



National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (NTER)

2019



National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (NTER) Program Working Group

Slide 1 Notes

Opening:

As (b)(6)(b)(7)(C) discussed during his remarks, the NTER Program builds on the success of the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) and will train partners to identify and evaluate threats to homeland security, regardless of motive.

As we move into the discussions we will engage in over the next two days, I wanted to take a moment to provide you an overview of the NTER program, and its evolution building upon the success of the NSI. Then I would like to discuss our work over the next two days, as we look to develop training curriculum that will be critical to homeland security efforts across the U.S.



SAR Initiative (NSI) Origins and Overview

- The Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative (NSI) was developed in response to the 9/11 Commission
- The NSI is a collaborative effort among Federal, State, local, tribal and territorial (FSLTT) law enforcement, DOJ/BJA, DHS and FBI
- 2013 – transitioned from PM-ISE to DHS and FBI joint management
 - The FBI is lead for the technology of NSI (eGuardian)
 - DHS is lead for program management and training
- Nationwide capability to gather, document, process, analyze, and share information about suspicious incidents
- Focuses on behaviors: 16 behavioral indicators indicative of pre-operational planning associated with terrorism
- Enables rapid identification and mitigation of potential terrorist threats
- Results in a national effort to detect, prevent, and disrupt terrorism-related activities
 - Uses framework of the ISE-SAR Standard
 - Appropriately protecting privacy and civil rights



Slide 2 Notes

NSI Overview

The events of 9/11 demonstrated the need for a nationwide capacity to share information that could detect, prevent, or deter a terrorist attack.

It was this finding that led to the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004 and the 2007 National Strategy for Information Sharing. These policies were developed to address the need to establish locally controlled information systems wherein potential terrorism-related information could be reported and shared by law enforcement agencies for analysis to determine whether there are emerging patterns or trends.

Following this guidance, the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) was developed.

The NSI is a partnership among federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement that establishes a national capacity for gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing SAR information—also referred to as the SAR process—in a manner that rigorously protects the privacy and civil liberties of Americans.

The goals of the NSI are as follows:

- Assist in the prevention of terrorist attacks before they occur
- Connect the dots to combat crime and terrorism.
- Allow for agencies to share SAR information on a nationwide level

Slide 1

SAR Initiative Milestones and Successes

Since the program's inception, training via the Program's hometown security partners' video series and the line officer training video, were completed over 688,732 times.



- From September 2018 to the end of August 2019 the hometown security partner NSI training videos have been viewed 68,142 times.
- Between January 2018 to August 2019, 331 SARs were connected to or enhanced an FBI Investigation and 57 SARs were connected to the Terrorism Screening Center (TSC) Watchlist.
- In FY 2019 (as of 9/23/2019), fusion centers authored or co-authored 1,361 products on HSIN-Intel that contained SAR data.

Slide 3 Notes

NSI Overview

The events of 9/11 demonstrated the need for a nationwide capacity to share information that could detect, prevent, or deter a terrorist attack.

It was this finding that led to the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004 and the 2007 National Strategy for Information Sharing. These policies were developed to address the need to establish locally controlled information systems wherein potential terrorism-related information could be reported and shared by law enforcement agencies for analysis to determine whether there are emerging patterns or trends.

Following this guidance, the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) was developed.

The NSI is a partnership among federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement that establishes a national capacity for gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing SAR information—also referred to as the SAR process—in a manner that rigorously protects the privacy and civil liberties of Americans.

The goals of the NSI are as follows:

- Assist in the prevention of terrorist attacks before they occur
- Connect the dots to combat crime and terrorism.
- Allow for agencies to share SAR information on a nationwide level

Slide 1

Slide 4 Notes

The SAR Process (flow chart)

Every day, law enforcement and homeland security partners at all levels of government— federal, state, local, tribal, territorial — are working to keep Americans safe. These partners observe suspicious incidents and behaviors, or receive reports of suspicious activity, either from concerned citizens or businesses or through the normal course of their duties

tip/lead information is received by local, state, and federal agencies and fusion centers. These tips/leads are received from the public via 911/311 call lines, See Something/Say Something, emails, and apps. Tips and leads may also be received from law enforcement or other hometown security partners.

Reasonably indicative of pre-operational planning for terrorism

To date, the Nationwide SAR Initiative (NSI) has focused on reporting terrorism indicators.

Over the last several years the focus and training content has not kept pace with the diverse threats impacting our country

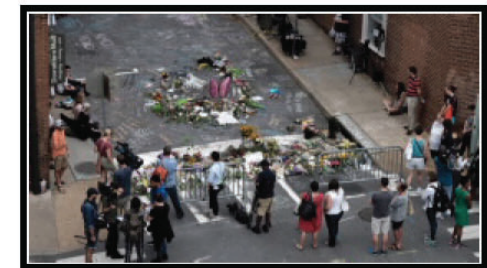
Slide 3

To date, the Nationwide SAR Initiative (NSI) has focused on the reporting of terrorism indicators. As the threat environment evolves, the NSI must adapt within legal limits in order to ensure public safety.

