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Matthew Elkins



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Dear Mr Elkins,

Thank you for your letter of 16 October 2018, in which you ask if the United States immigration authorities have access to the UK Police National Computer (PNC).

I can confirm that US immigration authorities – US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) – do not have direct access to the PNC.

The ACRO Criminal Records Office does, however, proactively share information about registered child sex offenders with all 5Eyes partners (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the US) under Operation Angel Watch.

US authorities may receive criminal history information about British citizens in response to legitimate requests made on a case-by-case basis to UK law enforcement authorities including ACRO, the National Crime Agency and individual police forces.

Some information may also be disclosed by individuals themselves including, as you say, through the provision of a Criminal Records Certificate obtained from ACRO.

Yours sincerely

International Criminality Unit

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