

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM: LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSPECTIVES ON INFORMATION AND TRAINING



Effectively preventing violent extremism in the United States requires that federal, state, local, and tribal partners have accurate and up-to-date information on both the threat violent extremism poses and how to counter it. Key among these partners are the nation's more than 800,000 state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers, who work on the front lines to protect communities from a range of threats including violent extremism. Over the last few years, the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies have increased their efforts to provide state, local, and tribal law enforcement with useful and timely information and training relevant to countering violent extremism. The **Law Enforcement Perspectives on Information and Training Study** aims to inform these efforts.

As part of this study, the **Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate** has contracted JBS International, Inc. to conduct a series of interviews and focus groups with state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers at fusion centers and in surrounding communities. Participants will be asked a range of questions on the threats they face, their information and training needs related to countering violent extremism, and their recommendations on how to strengthen the information and training they currently receive. These findings will be reported anonymously and will not be used to test participants' knowledge or evaluate current training efforts. Rather, they will be shared with offices throughout DHS with the goal of ensuring that the information and training they provide on countering violent extremism is relevant and responsive to law enforcement's needs.

JBS International, Inc. is an independent research organization with over twenty-five years of experience conducting assessments and evaluations in the United States and over 100 countries worldwide. Our studies are designed to guide development and implementation of policies and programs. We work with federal, state and local government agencies, non-governmental and non-profit organizations, foundations, as well as other private sector groups.

For further information on this research project, please contact:
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**Site Visit Agenda – Notional
Same Metropolitan Area, Fusion Center and Law Enforcement**

Monday	All day: Interviews with key leadership and functional positions at fusion center
Tuesday	All day: Interviews with key leadership and functional positions in area law enforcement agencies
Wednesday	Morning: Interviews with key functional positions at fusion center Afternoon/evening: Focus group at fusion center
Thursday	Morning: Interviews with key functional positions in area law enforcement agencies Afternoon/evening: Focus group with law enforcement officers from area LE agencies
Friday	Morning: Interviews, as necessary, with fusion center or law enforcement

**Site Visit Agenda—Notional
Different Metropolitan Area, Fusion Center and Law Enforcement**

Monday	All day: Interviews with key leadership and functional positions at fusion center
Tuesday	Morning: Interviews with key functional positions at fusion center Afternoon/evening: Focus group with fusion center personnel
Wednesday	All day: Interviews with key leadership in area law enforcement agencies
Thursday	Morning: In-depth interviews with key leadership in law enforcement Afternoon/evening: Focus group with law enforcement officers from area LE agencies
Friday	Morning: Interviews, as necessary, with fusion center or law enforcement

Types of Functional Areas, In-depth Interviews and Focus Group: Fusion Centers

Types of Functional Areas, Fusion Centers*		
<i>Countering Violent Extremism, Information, Training</i>	IDI	Focus Group
Head of Operations	X	
Head of Intelligence/Analysis	X	
Head of Administration (Oversees Training)	X	
Branch Chiefs (Counterterrorism, I&A, possibly Critical Infrastructure)	X	
Training Officer (Dedicated/Collateral duty)	X	
Non-DHS Agency Representatives	X	
DHS Component Agency representatives	X	
Participants in various trainings (BCOT, CRCL, I&A)		X
Liaison officer (Community outreach/Liaison officer program POC, etc.)		X
Officers working with indicators, warnings (Information)		X
Analysts (various)		X
Watch personnel (as necessary)		X

*Some categories depend on the size of the fusion center and its organizational structure.

Types of Functional Areas, In-depth Interviews and Focus Groups: State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Law Enforcement

Types of Functional Areas, SLTT Law Enforcement*		
<i>Countering Violent Extremism, Information, Training</i>	IDI	Focus Group
Head of Operations	X	
Head of Intelligence/Analysis	X	
Head of Administration (Oversees Training)	X	
Head of Units/Bureaus/Divisions (Training, Community Outreach, Community Policing, Counterterrorism, etc.)	X	
Participants in various trainings (BCOT, CRCL)		X
Front Line Officers/Detectives, various		X
Front Line Officers/Detectives, Counterterrorism efforts		X
Officers involved in Community Policing/Community Outreach		X
Terrorism Liaison Officers (TLOs)/other officers who liaise with fusion centers		X

*Some categories may depend on the size of the Law Enforcement Agency and its organizational structure.