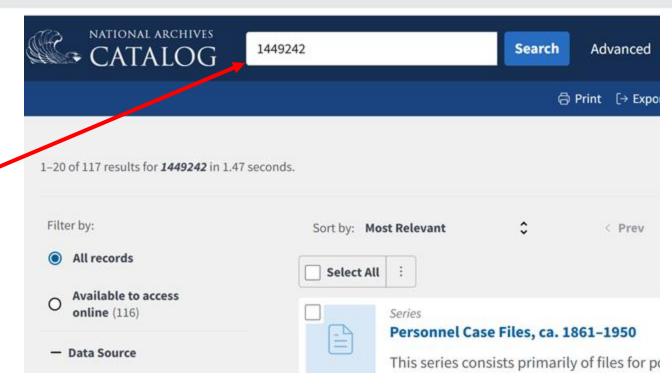


DC Cops

Record Group 351, entry PI-186 119, **Personnel Case Files, ca. 1861–1950**, National Archives

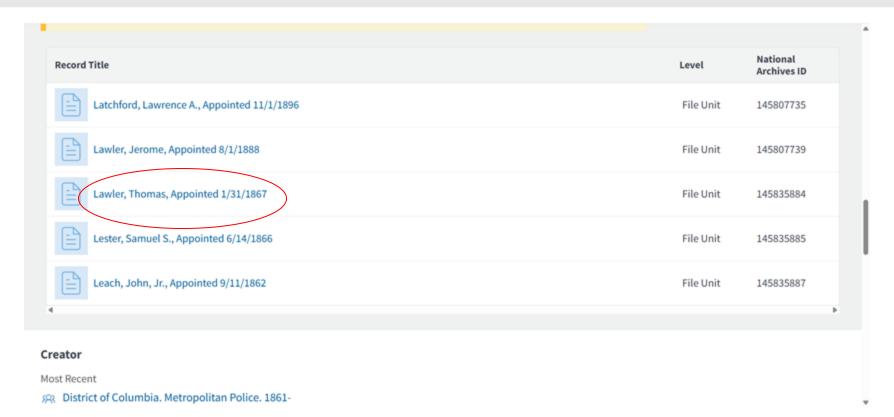
Identifier: 1449242.

Questions?
Contact:
Archives1reference@nara.gov.





Personnel Case Files: Thomas Lawler



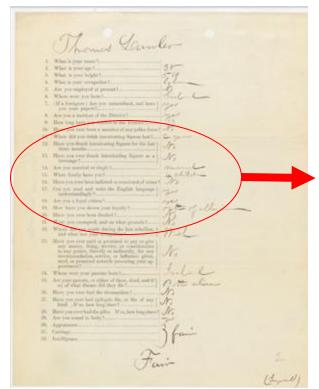
NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



Letters of Recommendation

The hinghow, elecewhere 19th, 1846. The luarer Thomas Lauter was formerly employed in the Washinglow hany Jaid, and was always prompt and gaithful in the dichange of his duties. He is a very worthy man-peliable in all kespects - and I oliverfully preommence him to





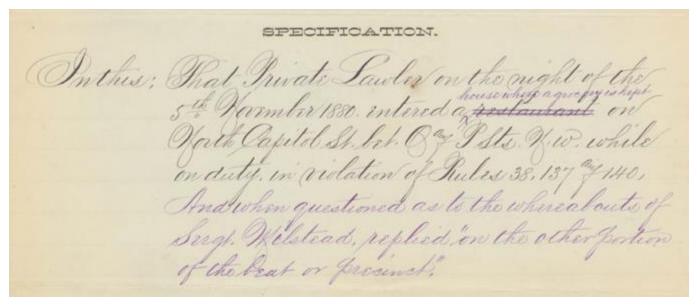
Application

| | | Ty - |
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| 10. | Have you ever been a member of any police force? | No |
| 11. | When did you drink intoxicating liquors last? | 2 years |
| 12. | Have you drank intoxicating liquors for the last three months | No. |
| 13. | Have you ever drank intoxicating liquors as a beverage? | No. |
| 14. | Are you married or single ? | mand |
| 15. | What family have you? | 4 childr |
| 16. | Have you ever been indicted or convicted of crime? | No |
| 17. | Can you read and write the English language understandingly? | Jus . |
| 18. | Are you a loyal citizen? | ne. |
| 19. | Are you a loyal citizen? | ogth of alliging |
| 20. | Have you ever been drafted? | No |
| 21. | Were you exempted, and on what grounds? | No |
| 22. | Where did you reside during the late rebellion, and what was your occupation? | Wast |



