

The entire Background Screening Credentialing Council (BSCC) is pleased to present the revised version of the Accreditation Standard for the Background Screening Agency Accreditation Program (BSAAP) with its supporting clauses and the revised Audit Criteria. Pursuant to the resolution passed by the NAPBS Board of Directors, the BSCC opened a comment period regarding the Standard for Accreditation, the clauses that make up that Standard, and the process for determining which Consumer Reporting Agencies met the accreditation criteria. Upon receipt of the comments from the membership, the BSCC set up a formal subcommittee to review each of the comments, consider each the question or comment, make appropriate alterations to the clause and the process and provide comment as warranted.

Overall, the comments were positive and provided a different outlook on the program. Some of the comments were extremely helpful providing for a lively debate resulting in positive changes to the clause, the standard, and the program. In other cases, the comments were non-specific and presented an opinion without supporting arguments or comments on a specific item and were therefore difficult to directly address. In every case, the BSCC made an extraordinary effort to address each of the comments received.

The review process was an arduous task consuming hundreds of hours of work by the members of the Council and the subcommittee. In addition, the BSCC retained two Attorneys to review the program and the standard. In the near future, the BSCC will be presenting the program and the standard to the Federal Trade Commission to seek their approval of the criteria and the process for Accreditation.

You will find two documents which are now being presented in response to the comments received. The first document is philosophical and general in nature with responses to those comments received which did not address a particular clause of the standard but were more directed to the program or accreditation process as a whole. The second document, which is an excel spreadsheet, lists each of the clauses of the standard with the accompanying audit criteria, specific comments relating to the identified clause, and the BSCC response.

It is our sincere hope that the membership understands that the upcoming ratification of this standard and the program is not the end of the process. Pursuant to the policies and procedures of the Council, the standard will undergo an annual review and it is anticipated that it will change from time to time as the industry changes. We encourage input into the process and the program and hope that the Membership embraces the program by casting a "yes" vote in the upcoming polling which will take place 30 days from now.

Best Regards,

Bruce Berger  
Chairman - BSCC