



# CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

## IMPROVING CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SHARING

THIRD EDITION NEWSLETTER

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The featured topic in this issue is **fusion centers** and the role of the CICC in supporting them.

## FUSION CENTERS

### STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL NETWORK



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Over the past year, our nation's threat environment has fundamentally evolved from one that primarily emanated from outside our borders to one that increasingly comes from within our community. This change has heightened the importance of the national network of fusion centers and the need to ensure that our state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) law enforcement are informed and aware of the threat.

To adapt to this evolving threat environment, it is imperative that the federal government partner with SLTT law enforcement and homeland security officials to detect and prevent terrorist and criminal activity. State and major urban area fusion centers (fusion centers) play a critical role in this partnership, as they are focal points within the

SLTT environment for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information.

Given the essential role that fusion centers play in the evolving threat environment, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano challenged the national network of fusion centers to reach an enhanced level of Critical Operational Capabilities (COCs) and privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections by the end of 2010. The COCs are national network priorities distilled from the *Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers* (2008), and strengthening the COCs will enable fusion centers to perform the fusion process.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is working closely with federal interagency partners and

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## CRITICAL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES

**Receive:** Ability to receive classified and unclassified information from federal partners.

**Analyze:** Ability to assess local implications of threat information through the use of a formal risk assessment process.

**Disseminate:** Ability to further disseminate threat information to other state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT), and private sector entities within their jurisdiction

**Gather:** Ability to gather locally generated information, aggregate it, analyze it, and share it with federal partners as appropriate.

members of the Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC) to support fusion centers to meet Secretary Napolitano's challenge. DHS leveraged the findings of the first national Baseline Capabilities Assessment of fusion centers to develop a comprehensive short-term COC Gap Mitigation Strategy to help fusion centers strengthen their COCs. As part of the Strategy, DHS and its interagency partners, including the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), developed COC policy templates, shared best-practice sample policies, hosted a COC gap mitigation workshop, and delivered a number of training courses designed to help fusion centers mitigate capability gaps identified during the assessment. Fusion centers and SLTT partners also played a crucial role in supporting each other to strengthen their COCs by sharing best practices and lessons learned. These activities directly assist fusion centers with receiving time-sensitive threat information from the federal government, analyzing that information in the context of their local environment, disseminating that information to local agencies, and gathering tips from local agencies and the public. Ultimately, efforts to strengthen



fusion centers will also enhance the capacity of frontline personnel to understand, recognize, document, and share information about behaviors and other indicators that may be reflective of a specific threat or terrorism-related crime.

The national network has made tremendous progress in recent months, and partners at all levels of government are committed to continuing to mature fusion centers' capabilities. DHS, in coordination with federal interagency partners, is working to assist fusion centers in fully achieving and maintaining the four COCs and in enhancing privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections.

To evaluate the progress of fusion centers in strengthening, achieving, and maintaining these capabilities, DHS will institute a repeatable assessment as well as exercise evaluation activities. Additionally, the Department is working to develop and implement a performance management framework to ensure that the national network is prepared to meet the challenges posed by today's evolving threat environment.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of fusion center personnel, SLTT leadership, and federal partners, fusion centers continue to enhance their capabilities, and as a result, our nation is more secure.

## THE CICC'S SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL NETWORK OF STATE AND MAJOR URBAN AREA FUSION CENTERS

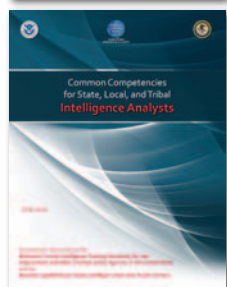
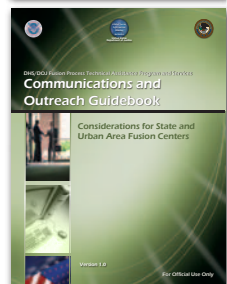
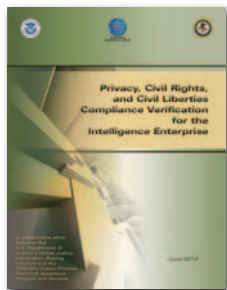
Fusion centers are a key component of effective and efficient nationwide intelligence sharing. Fusion centers serve as one of the vital mechanisms to exchange information and intelligence, maximize resources, streamline operations, and improve law enforcement's ability to fight crime by analyzing data from a variety of sources. Although the concept behind fusion centers—bringing together representatives from various law enforcement and public safety entities to exchange information and harness resources—has long been used by law enforcement agencies (such as the use of task forces or multiagency intelligence units), the CICC was pivotal in the standardization of the development and operation of fusion centers through the 2005 release of the *Fusion Center Guidelines*, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The *Fusion Center Guidelines* provide agencies with recommendations on establishing a fusion center, identifying partners to be involved in

the fusion process, and integrating the roles of privacy, security, and training into fusion center operations.

After the release of the *Fusion Center Guidelines*, the CICC partnered in the DHS/DOJ Fusion Process Technical Assistance Program to provide training and technical assistance to fusion centers as they enhance their operations and become integrated into the national fusion center initiative. Following the institutionalization of state and major urban area fusion centers into national law enforcement and homeland security information sharing efforts, the CICC created the *Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers*. The goal of this resource is to ensure continuity among all fusion centers, thereby creating a common baseline standard of operation.

