

**From:** (b)(6), (b)(7)c  
**To:**  
**Subject:** FW: HSIN-CI New Posting: (U//FOUO) Reference Aid: Overview of Pre-Travel Activities Exhibited By US Persons Aspiring to Fight in Syria, dated 15 January 2016  
**Date:** Friday, January 15, 2016 3:32:16 PM

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**From:** NICC HSIN-CI New Posting  
**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 3:28:17 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** (b)(6), (b)(7)c  
**Subject:** HSIN-CI New Posting: (U//FOUO) Reference Aid: Overview of Pre-Travel Activities Exhibited By US Persons Aspiring to Fight in Syria, dated 15 January 2016

All,

A new item, (U//FOUO) Reference Aid: Overview of Pre-Travel Activities Exhibited By Us Persons Aspiring to Fight In Syria, dated 15 January 2016 has been posted to the HSIN-Critical Infrastructure (CI) portal at <https://hsin.dhs.gov/ci/home/Pages/default.aspx> under Today's New Documents and/or Recent CI Documents section of the portal.

(U//FOUO) This Reference Aid examines the pre-travel activities and trends associated with 42 arrested US persons who sought to or succeeded in traveling to Syria or Iraq to fight with or support foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) or armed opposition groups since 2013.

This *Reference Aid* is intended to inform federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial counterterrorism, law enforcement, and countering violent extremism (CVE) officials on observable activities violent extremists often engage in prior to traveling to conflict zones.

Access to the site will require the use of your assigned HSIN-CI user name and password. Upon linking directly to the site, the user can then also navigate within HSIN-CI as well as within those Communities of Interest to which they have access.

If you need to update your HSIN password, please click <https://auth.dhs.gov/admin/faces/pages/forgotpwd.jspx> to be directed to a self-service portal. For technical assistance, you may contact the HSIN Help Desk at (b) (6) or toll free at (b) (6)

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Very respectfully,

NICC Watch Operations  
Department of Homeland Security

(b) (6)

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(b)(7)(c)

**From:** FusionCenterSupport  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2015 2:39 PM  
**To:** Fusion Center Directors; Fusion Center FLO; Fusion Center Privacy  
**Cc:** Field Ops (Field)  
**Subject:** Community Awareness Briefing (CAB) - Small PDF  
**Attachments:** cleared CAB Nov 2014.pdf

Colleagues,

In case you had trouble receiving the previous file due to size limitations, please find a smaller pdf version attached.

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**From:** FusionCenterSupport  
**Sent:** Friday, February 13, 2015 2:27 PM  
**To:** Fusion Center Directors; Fusion Center FLO; Fusion Center Privacy  
**Cc:** Field Ops (Field)  
**Subject:** Community Awareness Briefing (CAB)

Colleagues,

Building on existing Building Communities of Trust (BCOT) deliveries, and in order to support your community outreach based initiatives, please find the most recent Community Awareness Briefing (CAB) attached. This briefing is designed to help communities and law enforcement develop the necessary understanding of al-Qa'ida recruitment tactics and explore ways to collectively and holistically address these threats before they become a challenge at the local level. Due to the increased number of Western-based fighters traveling to foreign war conflicts, such as Syria and Somalia, the CAB now includes information relating to the foreign fighter recruitment narrative and the myths versus realities of the situation in Syria and Somalia.

We will be following up with you to provide additional assistance and training services to support the implementation and delivery of this resource to your stakeholders.

This briefing will also be made available on HSIN-Intel.

If you have any questions, or would like any additional materials to support your efforts, please let us know.

Thanks

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**From:** FusionCenterSupport  
**Sent:** Monday, June 23, 2014 5:13 PM  
**To:** Fusion Center Directors; Fusion Center Privacy; SL Field  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Overview of Ongoing Community Outreach Based Initiatives

Colleagues,

As you may know, there are a host of community outreach based initiatives that are being conducted by various federal partners. While these efforts are quickly evolving, we want to ensure that they are coordinated as much as possible with our key stakeholders that may be impacted. Along these lines, we wanted to provide you with an overview of the

current developments that are underway to ensure that you have awareness into recent federal and White House led efforts on CVE.

**CVE Framework.** This is an initiative led by the National Security Council, coordinated with DHS, DOJ, FBI, and NCTC, to facilitate the development of comprehensive, local strategies to counter violent extremism. This process includes mapping out department and agency programs and activities, establishing measurable goals for each line of effort, and formulating assessments focused on outcomes and specifically designed to address programs, training, and return on investment (e.g., impact). As part of this pilot program, the National Security Council is looking to have local stakeholders take the lead in building out and implementing a CVE framework that best addresses the unique issues facing your communities. This effort will be piloted in Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and Boston.

#### **Ongoing Local CVE Efforts:**

**DHS's Building Communities of Trust (BCOT) Initiative:** The purpose of the [BCOT initiative](#) is to encourage and improve information sharing among law enforcement officers, fusion centers, and the communities they serve in order to address the challenges of crime control and terrorism prevention. DHS—in collaboration with the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) Program Management Office, the PM-ISE, the U.S. Department of Justice's COPS Office, and the U.S. Attorney's Office—sponsor BCOT engagements in select cities to help facilitate relationships of trust among the community, local law enforcement, and fusion centers. BCOT roundtables provide a forum for community leaders and law enforcement officials to have candid conversations on how to work together to keep communities safe from terrorism, crime, violence, and other locally based problems that can be better solved together.

**DHS Office for Civil Right and Civil Liberties (CRCL) Community Roundtables:** CRCL leads or plays a significant role in hosting [roundtable meetings among community leaders](#) and federal, state, and local government officials in more than a dozen locations across the country. These roundtable discussions are a major DHS outreach and engagement effort designed to capture the issues, concerns and ideas of the communities most affected by DHS-wide programs and policies.

**NCTC/DHS Community Awareness Briefing (CAB):** The CAB has been conducted in 12 U.S. cities over the past few years. It is designed to help communities and law enforcement develop the necessary understanding of al-Qa'ida recruitment tactics and explore ways to collectively and holistically address these threats before they become a challenge at the local level. Due to the increased number of Western-based fighters traveling to foreign war conflicts, such as Syria and Somalia, the CAB now includes information relating to the foreign fighter recruitment narrative and the myths versus realities of the situation in Syria and Somalia.

**Community Resiliency Exercise (CREX):** The Community Resilience Exercise (CREX) is a half-day table-top exercise designed to improve communication between law enforcement and communities and to share ideas on how best to build community resilience against violent extremism. DHS CRCL and NCTC's Directorate for Strategic and Operational Planning (DSOP) have worked with local partners to implement this exercise in cities across the United States. To date, the exercise has been held in Washington, DC; Chicago, Illinois; Seattle, Washington; Durham, North Carolina, and Houston, Texas. CREXs focus on building trust and empowering communities against violent extremism domestically, a theme that directly supports the domestic CVE Strategy and Strategic Implementation Plan. The CREX is based on a program that has been conducted over 50 times in the United Kingdom with great success. The CREX uses an unfolding scenario of possible violent extremist activity with two threads: one thread disclosing what the police have learned and the other thread what the community experiences. The scenario is revealed in several stages, with participants breaking into small groups after each stage to discuss potential responses and how they should work together. The scenario is hypothetical, but based on the behaviors exhibited by past violent extremists prior to their arrest. The exercise is facilitated by an individual with credibility in both the community and government. At the end of the exercise, the facilitators help the participants create a local action plan focused on prevention and intervention.

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions about these initiatives.