

Community Resilience Exercise (CREX) TPs

- Community Resilience Exercise (CREX) is a table-top exercise designed to improve communication between law enforcement and communities and to share ideas on how best to build community resilience against violent extremism. The CREX focuses on building trust and empowering communities against violent extremism domestically.
- CREX uses an unfolding scenario of possible violent extremist activity with two threads: one thread disclosing what the police have learned and the other thread what the community experiences. The scenario is revealed in several stages, with participants breaking into small groups after each stage to discuss potential responses and how they should work together.
- Scenario is hypothetical, but based on the behaviors exhibited by past homegrown violent extremists prior to their arrest. The exercise is facilitated by individuals with credibility in both the community and government.
- The exercise is led by DHS, NCTC, DOJ, and FBI at the federal level and directly supports the U.S. Attorney's Office and the FBI field office locally along with the local sheriff and/or police department.
- Exercise outcomes range from creating the first steps to establishing trust between law enforcement and communities to robust planning between law enforcement and community leaders to build trust, increase awareness, and create of intervention models.
- A local action plan focused on trust building, violence prevention, and intervention is developed at the end of the exercise to ensure lasting commitment from both law enforcement and community.
- Feedback from participants is overwhelmingly positive. An average of 90% of all exercises so far show that both law enforcement and community participants agreed that they better understood concerns or issues of others at the conclusion of the exercise.