

SNCTC

Fusion Center

Initial Training Program

*Privacy, Civil Rights
& Civil Liberties*

How did we get
HERE today?



Module 7.1

How did we get here?

9/11 Attacks

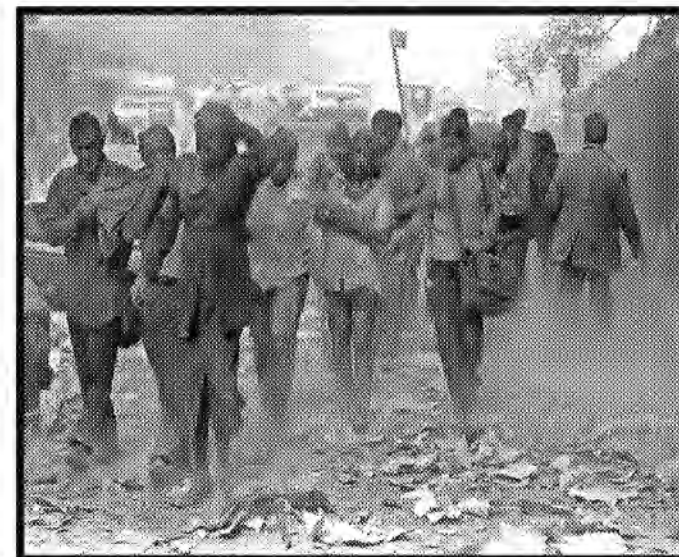
9/11 ATTACKS ON AMERICA

How did we get here?