Some of the CICC's recent documents and resources related to fusion centers include:

- **Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Compliance Verification for the Intelligence Enterprise**, which assists law enforcement agencies and fusion centers in complying with applicable privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protection laws, regulations, and policies while sharing intelligence and information.
- In collaboration with the DHS/DOJ Fusion Process Technical Assistance Program, the **Fusion Center Communications and Outreach Guidebook**, which assists fusion centers in conducting communications and outreach and building advocates at all levels of government
- **Common Competencies for State, Local, and Tribal Intelligence Analysts**, which identifies common analytic competencies that should be exhibited by state, local, and tribal intelligence analysts working in state or major urban area fusion centers or similar analytic law enforcement entities.



- Participating on the State, Local, Tribal, and Private Sector (SLTPS) Policy Advisory Committee, part of Executive Order 13549, “Classified National Security Information Program for State, Local, Tribal, and Private Sector Entities,” which will discuss program-related policy issues in dispute to facilitate their resolution and to otherwise recommend changes to policies and procedures that are designed to remove undue impediments to the sharing of information.
- Continued participation in the national implementation of the **Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI)**.
- Continued **partnership with the DHS/DOJ Fusion Process Technical Assistance Program** in the development of new technical assistance opportunities and resources to assist fusion centers.

The fusion center initiative is an integral part of the CICC’s mission to improve law enforcement’s ability to develop criminal intelligence information and share it in a way that assists law enforcement and homeland security. As such, the CICC continues to focus on supporting fusion centers and assisting in their long-term integration into national information sharing efforts.

Additional information on the CICC, Global, and their initiatives and resources can be found at [www.it.ojp.gov](http://www.it.ojp.gov).

## CURRENT EFFORTS

The pursuit of effective and efficient nationwide criminal intelligence and information sharing is an ongoing endeavor, and ensuring the active involvement of state and major urban area fusion centers is a top priority for the CICC. As part of this endeavor, the CICC is involved in a number of initiatives to meet this priority. These initiatives include:

- In partnership with DHS; the FBI; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); the Program Manager, Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE); the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI); and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), participating in the planning of the **2011 National Fusion Center Conference**.
- Developing recommendations to enhance and expand the **2007 National Strategy for Information Sharing**.

**Sold Out!**

**National Fusion Center Conference**

**DENVER**

**Denver, Colorado**  
**March 15-17, 2011**

<http://www.iir.com/registration/fusioncenter/>



## CICC MEMBERS

### CHAIR

#### Ronald E. Brooks

Director, Northern California Regional Intelligence Center  
National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition

### VICE CHAIR

#### Michael McClary

Assistant Sheriff, Las Vegas, Nevada, Metropolitan Police Department  
Major County Sheriffs' Association

### ADDITIONAL CICC MEMBERS

#### Frederick H. Bealefeld III

Chief, Baltimore, Maryland, Police Department  
Major Cities Chiefs Association

#### Michael Downing

Deputy Chief, Los Angeles, California, Police Department  
Major Cities Chiefs Association

#### Joseph "Rick" Fuentes

Colonel, New Jersey State Police

#### Van Godsey

Assistant Director, Division of Drug and Crime Control, Missouri State Highway Patrol  
Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Units (LEIU)

#### Owen Harris

Deputy Assistant Director, Directorate of Intelligence, Federal Bureau of Investigation

#### Ted G. Kamatchus

Sheriff, Marshall County, Iowa, Sheriff's Office  
National Sheriffs' Association

#### Vernon Keenan

Director, Georgia Bureau of Investigation  
Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies

#### Donald Kennedy

Executive Director, New England State Police Information Network\*  
Regional Information Sharing Systems\* Program

#### Marlon C. Lynch

Associate Vice President for Safety & Security, University of Chicago  
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators

#### Scott MacGregor

Chief, California Highway Patrol

#### Mark Marshall

Chief, Smithfield, Virginia, Police Department  
International Association of Chiefs of Police

#### Ritchie Martinez

President, International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts

#### James McDermond

Assistant Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

#### Peter Modafferi

Chief of Detectives, Rockland County, New York, District Attorney's Office  
International Association of Chiefs of Police

#### Tom Monahan

Lieutenant, Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center  
National Fusion Center Association

#### Daniel Oates

Chief, Aurora, Colorado, Police Department

#### Richard Randall

Sheriff, Kendall County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office  
National Sheriffs' Association

#### Kurt Schmid

Executive Director, Chicago, Illinois, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

#### Keith Squires

Colonel, Utah Department of Public Safety  
Representing the National Governors Association

#### Richard Stanek

Sheriff, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Sheriff's Office  
Major County Sheriffs' Association

#### Craig Steckler

Chief, Fremont, California, Police Department  
International Association of Chiefs of Police

#### Kenneth Tucker

Assistant Commissioner, Florida Department of Law Enforcement  
National Governors Association

### THE CICC ALSO RECOGNIZES

### THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS ACTIVE PARTNERS IN THE COUNCIL'S MISSIONS AND OBJECTIVES:

#### Bart R. Johnson

Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

#### Russell Porter

Director of Federal, State, Local, and Tribal Partnerships  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

## ABOUT GLOBAL

The U.S. Department of Justice's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global) serves as a Federal Advisory Committee to the U.S. Attorney General on critical justice information sharing initiatives. Global promotes standards-based electronic information exchange to provide justice and public safety communities with timely, accurate, complete, and accessible information in a secure and trusted environment. Global is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CICC, contact DOJ's Global at (850) 385-0600. For more information about other DOJ information sharing initiatives, go to:

**[www.it.ojp.gov](http://www.it.ojp.gov)**