



NCSI BACKGROUND SCREEN – DETAILS

The USTA has been working with the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) since 2010. Since that time, NCSI has been performing background screens on behalf of the USTA for USTA Certified Officials, Player Development contractors, massage therapists, athletic trainers, various other USTA contractors, and Junior Team Tennis volunteers (since 2013). Overall NCSI has performed over 35,000 background screens for the USTA alone. In addition to the USTA, NCSI’s client base spans thousands of organizations, from other national governing bodies as well as the United States Olympic Committee to local grassroots leagues and teams.

Regarding website security, NCSI’s business is performing background screens; therefore, maintaining a secure and encrypted website to do so is their priority. In order to keep an applicant’s information secure, NCSI uses an Extended Validation (EV) Secure Socket Layer (SSL) certificate which is the most advanced technology available for encryption provided by VeriSign, an industry leader and well known provider of encryption and data transmission protection technologies for many years. Any place personal or sensitive information is collected, an SSL connection is used (details and the certificate can be found on NCSI’s website by clicking the “VeriSign Secured” logo). Personal identity information, after being transmitted over the SSL connection, is kept in a secure database with key identity fields being stored as encrypted text. To further ensure security, NCSI performs perimeter scans by multiple providers to guard against any changing external security threats.

An applicant must input their social security number in order for NCSI to perform a Social Security Number (SSN) Trace. NCSI uses the SSN Trace to identify names and locations strongly associated with a SSN for purposes of ensuring a thorough investigation is conducted. NCSI also uses the Trace to confirm the applicant’s date of birth. The SSN Trace does not contain credit scores or information regarding the individual’s financial history. The information on the SSN Trace is used as an evaluating tool and if there is inaccurate, incomplete or additional information present, a form of identification such as a driver’s license, birth certificate, or passport may be required to verify an applicant’s information. NCSI respects an applicant’s personal privacy and only requests information that is reasonable and related to the issue being verified.