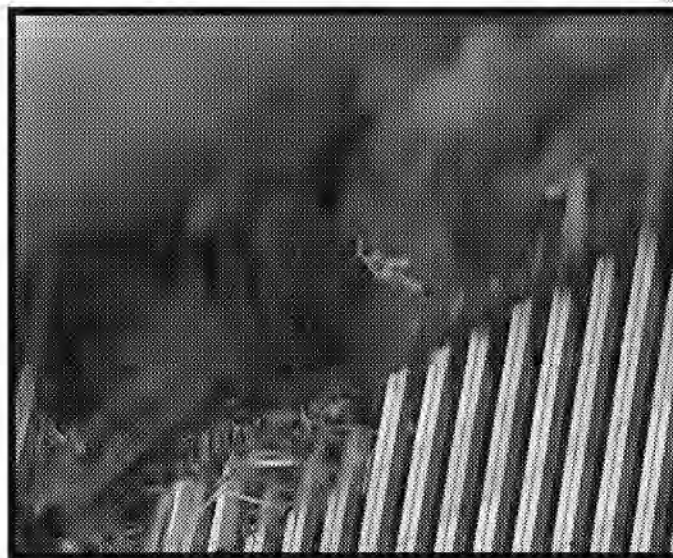
9/11 Attacks



The Twin Towers During the Attack
Source: National Park Service



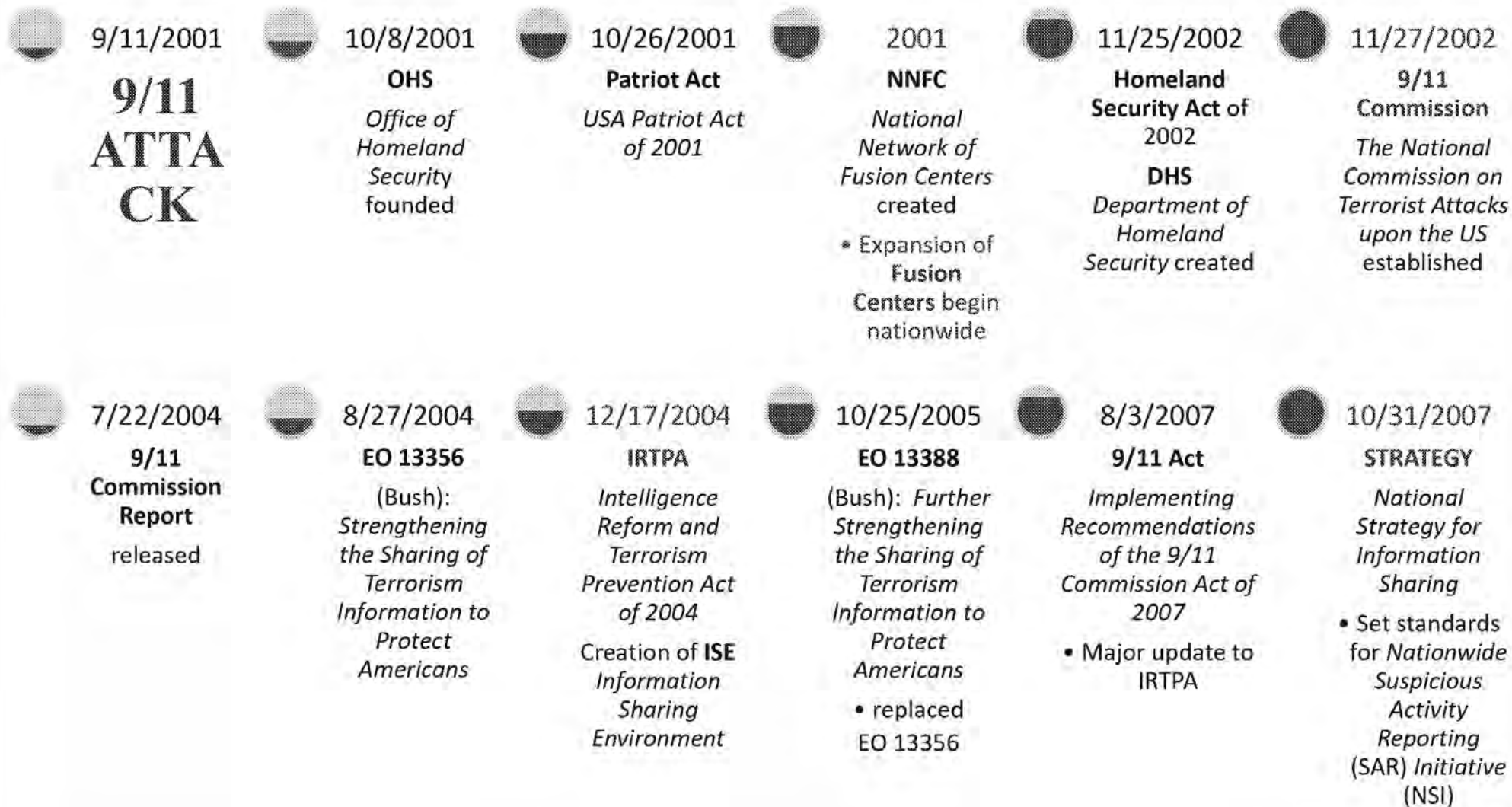
Source: The Atlantic;
AP Photo/Gulnara Samoilova



DHS-001-05722-000758

Responses to 9/11

Timeline



1st Major Response
9/11 Commission

1st Major Response

**CREATION OF THE
9/11 COMMISSION**

9/11 Commission *Creation & Report*

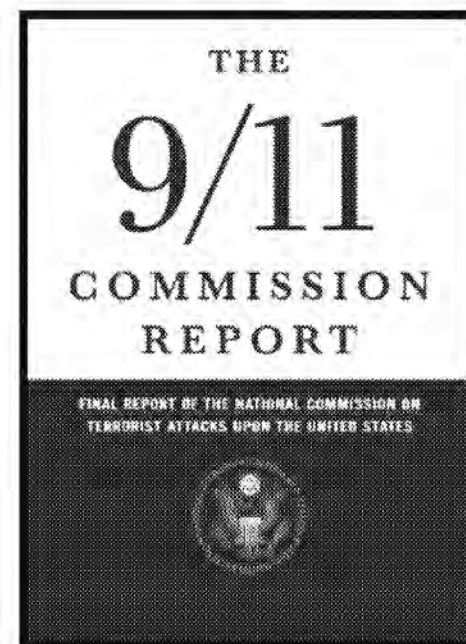
National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States



- Also known as the “**9/11 Commission**”
- Chartered to find out **WHAT** happened, **WHY** it happened and **HOW** to prevent it from happening again

9/11 Commission Report

- Report released **July 22, 2004**
- Identified **information sharing failures** among agencies
- **Recommended reforms** to prevent future failures



9/11 Commission Report

Identifies a Major Concern about CR/CL

No matter the severity of the terrorist threat, it is still important that we protect civil rights and civil liberties.

“The choice between security and liberty is a false choice, as nothing is more likely to endanger America’s liberties than the success of a terrorist attack at home. Our history has shown us that insecurity threatens liberty. Yet, if our liberties are curtailed, we lose the values that we are struggling to defend.”

