



**Homeland  
Security**

MEMORANDUM

To: Secretary Johnson  
From: Deputy Secretary Mayorkas  
Subject: **Countering Violence Extremism (CVE) Efforts**  
Date: October 7, 2014

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**Background**

Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) is an important part of our Department's efforts to fight terrorism through community engagement, research, intelligence, support for law enforcement and working with a broad range of partners to mitigate or prevent violent extremism before it becomes terrorism.

**Actions**

Aligned underneath my Office and reporting directly to me, David Gersten is currently serving as DHS's CVE Coordinator. Also, on September 24, you participated in a Community Resilience Exercise in Columbus, OH. Similar involvement is planned for Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Houston, New York, Dearborn and Boston.

**Next Steps**

- Dedicated funding stream/resourcing is needed.
- A long term/permanent home for CVE.
  - Hill staff want a budget line for CVE in FY 16 and they plan to place CVE in the reauthorization.
  - A report on known options to support local CVE efforts has been submitted to Group of Four Deputies; DHS CVE Coordinator wants to expand DHS grant funding vehicles and other support for community prevention and intervention efforts; NSC staff is interested in developing an approps request.
- White House is planning a CVE Summit for November to focus on local prevention efforts and development of a CVE framework that expands involvement from non-law enforcement to those who may be better placed to conduct interventions and counter violent extremist narratives. You will be invited to participate.
- DHS CVE Coordinator is determining how best to engage with social media platforms under a multi-lateral Five Country Ministerial initiative, and integrating I&A social media analysis into CVE relevant tools and products.
- DHS CVE Coordinator is collaborating with NCTC and the entertainment industry to amplify existing counter-narratives and create new CVE programming.
- DHS CVE Coordinator is planning to leverage ethnic media outlets to raise CVE awareness and challenge disinformation.
- DHS CVE Coordinator is working to ensure that S&T and I&A research and analysis is regularly informing CVE practitioners, including community leaders.