Moving forward, the NTER Program will look to build upon the foundation of the NSI and expand the program to other national security areas beyond terrorism.

The first phase of this to focus on:

Mass attacks and Targeted Violence – regardless of motive – to include school violence and vehicle ramming incidents.



Slide 5 Notes

Threat Evaluation and Reporting Training Course:

We are leading the development of a Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course with the goal of assisting law enforcement and homeland security partners in the evaluation of tips and leads from behavioral threat-based approach. The NTER Program will enable partners to build or improve their evaluation of threats, and reporting capabilities to help identify and prevent potential mass casualty incidents and instances of targeted violence regardless of ideology.

The Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course will be delivered via a decentralized train-the-trainer approach. This approach will enable us to increase the number of trained personnel and empower local agencies by providing them with resources and materials to train partners in their area of responsibility.

We intend to pilot this program in FY2020

Slide 5



NTER Goals:

The NTER program will provide training to assist our law enforcement and homeland security partners on how to evaluate tips and leads from **behavioral threat-based approach**.

The Program's goals are to allow for:
more efficient flow of tips and leads
better analysis of nationwide trends
increased operational support



It will ensure information is correctly identified, reports are forwarded to the right recipient, and that the information is shared.



Threat Evaluation and Reporting Training Course:

- Training course goal is to assist law enforcement and homeland security partners in the evaluation of tips and leads from behavioral threat-based approach.
- NTER Program will enable partners to build or improve threat evaluation, and reporting capabilities to help identify and prevent potential mass casualty incidents and instances of targeted violence.
- The course will be delivered via a decentralized train-the-trainer approach, which will enable us to increase the number of trained personnel and empower local agencies by providing them with resources and materials to train partners in their area of responsibility.



Slide 7 Notes

Threat Evaluation and Reporting Training Course:

We are leading the development of a Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course with the goal of assisting law enforcement and homeland security partners in the evaluation of tips and leads from behavioral threat-based approach. The NTER Program will enable partners to build or improve their evaluation of threats, and reporting capabilities to help identify and prevent potential mass casualty incidents and instances of targeted violence regardless of ideology.

The Threat Evaluation and Reporting Course will be delivered via a decentralized train-the-trainer approach. This approach will enable us to increase the number of trained personnel and empower local agencies by providing them with resources and materials to train partners in their area of responsibility.

We intend to pilot this program in FY2020

Slide 5

Working Group Goals:

- Provide a basis for the Train-the-Trainer program
- Use best practices and existing content, curriculums and methodologies
- Focus on a deliverable to drive the content of the Training Course.
- Insure findings are easy to understand by training participants.
 - An after-action report will be produced to present the findings.
 - Follow up discussions to solicit feedback and substantive responses to the report will be scheduled with participants.



Slide 8 Notes

Goals of the Working Group:

We are honored to have the United States Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center co-chairing this working group with us.

NTAC's efforts have helped identify behaviors, motives, and triggers of individuals who engage in targeted violence to include school violence, workplace violence, attacks against government officials and facilities, and mass attacks in public spaces.

We have gathered identified subject matter experts in mental health, school safety, prisons, and academia to participate in the discussions over the next 2 days, with the goal of providing subject matter assistance in the development of a training curriculum focusing on the application of behavioral indicators and assessments to the review of tips/leads to identify and prevent mass casualty attacks or incidents of targeted violence.

Over the last few months, NTER has conducted individual interviews and discussions with many of you. These interviews have been used to develop the upcoming breakout sessions.

These breakout sessions will be robust facilitated discussions that focus on your experience and the best practices you have developed in behavioral analysis and threat assessment.

The material discussed will become the basis for the content of the NTER Train-the-Trainer program which will be developed after the working group.

Leverage best practices from practitioners and existing content, curriculums, and methodologies that relate to targeted violence.

Facilitate an in-person working group discussion that provides a deliverable that will ultimately drive the content for the NTER Training Course.

Leverage academic and subject matter expertise to display and present information in a digestible, easily understandable way.

Following the conclusion of the working group, we intend to produce an after-action report based on the findings from this workshop. Subsequently, we plan to provide the report to working group participants and encourage feedback to ensure that we have captured the conversational themes correctly.

Slide 6



Homeland
Security

OFFICE OF INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS

Questions or Thoughts:

2019



National Threat Evaluation and Reporting (NTER) Program Working Group

Email: (b)(6)(b)(7)(e)@hq.dhs.gov