The 9/11 Commission Report

9/11 Commission Report

Response - IRTPA

INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT OF 2004 (IRTPA)

- Passed **December 7, 2004** in response to **9/11 Commission Report**
- **Largest restructuring of the Intelligence Community in 60 years**
- Established the **National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC)**
- **Modified the DHS Mission Statement** to add provision to ensure CRCL are not diminished by efforts to secure the homeland
- Directed the establishment of the **Information Sharing Environment (ISE)**

2nd Major Response
Expansion of Fusion Centers

2nd Major Response

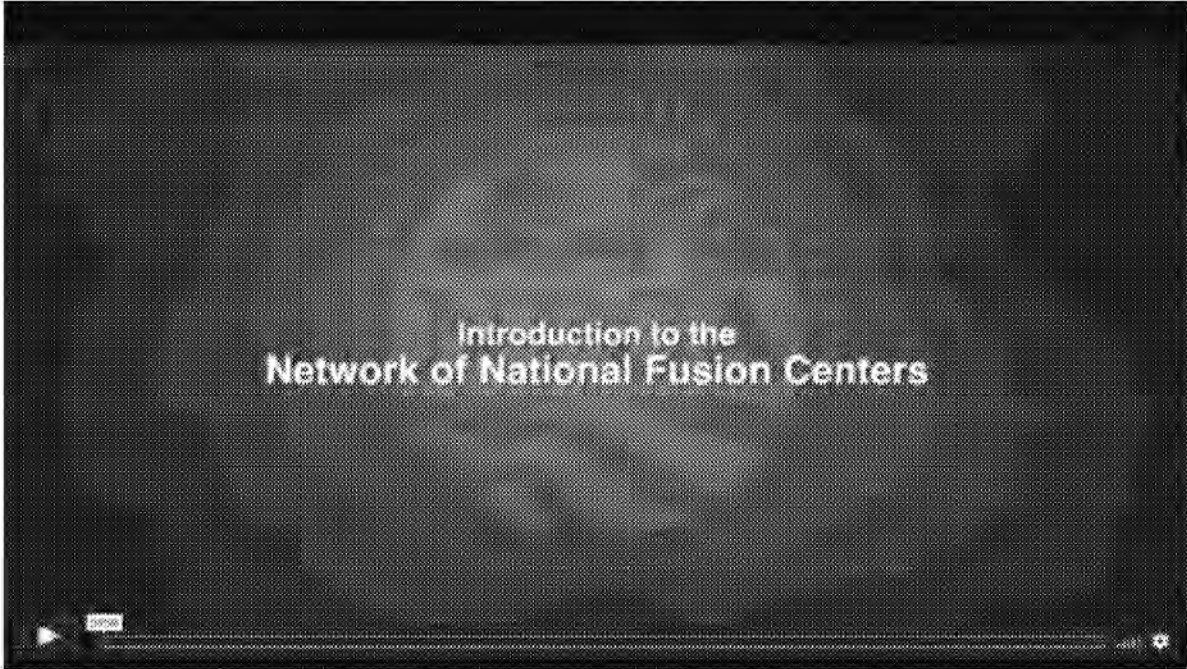
**NATIONWIDE EXPANSION OF
FUSION CENTERS**

Fusion Centers *Process Overview*

FUSION CENTERS

“A collaborative effort of two or more agencies that provide resources, expertise, and/or information to the center with the goal of maximizing the ability to detect, prevent, apprehend, and respond to criminal and terrorist activity.”

Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers (October 2008)