Disciplinary Actions

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Not in the File

CONDITION OF THE INJURED POLICEMEN. -Officer Henson Brown, who was so severely injured by colored rowdies on Friday night last, at Galbreth chapel, on L street, between Fourth and Fifth, is in a fair way of recovery, Dr. Eliott, his attending physician, pronouncing him out of danger unless fever or relapse should occur. It will be some weeks, however, before he will be able to attend to the duties of his office.

Officer Thomas Lawler, who was assaulted at the same time, has so far recovered as to be able to go about the house, and in a few days is expected to appear on the force.

Officer T. M. Sullivan, who was accidentally shot on Sunday morning last at the fire of Wheeler's junk-shop, still remains at

to call. For futher particulars see catalogue. Sale positive, rain or shine. Newton, rece. guilty: Frank Sudden Death of Officer Lawler. Aldridge, ple Officer Thomas Lawler, of the Sixth Precinct Station, was attacked with the chills at that Cartter and J station about 10 o'clock Saturday night, and, Best; judgm growing very ill, he was removed to his home, Justice Jame 1618 Fourth street northwest, where he died bia; judgmes in about half an hour. Dr. Elliott was called ed and leav in when the officer was first taken ill, but all Williams vs. medical aid was without avail. Mr. Lawler former decre was an efficient officer and a gental gentleman, ciation vs. I and his loss will be deeply regretted. Kondrup rev Major Brock issued an order to-day calling amount due attention to Officer Lawler's death, and, as a Denmark, to mark of respect, directing an escort of thirty by Justice Co men, under Lieutenant Greer, to accompany of ejectment the remains to the place of interment. was the inter estate in com Willing to Wed. complainant John Shughrue and Kate Prendeville. claimed in th John Vosser, of New York city, and Kate E. common. Burke, of this city. James H. Hill and Cora Z. Martin. art vs. Smit Eandolph G. Ward, of Richmond County, May ve. Smlt er. Va., and Belle M. Brown, of this city. ve. Gibbs; at Oysters That is Oysters Davis; testir received to-day. Some of the finest of the

The Evening Critic, November 13, 1882, p. 3.

The National Republican, November 8, 1869, p.4.

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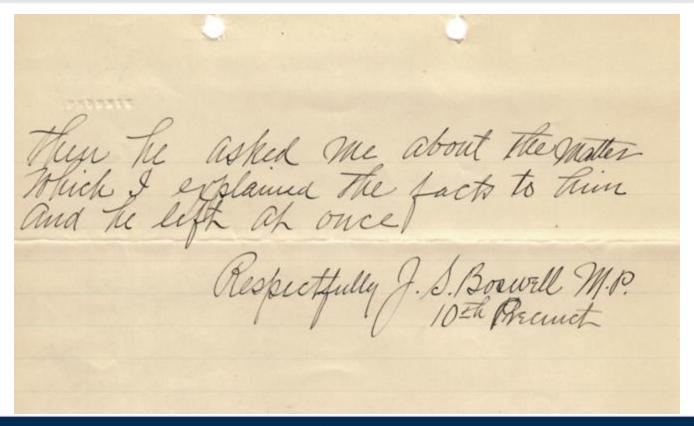
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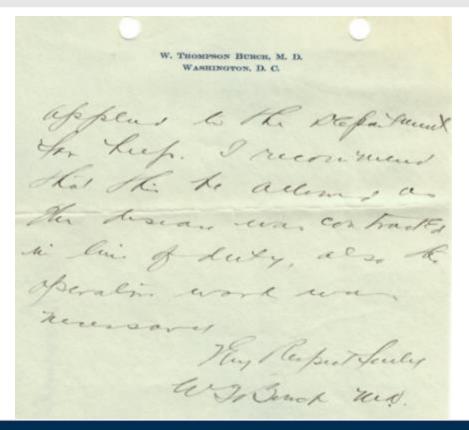
Timeline

```
BOSWELL, JAMES S.
July 1, 1895. Appointed.
May 1, 1904. Promoted to Class 2.
Apr. 25, 1905. Carl E. Mueller complains his conduct.
               No action.
July 1, 1906. Promoted to Class 3.
Cct. 9, 1907. Carl Mueller and Stephenson Bros. complain
               his conduct. Transferred to another best.
June 8, 1908. W. J. Hea complains of the time of serving
               warrant against his son. No action.
June 29, 1912. Retired at $50 per month.
July 9, 1912. Died.
```











