



## **New Jersey Bonner AmeriCorps Program Member Self-Certification**

On March 25, 2015, the FBI began informing FBI Channelers that they would not be permitted to submit FBI fingerprint check requests through the Departmental Order (DO) process for CNCS grant recipients.

CNCS issued guidance that stated, in part, that any grant recipient or sub-recipient (“recipients”) that was using an FBI Channeler to obtain Departmental Orders (DO) FBI checks for individuals in covered positions as of March 25, 2015, is temporarily exempt from the requirement to obtain the FBI check for individuals who begin work or service on or after March 25, 2015.

While the exemption is in place, affected grantees are required to have each individual in a covered position who begins work or starts service on or after March 25, 2015, self-certify that they have not been convicted of murder and maintain the documentation in the files. This model Self-Certification Statement is provided for that purpose and use of this form is sufficient to meet the self-certification requirement.

On April 21, 2009, the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act was signed into law. The Act expanded the requirements of the National Service Criminal History Check and specified that an individual convicted of murder is ineligible to serve in a covered position. Additionally, individuals convicted of murder or arson are not permitted to serve with the New Jersey State Commission programs.

The definition of murder is as follows:

“Murder is the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought. Every murder perpetuated by poison, lying in wait, or any other kind of willful, deliberate, malicious, and premeditated killing; or committed in the perpetration of, or attempt to perpetrate, any arson, escape, murder, kidnapping, treason, espionage, sabotage, aggravated sexual abuse or sexual abuse, child abuse, burglary, or robbery; or perpetrated as part of a pattern or practice of assault or torture against a child or children; or perpetrated from a premeditated design unlawfully and maliciously to effect the death of any human being other than him who is killed, is murder in the first degree. Any other murder is murder in the second degree.” (18 U.S.C. § 1111)

The definition of arson is as follows:

“(a) Any person subject to this chapter who willfully and maliciously burns or sets on fire an inhabited dwelling, or any other structure, movable or immovable, wherein to the knowledge of the offender there is at the time a human being, is guilty of aggravated arson and shall be punished as a court-martial may direct. (b) Any person subject to this chapter who willfully and maliciously burns or sets fire to the property of another, except as provided in subsection (a), is guilty of simple arson and shall be punished as a court-martial may direct.” (10 U.S.C. § 926)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (print name) certify under penalty of perjury that I have not been convicted of murder and/or arson.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_