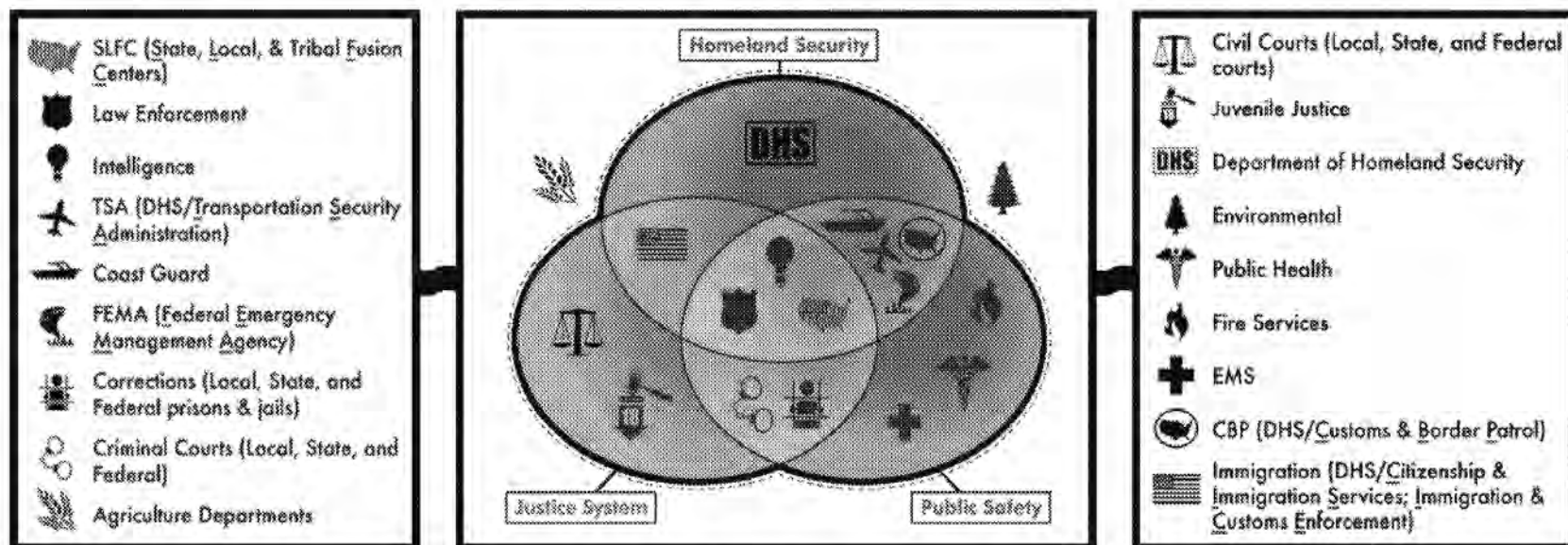
Introduction to the
Network of National Fusion Centers

Click image to start video

Fusion Centers

“Fuse” Intelligence

- Fusion Centers “fuse” intelligence from participating agencies to create a more comprehensive threat picture, locally and nationally.
 - Federal, State, Local, Tribal, Territorial, International and Private Sector
 - Build a bridge to connect all groups in real time for more efficient and timely sharing of information to increase response time.

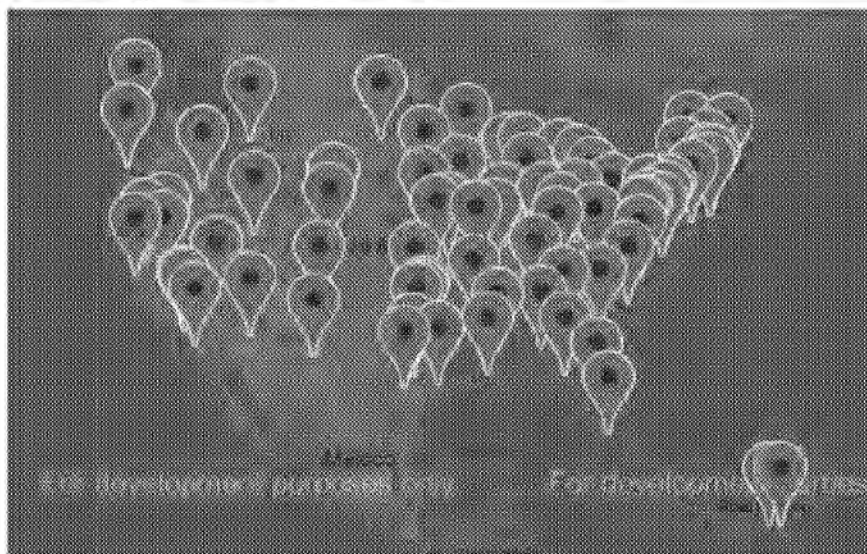


Fusion Centers

Nationwide Expansion

- **Two types of Fusion Centers**

- **PRIMARY FUSION CENTERS:** Typically provides information sharing and analysis for an entire state.
- **RECOGNIZED FUSION CENTERS:** Typically provides information sharing and analysis for a major urban area.