SIMEON L. CARSON, M. D. WARHINGTON, D. C. mm. Hattie Brownll was under way for function months of solich time she was confined to Ind suffering from diseased value of the heart cough cated by asthma Ed swellow legs with release. at the time all appeared before the Brand aucg. 7-11/2 she was in a critical condition her former timble having from aggrerated by the worry & excitement accompanying the



Lawrence A. Latchford

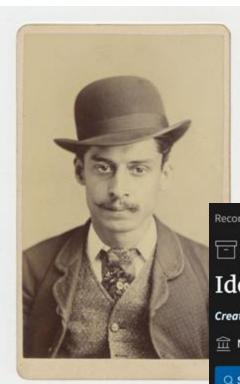
| Ordered: |
|--|
| That the sum of \$12.50 per month each is |
| hereby allowed from the police fund to Estelle Latch- |
| ford and May Frances Latchford, children of the late |
| Ex-Private Lawrence A. Latchford, of the police force, |
| until they are respectively 16 years of age; allow- June 9th, |
| ance to take effect Marx 2 1902. |
| Official copy furnished Major Police |
| By order: |



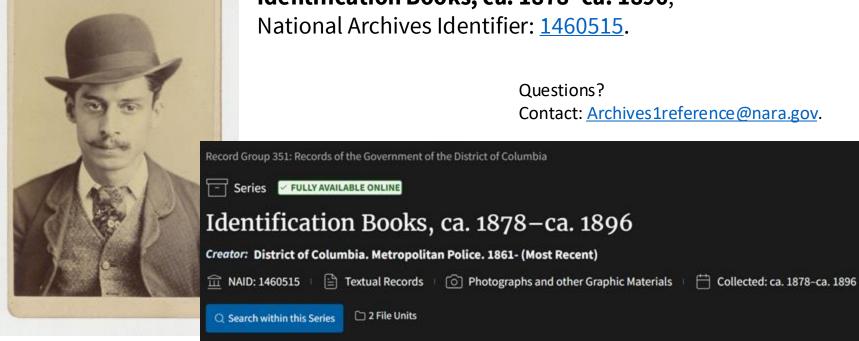
Other Record Group 351 MPD Records

- Service Records, 1861–1930 (National Archives Identifier: <u>1448857</u>)
- Register of Appointments, 1861–1930 (National Archives Identifier: <u>1448200</u>)
- Investigations of Crime Law Enforcement and Police Personnel Files, 1941–1954 (National Archives Identifier: <u>16526903</u>)
- Metropolitan Police Department Matters Transcripts, December 17, 1948 June 21, 1962 (National Archives Identifier: <u>12527915</u>)
- Rollcall Book, February 17, 1873–December 1895 (National Archives Identifier: <u>1450322</u>)
- Roll Call Books, January 1896–April 1932 (National Archives Identifier: <u>7594494</u>)
- Registers of Oaths of Office, 1862–1878 (National Archives Identifier: <u>1450184</u>)
- Lists of Appointments, ca. 1871–1880 (National Archives Identifier: 1432913)



