



**Homeland
Security**

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INFORMATION

Purpose

To provide the Domestic Radicalization Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) of the National Security Staff (NSS) information regarding preexisting training programs within the Interagency that can incorporate CVE modules.

Background

The National Security Staff of the White House, in coordination with the Interagency, has developed an approach paper to counter and prevent violent extremism in the United States. The Interagency has identified three objectives in this approach:

1. Enhancing Federal Engagement with and Support to Local Communities that are Targeted by Violent Extremists
2. Building Government and Law Enforcement Expertise for Countering Violent Extremism
3. Challenging Violent Extremist Propaganda While Promoting Our Ideals

The Law Enforcement Training Working Group (WG) on CVE has been tasked to identify preexisting training programs within the Interagency that can incorporate CVE modules. The WG has developed and submitted a catalogue of existing CVE specific training modules. This effort will serve to enhance existing non CVE specific training programs delivered by the Interagency with CVE related issues, threats, and solutions.

Discussion

Department of Homeland Security

DHS CRCL

DHS CRCL has identified two existing training programs which will incorporate CVE training modules:

1. The 9/11 Commission Act requires Fusion Center personnel to receive training on the privacy and civil liberties issues associated with their work. CRCL, with the DHS Privacy Office, have partnered to develop training that meets this requirement, including creating an on-site training program for nationwide fusion centers. Although originally intended for Fusion Center use, this course has been adapted to provide CVE specific information, such as 1) an unclassified threat briefing regarding homegrown violent extremism, its drivers, and its narrative; and 2) cultural awareness training for intelligence officials, to better understand misconceptions and stereotypes of Islam, Muslims, Sikhs and other religious communities.

2. CRCL has partnered with DHS Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to provide training regarding the protection of civil rights and civil liberties in a homeland security environment. CRCL has input similar CVE specific information regarding issues, threats, and actions of law enforcement officials that can counter IIVE narratives. Such CVE training modules include: an unclassified threat briefing, misconceptions and stereotypes of Islam, Muslims, Sikhs and other religious communities, and effective policing without the use of ethnic profiling.

Department of State

The Foreign Service Institute (FSI) is the Federal Government's primary training institution for officers and support personnel of the U.S. foreign affairs community, preparing American diplomats and other professionals to advance U.S. foreign affairs interests overseas and in Washington. At the George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center, the FSI provides more than 600 courses—including some 70 foreign languages—to more than 100,000 enrollees a year from the State Department and more than 40 other government agencies and the military service branches. FSI provides a variety of opportunities for incorporating CVE modules into existing training programs. In March 2011, State Department added a new CVE panel/module to PP521 "International Terrorism", to give its students a greater understanding of the homegrown violent extremism threat.

Additionally, in May 2011, FSI piloted the new CVE training "Countering Violent Extremism: A Community-Based Approach" -- and are now working with FSI to formalize it and offer it biannually (probably as a numbered course for the first time by the end of 2011).

In addition, FSI has developed a proposal for area-specific CVE modules to be added to appropriate Area Studies courses at FSI.

Department of Justice

Executive Office of U.S Attorneys

Certain training programs conducted at individual US Attorney Offices (including programs led by law enforcement coordinators and ATAC coordinators). USAOs have also traditionally engaged in a wide range of outreach efforts and training on a number of subjects, which might under some circumstances be appropriate venues for inclusion of CVE or cultural awareness training.

- o *Note:* Trainings conducted by individual USAOs are not done according to any schedule, nor do they have any specific content requirements.

Certain training programs conducted at the National Advocacy Center (including programs that train law enforcement coordinators, and national security trainings).

Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Communities Against Terrorism (CAT) - The Communities Against Terrorism program provides law enforcement agencies with a program to engage members of the local community in the fight against terrorism. This program provides industry-specific information on activities associated with the planning and preparation of a terrorist attack. Industry knows what is normal in their business; the CAT program leverages this awareness by enhancing their ability to detect activities that could potentially have a terrorism connection. Informed community members who know how to report potentially suspicious behaviors can be an invaluable resource to law enforcement. The partnership between the community and law enforcement is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts and benefits both entities. Please visit <https://www.slatt.org/cat.aspx> for further information about the CAT program.