- Each state plus DC, Guam, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands has at least 1 Fusion Center (80 Fusion Centers as of February 2020)

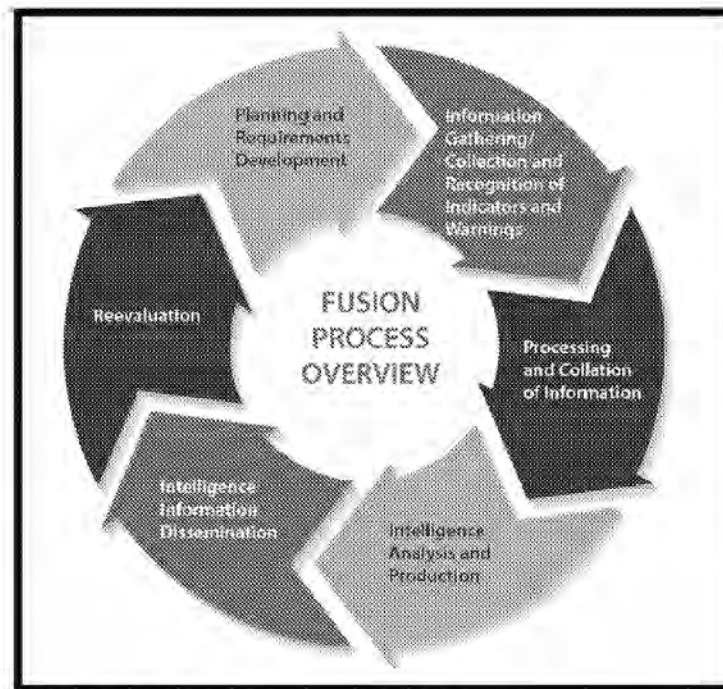
National Fusion Center Association map of fusion centers. Does not include all fusion centers.

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Fusion Centers

“Fuse” Intelligence Using ISE

- **Allows local and federal officials to quickly coordinate information sharing related to terrorism**
 - **Integrate** new data into existing information
 - **Evaluate** it to determine its worth
 - **Analyze** it for links and trends
 - **Disseminate** findings to the appropriate agency in the best position to respond
- **Fusion Centers**
 - Owned and operated by local and state entities
 - Federal funding assistance and oversight by the DHS
 - Subject to certain regulations because of federal funding and information sharing system requirements



Fusion Centers

Nevada's Fusion Centers

Nevada has two Fusion Centers

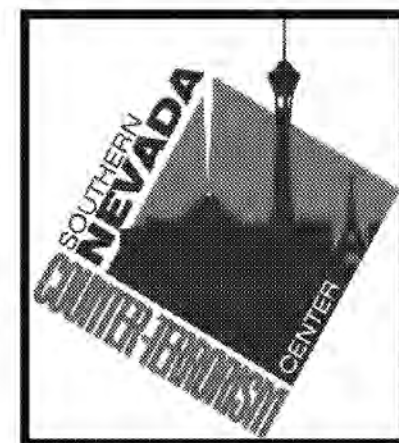
Primary Fusion Center

located in Las Vegas

**Southern Nevada Counter-Terrorism Center
(SNCTC)**

www.snctc.org

Established August 2007



Recognized Fusion Center

located in Carson City

**Nevada Threat Analysis Center
(NTAC)**

www.ntacnv.org

Established April 2008



Other

Located in Reno in Washoe County Sherriff's Office

**Northern Nevada Regional Intelligence Center
(NNRIC)**



Fusion Centers

Criticisms

- **Fusion Centers and police agencies have come under intense scrutiny over the handling of personal information (PI)**

Examples of misuse of PI

- Capturing of personal information on **protestors**
- Reporting on an individuals **political** or **lobbying** activities

**NOT EVERYONE APPROVES OF THE
“SPY CENTERS”**

- **ACLU Report** – Raised concerns with four areas of Fusion Center aspects
 1. Suffer from "**ambiguous lines of authority**" while evading accountability and oversight
 2. Encourage private sector and military participation in the **surveillance** of US citizens
 3. Are likely to engage in poorly contained **data mining** because they encourage wholesale data collection and manipulation process that **threaten privacy** while being "hobbled by excessive secrecy"
 4. Encourages a "**total surveillance society**" in the US.

Fusion Centers

Why bother?

