Fact Sheet

2010 Report on the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group

Federal Intelligence Products More Relevant to State and Local Partners

- The Office of the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment’s (PM-ISE) annual review of the Interagency Threat Assessment Coordination Group (ITACG) found the group continues to play a crucial role in assisting Federal partners in interpreting and analyzing intelligence intended for state, local, tribal and territorial governments and private sector partners.

- The key findings in the 2010 Report include:
  
  o The ITACG Detail is better integrated into the federal intelligence production processes. This can be attributed to leaderships’ active involvement with the ITACG and their commitment to improving the sharing of information with state, local, tribal and territorial governments and private sector partners;

  o Recruitment and processing of personnel for the ITACG Detail has improved considerably;

  o The ITACG Detail coordinated more than 250 intelligence products on behalf of state, local, tribal and territorial governments and private sector partners, including 37 Roll Call Release products designed specifically for “street-level” first responders. In addition, the vast majority of the ITACG’s requests for product classification downgrade are approved;

  o Customer feedback on products the ITACG Detail coordinates on or co-produces has been positive. Customers have found the Roll Call Release to be a good tool for providing situational awareness and educating first responders to a specific type of suspicious activity;

  o The ITACG Detail’s broad access to government information systems and close coordination with Intelligence Community members provide ITACG staff the information they need to perform their vital missions;
With the development of a performance management framework, the ITACG Advisory Council has set the foundation to create the appropriate performance measures to fully assess the ITACG’s progress.

A recent Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Impact Assessment (CLIA) of the ITACG found that there was a low risk that members of the ITACG Detail would improperly rely on race, ethnicity, religion, or other constitutionally suspect classifications in recommending or selecting products for dissemination.

- The Report recommends that the ITACG continue efforts to mature its mission until it becomes institutionalized within the Intelligence Community, such that the Intelligence Community can effectively meet the needs of the state, local, tribal and territorial governments and private sector partners without the involvement of the ITACG.

Background on the Interagency Threat Assessment and Coordination Group

- The ITACG was established to help the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other agencies produce Federally-coordinated terrorism-related information products tailored to the needs of State, local, tribal, and territorial governments and private sector partners. ITACG-coordinated products are then disseminated through existing Federal agency channels.

- The ITACG consists of: (1) the Detail led by a senior intelligence officer appointed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and comprised of fire, investigative, tribal, law enforcement, and health first responders assigned to the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), and (2) an Advisory Council comprised of Federal, State, local, tribal, and private sector officials, responsible for setting policy and developing processes for the integration, analysis, and dissemination of Federally-coordinated information within the scope of the ISE.

Background on the Information Sharing Environment

- The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 calls for an ISE to facilitate sharing terrorism and homeland security information among Federal, State, local, and tribal entities and, as appropriate, foreign partners and the private sector.

- The Program Manager for the ISE is required to monitor and assess the efficacy of the ITACG and to issue an annual report on its progress to the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, and Congress.