



U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Clarksburg, WV 26306
April 20, 2009

Mr. William Bratton
Chief of Police
Los Angeles Police Department
150 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chief Bratton:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has established a Facial Identification Scientific Working Group (FISWG) to address the classification and individualization of human beings through the photographic comparison of their visible physical attributes, such as face, ear, skin texture, and hair. The FISWG is seeking participation from individuals and agencies who are involved in forensic facial comparison or who are responsible for examining the output of automated facial recognition systems.

I would like to extend an invitation to a member of your staff, Mr. Jim Hoerricks, to participate in the next FISWG meeting, scheduled to take place June 15-19, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Richard Vorder Bruegge, Supervisory Photographic Technologist in the FBI's Forensic Audio Video Image Analysis Unit, has been in contact with Mr. Hoerricks regarding FISWG, and they have had several discussions concerning forensic facial identification and facial recognition systems.

As you may know, the FISWG was created to provide leadership to the law enforcement community by developing standards, guidelines, and best practices for the discipline of image-based comparisons of human features, primarily face, as well as to provide recommendations for research, development, and activities necessary to advance the state of science in this field.

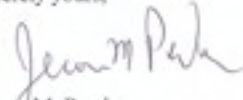
The main objectives of the working group are to:

- coordinate interaction of members of the relevant community for facial identification to maximize collective resources;
- document the scientific basis for facial identification;
- standardize the practices for facial identification, including standard operating procedures and training to competency;
- promote the findings of the FISWG to members of the pertinent operational communities, including criminal justice, intelligence, and identity management; and,
- maintain currency of the above and respond to emerging challenges, such as technology advancement and legal requirements.

Mr. William Bratton

To achieve the main objectives, effort and coordination from the relevant facial identification community will be required, and I hope Mr. Hoerricks will be able to join us for this upcoming meeting. Details on the location have been previously provided. If Mr. Hoerricks is willing to participate, please contact Ms. Wanda Collins at (304) 625-2594 or online at <wcollin4@leo.gov>, to indicate his acceptance, and we will make the necessary arrangements. Reimbursement for Mr. Hoerrick's travel to and from the meeting, as well as meals and lodging, will be provided. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Jerome M. Pender
Acting Assistant Director
Criminal Justice Information
Services Division