***WHY GO THROUGH THE
TROUBLE, CRITICISM AND
BACKLASH
OF HAVING A
FUSION CENTER?***

Threats Remain a Significant Problem

ATTACKS CONTINUE



Las Vegas - October 1, 2017

Source: Las Vegas Sun/Steve Marcus/Routers



El Paso - August 3, 2019

Source: Maria Tama / Staff/Getty Images

Gilroy - July 28, 2019

Source: Noah Berger/AP



Pensacola - December 6, 2019

Source: Josh Brasted/Getty Images



Threats Remain a Significant Problem

Bringing Organization to the Chaos



Click image to start video

Fusion Centers

Response to Criticisms

“This committee has said this many times that it won't be a bureaucrat in Washington who will thwart the next terror attack. It will be a cop on the beat, familiar with the rhythms and nuances of her neighborhood, who will notice something suspicious and be best positioned to do something about it.

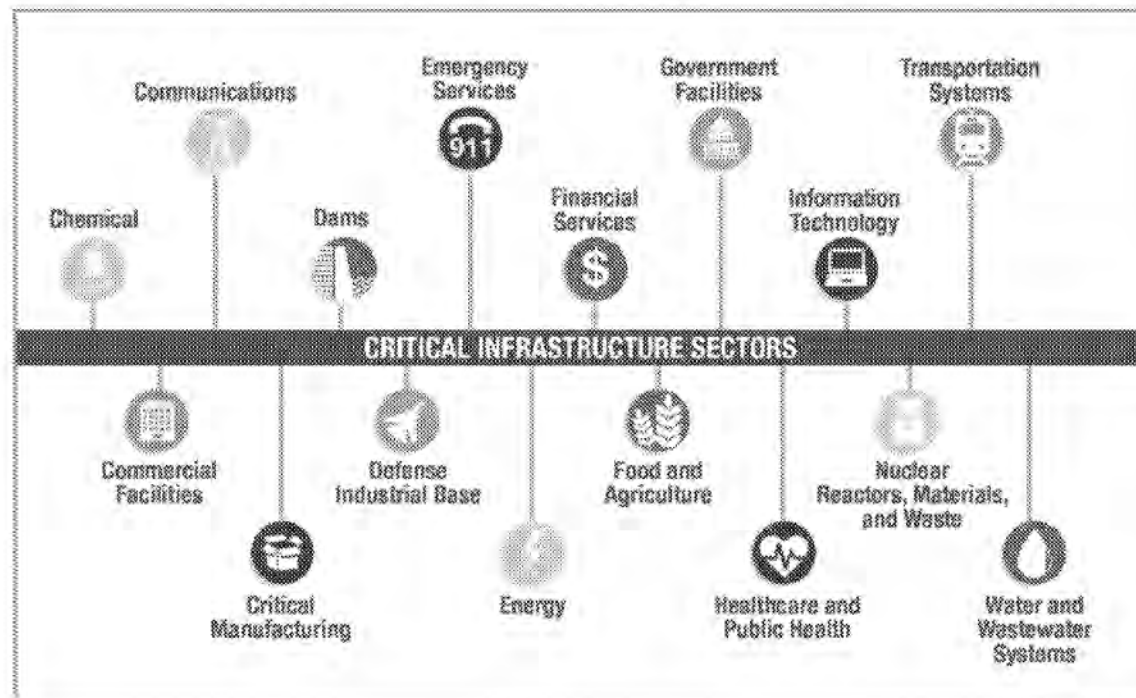
Fusion centers are uniquely local for this reason. One size cannot fit all, because communities and their populations are diverse, and so are their geographies. So it is fusion centers, in my view, who are the tool, hopefully, to empower that cop to know what to look for and what to do.”

From the opening statement of Jane Harman:

Future of Fusion Centers: Potential Promise and Dangers; Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment of the Committee on Homeland Security, April 1, 2009

What are we trying to protect?

People
Our way of Life
Critical infrastructure and buildings



How do Fusion Centers fit in?

*Fusion Centers play key roles in the
homeland security effort*

Fusion Center Mission:

*Protect our safety so we can enjoy our rights and freedoms
&
Ensure our rights and liberties are not violated while
protecting us*

Role of Fusion Centers



Click image to start video

DHS-001-05722-000777

For More Information or Questions

Contact

Lindsay Stadtlander-Ebarb, Esq.
SNCTC Privacy Officer

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