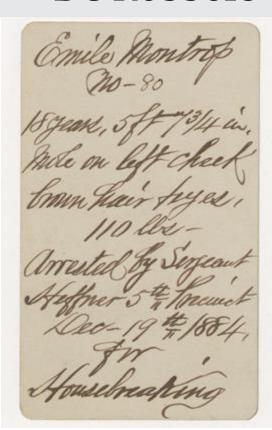


Record Group 351, entry PI-186 138, Identification Books, ca. 1878-ca. 1896,





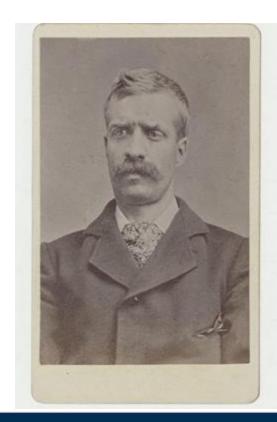


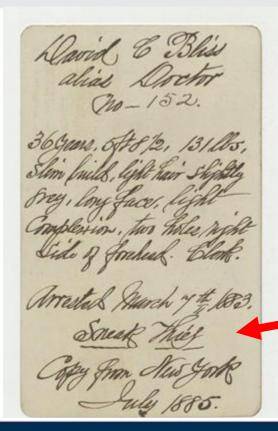


Emile Montross, 18 years old. National Archives Identifier: 76040836.







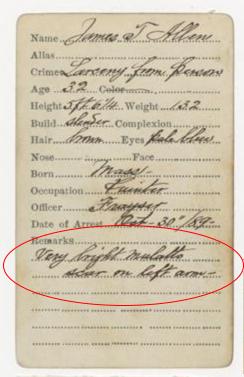


David C. Bliss, alias "Doctor," copy from New York. National Archives Identifier: 76040128.

Sneak Thief







James T. Allen, larceny from persons, eyes - pale blue. National Archives Identifier: 75447895.

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Record Group 21, entry A1 77-A,

Index to Criminal Cases and Dockets, ca. 1938-ca. 1991,

National Archives Identifier: 300251.



Index to Criminal Cases and Dockets, ca. 1938–ca. 1991

Creator: U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. (1936 -) (Most Recent)

🟛 NAID: 300251 🕕 🖹 Textual Records 🕕 🛗 Collected: ca. 1938-ca. 1991

Questions?

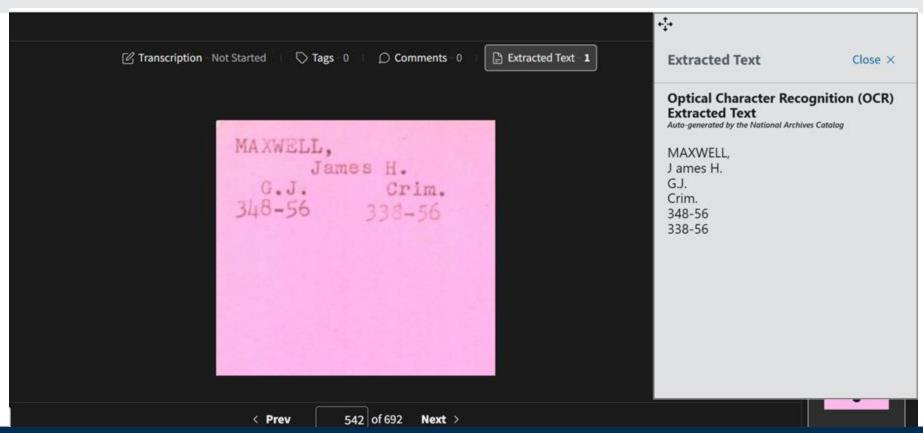
Contact: Archives1reference@nara.gov.



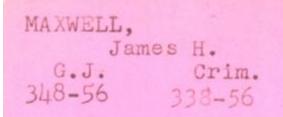


File Unit - **Martina - Mayf**, National Archives Identifier: 241387074.









G.J. = Grand Jury

Grand Jury Dockets, November 15, 1924–1971, National Archives Identifier: 561966.

