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NSSIC-15-104



(U//FOUO) STOLEN BLANK BIRTH CERTIFICATES FROM PUERTO RICO

(U//FOUO) On September 16th, 2015, **3,900 Birth Certification Security Papers** were reported stolen from the Demographic Registry Office in Fajardo, PR.

(U//FOUO) The 3,900 blank birth certificates stolen contained the following sequential serial numbers y two series of batches:

- **6988901 to 6990400**
- **7079201 to 7081600**

(U//FOUO) Since March 16, 2015 the Demographic Registry no longer pre-prints the Health Secretary's and the Executive's Director signature on the papers. The signatures are now formatted and printed electronically at the moment of issuance. Therefore, making it more difficult for individuals to reproduce a genuinely issued vital record document.

(U//FOUO) **NSSIC's Note:** *This is the second time that birth certificates are stolen from the Demographic Registry office. On June 18th, 2014, 500 blank birth certificates were also reported stolen (D6103001 to D6103500) from the Gurabo office. The Demographic Registry office assure that these certificates are easily to detect by their sequential serial number located at the lower left-hand corner of the document.*



(U//FOUO) Many agencies and organizations request that citizens provide their birth certificates to receive a benefit for service, or to support the issuance of other documents often used for identity purposes (e.g. driver's license). Legitimate birth certificates provide vital information about the person whose name appears on the certificate including the name of mother and father and other details.

(U//FOUO) **NSSIC's Note:** *This document has been reported to be used frequently by immigrants to fake their U.S. Citizenship. Due to the fact that Puerto Rico is a Commonwealth of the U.S. and no passport is required, these documents may be sold to immigrants wanting to enter the U.S. and/or any individual who may want to commit fraud.*

(U//FOUO) *This presents a serious problem, because if a person is born in PR and relocates to the US at an early age, the only document that the individual has to identify themselves is a birth certificate and Social Security number (both without picture), by obtaining these birth certificates it may now facilitate the use of it to commit fraud. A John Doe could show up at a DMV with the a "valid" Birth Certificate (no PR Driver's license (DL) to confirm ID) and issue a new DL. In Puerto Rico one of the required documents to get a valid DL is the birth certificate and if workers at the Department of Transportation do not pay attention to this situation they could grant DL's to anyone without knowing the real identity of the person.*

(U//FOUO) For additional information or if you have any information related to this product, please contact the Puerto Rico Fusion Center (National Security State Information Center, NSSIC) at 787-793-1211 or nssic@policia.pr.gov