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PennDOT-Viisage Timeline

1994 – Pennsylvania begins first digital imaging program for driver’s licenses

June 2000 – PennDOT signs contract with Viisage Technology to create PA driver’s licenses

October 2001 – Viisage fails security provisions involving staff background checks

May 2006 – Supplement C was signed, specifically referring to REAL ID requirements.

July 2006 – Viisage begins biometric facial recognition template creation in FaceEXPLORER program

November 2006 – Burglars breach security at Wilkes-Barre Driver’s License Center

January 23, 2008 – Rep. Sam Rohrer* sends first letter of inquiry to Gov. Rendell regarding security and Viisage’s collection of biometrics; letter forwarded to PennDOT for response.

February 15, 2003 – Response from PennDOT

February 2008 – Viisage completes security/technology upgrade mandated by PennDOT after Wilkes-Barre security breach

March 6, 2008 – Rep. Rohrer* sends second letter of inquiry to PennDOT regarding further security and biometric issues

April 2, 2008 – Response from PennDOT

May 23, 2008 – Rep. Rohrer* sends third letter of inquiry to Gov. Rendell demanding cessation of biometric data collection by Viisage and PennDOT

June 2, 2008 – Response from Gov. Rendell stating that a more detailed response will be forthcoming

June 4, 2008 – Rep. Rohrer* sends fourth letter repeating earlier demand to cease biometric data collection

** Rep. Sam Rohrer joined by Reps. Babette Josephs, Gordon Denlinger, John Siptroth, and Thomas Yewcic*