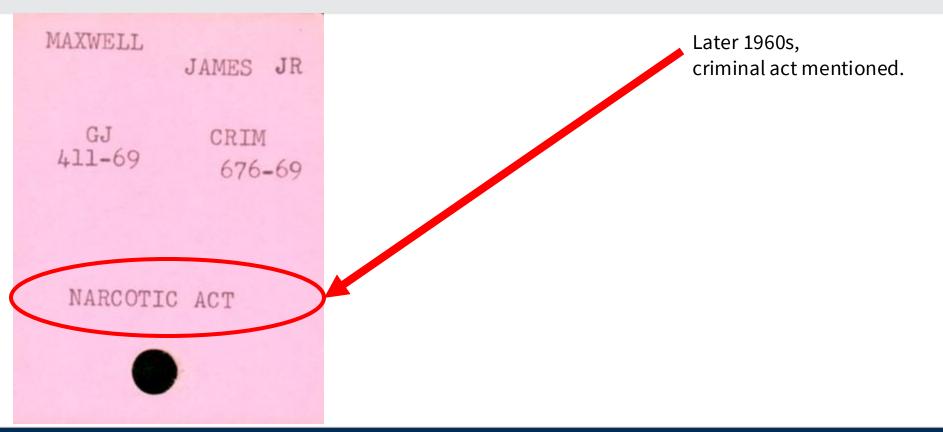
Grand Jury Case Files, 1924–1946, National Archives Identifier: 7582877.

Crim. = Criminal Court

Criminal Docket Books, April 6, 1863–March 1980, National Archives Identifier: 559862.

Criminal Case Files, 1863–1992, National Archives Identifier: 559640.







Court Records

Explore:

https://www.archives.gov/research/courtrecords.

National Archives Court Records

Court Records at the National Archives cover more than 200 years of court proceedings at the federal level. The earliest court records in our holdings date to approximately 1790. It is estimated that there are more than 2.2 billion textual pages of court materials in the National Archives. As the court retires materials annually, this number continues to grow.

Court materials are created by:

· District Courts

· Court of Appeals

· Circuit Courts

- · Supreme Court
- · Select Territorial courts, prior to statehood

The types of records are primarily case files. Categories of case files include:

· civil

· equity

- · law
- · admiralty · criminal
 - · bankruptcy cases (all files in Kansas City)

In addition to case files, other type of records are:

- dockets
- · execution books
- indexes
- · order books
- · minutes
- · rule books
- · administrative files · final record books



Court Records

Finding Federal Court Records Held by the National Archives

For more detailed information about court records held by the National Archives, consult the National Archives Catalog.

Holdings from the federal court system are stored at National Archives locations around the country. For instance, records of the New Hampshire federal courts are currently located at the National Archives at Boston in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Locating Records of federal circuit and district courts and select territorial courts

All bankruptcy case files are at the National Archives at Kansas City.

Circuit Court Records from New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are at the National Archives at Philadelphia.

To determine where naturalization records can be found please visit our Naturalization Records page.

| State | Point of Contact |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Alabama | National Archives at Atlanta |
| Alaska | National Archives at Seattle |
| Arizona | National Archives at Riverside |
| Arkansas | National Archives at Kansas City |
| California (Northern) | National Archives at San Francisco |
| California (Southern) | National Archives at Riverside |
| Colorado | National Archives at Denver |
| Connecticut | National Archives at Boston |
| Delaware | National Archives at Philadelphia |
| District of Columbia | National Archives at Washington, DC |



Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Record Group 60, Department of Justice (DOJ)

General Name Index Files, 1930–1984 (National Archives Identifier: 23062753)

Contact <u>Archives2reference@nara.gov</u>

Record Group 65, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

Contact FBI directly

https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/freedom-of-information-privacy-act/requesting-fbi-records



DOJ Example

144-16-95 [Frank Ray, Melvin Clements; Loran Lovan Taylor, Roland L. Gay - Victims]

Victim states arrived in Washington, D. C. from Baltimore, Maryland in afternoon of 7/13/52. States was drunk upon arrival and knows nothing of what transpired until he woke in Gallinger Hospital 7/14/52. Denies possession of knife. Subjects TAYLOR and PATRICK declined to be interviewed upon advice of counsel. All known

National Archives Identifier: 311010469



DOJ Example

144-16-95 [Frank Ray, Melvin Clements; Loran Lovan Taylor, Roland L. Gay - Victims]

TOWNSTILINGS OF STREET WOLLANDS I

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN R. TISRNSY.

