



20 May 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE OPERATIONS, OFFICE OF
INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS

FROM: Stephanie Dobitsch
Deputy Under Secretary, Office of Intelligence and Analysis

SUBJECT: ~~(U)~~ **Guidance for Providing Situational Information on
Emerging Events**

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

~~(U)~~ **Purpose:** To provide guidance on identifying and sharing information on emerging events to inform I&A and DHS leaders. This document replaces the 20 August 2021, memorandum on reporting thresholds and will be updated as necessary.

~~(U)~~ **Background:** I&A leadership remains focused on providing timely and accurate information on evolving threats in the Homeland to senior DHS leadership and our partners. As a result, clear requirements for providing information on emerging incidents, events, or other issues are needed to ensure I&A and DHS leaders have timely and accurate information to respond to national and homeland security threats.

~~(U)~~ **Guidance:** Effective immediately, I&A personnel with access to information on the following issues will provide immediate notification to the Current and Emerging Threats Center (CETC) as an event or issue unfolds:

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Suspected Terrorism or Reportable Targeted Violence¹**

- Possible terrorist or reportable targeted violence incident, or imminent and credible threat of an attack; includes
 - acts of violence by international/domestic terrorists and domestic violent extremists
 - mass casualties of 4 or more victims regardless of group affiliation or motive

¹For the purposes of this guidance, reportable targeted violence occurs where there is a premeditated act of violence that is directed against a specific individual, group, or location, where the violent act violates the criminal laws of the United States or any State or subdivision within in the United States, and the violence relates to the Department's efforts to prevent, respond to, or combat one or more of the national security or homeland security missions. These threats include (1) terrorism, (2) mass casualty events, (3) destruction of critical infrastructure, and (4) violence against DHS personnel, property, or operations.

- Suspected active shooter or other active attacker using deadly force (including but not limited to firearms, knives, or a vehicle) with actual or potential for mass casualties
- Any incident that triggers a NOC notification to the Chief of Staff or the Secretary, based on a Secretary Critical Information Requirement (CIR). (See attached Table 1: DHS S1 Critical Information Requirements)
- Any CRITIC² or NOIWON³ notification for the IC.
- Mass arrests or notification from partners of impending disruption of a terrorist attack, cell, or individual
- Encounter of a watchlisted individual with terrorism-related records or associations involved in or arrested for a criminal act, or attempting to facilitate travel or sponsor immigration to the United States

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Violence Against DHS Personnel, Property, or Operations**

- Violence or threats of violence against DHS personnel in the conduct of their official duties or due to their status as DHS employees.
- Violence or threats of violence that would disrupt DHS operations even if the targets are not DHS personnel
- Violence or threats of violence that would significantly damage DHS property or federal facilities protected by DHS personnel, resulting in the disruption of DHS operations or endangering the personnel who operate or protect them.

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Transborder Threats**

- Encounter of a watchlisted individual with transnational criminal associations involved in a criminal act affecting the United States or attempting to enter the Homeland.
- Indications or warning of largescale, irregular migration towards the Southwest border
- Indication of imminent violence near the Southwest Border directed against or potentially affecting US personnel
- Mass casualties or arrests linked to suspected transnational criminal activities in the US

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Counterintelligence**

- Arrest of DHS employee/s abroad, law enforcement arrest of or detention of DHS employee(s)
- Mass compromise of DHS employees personal identifying information
- Credible and imminent foreign intelligence service or officer threat against DHS operations, personnel, resources, or information
- Alert of an insider threat related to a DHS employee, or of a DHS employee
- Significant foreign influence operations designed to incite violence

² A CRITIC notification is made upon receipt of information concerning possible threats to US national security that are so significant that they require the immediate attention of the President and the National Security Council. Critical information includes the decisions, intentions, or actions of foreign governments, organizations, or individuals that could imminently and materially jeopardize vital US policy, economic, information system, critical infrastructure, cyberspace, or military interests.

³ A NOIWON (National Operations and Intelligence Watch Officers Network) is a dedicated secure telephone system with a conferencing capability, for the rapid exchange and sharing of high interest and time-sensitive information between Washington, D.C.-area operations centers to discuss

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Disruption of Critical infrastructure**

- Significant physical or cyber-related disruption of critical infrastructure, including the destruction of the functioning of the systems, assets, or resources that constitute critical infrastructure, as well as violence that compromises the operations, assets, or resources of critical infrastructure or endangers the personnel who operate or support them.

~~(U//FOUO)~~ **Cyber Security**

- Reporting of cyber actor successful compromise of US federal, state, or local elections networks (including election infrastructure and supporting vendors)
- Successful cyber-attacks on election infrastructure/networks. Reporting of unauthorized exfiltration of bulk quantities of elections-related data
- Ransomware attack against critical infrastructure, USG, or large-scale private entities

~~(U)~~ Once an incident identified above occurs, CETC will provide I&A leadership with all available information, with appropriate caveats for credibility and accuracy. This includes but is not limited: to field reporting, investigative leads, social media findings, and DHS database results. Reporting elements will continue to provide information and updates on the incident to CETC until closed out by CETC.

~~(U)~~ Dissemination of raw intelligence reporting on emerging incidents will follow established procedures, guidelines and processes outside the scope of this guidance.

~~(U)~~ All reporting will be sent to CETC via ~~(b) (6), (b) (7)(E)~~@hq.dhs.gov or ~~(b) (6), (b) (7)(E)~~.

DHS S1 CIR Immediate Notification

1	Terrorist Event	An actual incident of suspected terrorism on U.S. soil (including its territories or possessions); in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, or Japan; or against U.S. interests overseas.
2	CBRNE	Actual incident of suspected CBRNE use on U.S. soil, its territories, and its possessions; or in Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, or Japan.
3	Impending Terrorism	Credible indications of impending acts of terrorism targeting the U.S., its territories, possessions, or allies.
4	Use of force on aircraft	The impending or actual use of force by the U.S. Department of Defense against a civilian aircraft (passenger or cargo) flying in U.S. airspace.
5	Death or Injury of High Level Government Official or Head of State	Death or serious injury of POTUS, VPOTUS, a U.S. Cabinet Secretary, a Department Component head or a Component executive listed on the DHS Executive Tracker, or head of state of a major U.S. ally.
6	Cyber-Attack	Actual suspected cyber-attack directed against national critical infrastructure (CI) or an element of national economic significance.
7	Terrorism on Aviation Target	Any incident of suspected or actual terrorism against an aviation target.
8	Incident at POE (including airport)	An incident or event at a U.S. border or Port of Entry, including an airport, that results or may result in injury or death, major property damage/destruction, national-level media attention, or significantly inhibits the normal operation of the location in which the incident occurs.
9	Death of DHS in line of duty	Death of a DHS employee in the line of duty.
10	COGCON level change	Change to an existing national level alert level or issuance of a new national-level alert in response to a credible threat (e.g. Continuity of Government Readiness Condition, Defense Readiness Condition, or National Terrorism Alert System).
11	Pandemic Alert	Issuance of a CDC Health Alert or Phase-4 World Health Organization (WHO) Pandemic Alert.
12	Change in ability to execute PME's	An adverse change to the Department's ability to execute one or more Primary Mission Essential Functions (PMEFs), including significant impact to DHS Mission Essential Assets or Systems that degrade the Department's ability to perform essential functions.

Table 1: DHS S1 Critical Information Requirements (CIRs)
List Owner: National Operations Center (NOC)
Current as of May 19, 2022