Key Concepts of Chapter 9:

Introduction

- Prints are recorded for a number of reasons
  - To establish identification of person in custody
    - Checked for fingerprint match within database for names or alias “rap sheet”
    - No match results in creation of a new “rap sheet” for future reference
  - Fingerprints also recorded for non-criminal purposes
    - Applying for job clearances, background investigations, and identify missing and unidentified persons
- Manual fingerprint files kept since early 1900’s in U.S.
- Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems (AFIS)
  - Implemented in late 1970’s and 1980’s
  - Key to success of AFIS was ability to convert established manual fingerprint files to automated records
- AFIS
  - Millions of existing inked fingerprint files were converted to computerized files
  - Prints became immediately available to solve crimes and identify individuals
  - Quality of inked exemplar card determines ability to compare and identify evidence prints found at crime scenes with known exemplar cards
  - Garbage in, garbage out
  - Poorly recorded fingerprint card may result in:
    - Identity failure
    - Limit computer’s ability to find match
- Many agencies record finger and palm prints of arrestees
- Some agencies only palm print felons or those suspected of certain crimes such as burglary
- 30-40% of latent prints found at crime scenes are palm prints
- New, automated fingerprint identification systems are able to search finger and palm prints
  - Palm print evidence important
- Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
  - Established standard for recording good quality fingerprints
  - Largest depository of fingerprints in U.S.
  - Processes ~7,000 new fingerprint cards a day
  - Considered the authority on fingerprint identification

REFERENCE