OFFICER DEWEY HOBSON TAYLOR, JR.

A check of the records of the Identification Division of the FBI disclosed that said records contained no arrest record for Officer TAYLOR. The only fingerprints on file in the Identification Division for TAYLOR are applicant type fingerprint cards.

A check of the criminal and traffic arrest records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., disclosed that they contained no record of Officer TAILOR.

A review of Officer TAYLOR's personnel file as maintained by the Metropolitan Police Department reflects that he was appointed as a Class I Frivate in the Metropolitan Police Department, at a salary of \$3,409.71 per annum, on January 16, 1952. Upon completion of training school, he was transferred to Number 2 Precinct on March 24, 1952. His personnel file reflects that he had served in the United States Army under Army Serial Number 13-145-085. A certification in his file from the Department of Army reflects that TAYLOR enlisted in the Army on November 4, 1942, and was discharged honorably on August 21, 1943. At the time of enlisting, he indicated his birthdate as March 31, 1923. However, he was actually born on March 31, 1926, and was honorably discharged upon request of his mother, because he was under age. No disciplinary action or letters of commendation were contained in Officer TAYLOR's file. The following is his description as contained in his personnel file.

Color: White;
Sex: Male;
Age: 26 years;
Born: March 31, 1926,
Washington, D. C.;



FBI Contact

FBI

Attn: FOIPA Request

200 Constitution Drive

Winchester, VA 22602

foipaquestions@fbi.gov

eFOIPA portal

https://efoia.fbi.gov/#home



FBI

In an effort to provide you with responsive records as expeditiously as possible, we are releasing documents from previous requests regarding your subject. We consider your request fulfilled. Since we relied on previous results, additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail to Initial Processing Operations Unit; Record/Information Dissemination Section; Information Management Division; Federal Bureau of Investigation; 200 Constitution Drive; Winchester, VA 22602. You may also email your response to foipaquestions@fbi.gov. Please include the FOIPA Request Number listed above in your correspondence.

Please be advised that additional records responsive to your subject exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you must advise us that you want the additional records processed. Please submit your response within thirty (30) days to Initial Processing Operations Unit; Record/Information Dissemination Section; Information Management Division; Federal Bureau of Investigation; 200 Constitution Drive; Winchester, VA 22602. You may also email your response to foipaquestions@fbi.gov. Please include the FOIPA Request Number listed above in your correspondence. If we do not receive your decision within thirty (30) days of the date of this notification, your request will be closed.



FBI

One or more of the enclosed records were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Although we retained a version of the records previously processed pursuant to the FOIA, the original records are no longer in our possession.

If this release of the previously processed material does not satisfy your request, you may file a FOIPA request with NARA at the following address:

National Archives and Records Administration Special Access and FOIA 8601 Adelphi Road, Room 5500 College Park, MD 20740-6001



Records potentially responsive to your request were transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and they were not previously processed pursuant to the FOIA. You may file a request with NARA using the address above. Please reference file number 100-HQ-55627 in your correspondence.

National Archives Contacts

Record Group 21 and Record Group 351

 National Archives in Washington, DC: <u>Archives1reference@nara.gov</u>

Record Group 60

- National Archives at College Park, MD: <u>Archives2reference@nara.gov</u>
- With a DOJ and FBI case file number:
 Specialaccess_foia@nara.gov





Thank You!



After the Broadcast

Email questions to inquire@nara.gov

Video recordings of lectures and downloadable handouts will remain online at

www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2025



Feedback

We value your opinion.

Please take a minute to complete a short evaluation. Your comments help us maintain the quality of our services and plan future programs.

Thank you!

Event Evaluation:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYREventEval



Thank You Genealogy Series Team!

Huge thanks go to:

- the presenters,
- the AV team,
- the Communications and Marketing Division,
- employees throughout Research Services, and
- everyone else who contributed to the success of this program.

We could not produce the Genealogy Series without your support!





Educational resources on how to access and conduct research using U.S. federal government records at the National Archives and Records Administration.

www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records



Questions and Answers in Chat

Please stay if you have questions.

Although this concludes the video portion of the broadcast, we will continue to take your questions in **chat** for another 10 minutes.