Building Communities of Trust (BCOT) - The BCOT initiative is a newer component supporting the NSI program. It focuses on helping develop relationships of trust between police departments, fusion centers, and the communities they serve—particularly immigrant and minority communities—to prevent terrorist-related crime and to help keep our communities safe. Under the leadership of the Nationwide SAR Initiative (NSI), the BCOT initiative expanded in 2010, with roundtables held in Chicago, IL and Los Angeles, CA, and is working with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) to hold several more roundtables in 2011. The NSI also partnered with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) efforts and held roundtables in Dearborn, MI and Minneapolis, MN. Also, in Fall 2010, the Guidance for Building Communities of Trust was released at the IACP annual conference in Orlando, FL. This guidance provides advice and recommendations to law enforcement, fusion center personnel, and the community on how to initiate and sustain trusting relationships that support meaningful sharing of information, responsiveness to community concerns and priorities, and the reporting of suspicious activities that appropriately distinguish between innocent cultural behaviors and behavior that may legitimately reflect criminal enterprise or terrorism precursor activities.

For more information concerning the Building Communities of Trust please visit www.nsi.ncirc.gov/items_of_interest.

The State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training (SLATT) provides specialized training for law enforcement personnel in combating terrorism and extremist criminal activity. In order to ensure that SLATT training always delivers the most up-to-date information, terrorism-related topics are constantly researched and reviewed, and timely information is offered regarding pre-incident preparation, investigation, prevention, and interdiction training. It is entirely separate and fulfills a different need from First Responder and other related Weapons of Mass Destruction/Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical response training provided to emergency service personnel. SLATT focuses on the prevention of terrorism in the United States by providing the tools necessary for state and local law enforcement officers to understand, detect, deter, and investigate acts of terrorism in the United States by both international and domestic, or homegrown terrorists. While the SLATT Program always emphasized on the threat of foreign-inspired terrorism on American soil, the attacks of September 11, 2001, brought a new intensity to the training activities. SLATT increased training

offerings in foreign-inspired terrorism, addressing specific groups and organizations that may pose a danger to America going forward. SLATT also identified an increase in violent acts linked to various special-interest groups and incorporated this aspect into the training curricula and research activities.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

Regarding CVE training at the FBI, the following covers criminal radicalization processes, counter-radicalization (through community-oriented policing), disengagement (through intelligence-led policing), and de-radicalization (through evidence-based policing).

1. New Agents training - Group Dynamics and Criminal Radicalization Processes - 8 hours
2. National Academy (local, state, and federal police officers) Graduate level course on Understanding the Mindset of Terrorists and the Government's Response - 44 hours
3. Counter Terrorism Division (CTD) career path training (CITI OPS) all Agents from 2 yrs- 20+ yrs working CT matters get 8 hours on Criminal Radicalization processes and Disengagement response
4. CTD JTTF training all TFOs get 6 hours of instruction on Criminal Radicalization processes and Disengagement response
5. A virtual academy awareness course is under construction and will be ready by September 2011.

FBI Counterterrorism Analysis Section (CTAS)

The FBI is working with Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) in the preparation of two products for dissemination to state/provincial and local law enforcement:

- Radicalization 101 – This initial product is a short piece on what radicalization to violence is and is not, how law enforcement plays an interactive role with the community to prevent/deter this behavior generally, and more specifically toward Sunni Islamist extremism. We anticipate this first piece to be applicable to law enforcement executives as well as beat officers, and intend to add additional pieces later to address other more specific groups, such as domestic terrorists. There was discussion of it being turned into a pamphlet or pocket guide beat officers could carry with them as a reference tool on the ground.
- CVE Common Lexicon – This product is a joint effort by FBI and the RCMP to define several terms that are regularly used in discussing CVE matters. The product attempts to provide a common starting point for discussion and avoid miscommunications that may have arisen in the past due to different interpretations of the same terms. The product is based on the FBI Counterterrorism Lexicon, with some changes made to make the lexicon more globally applicable and to incorporate new insights.

Additionally, the FBI's Counterterrorism Analysis Section participates with DHS and NCTC in a tri-seal briefing on homegrown violent extremism. The audience is primarily Fusion Center personnel,

but other FBI and JTTF personnel also attend. To date, approximately 12 briefings have occurred in a number of cities. The FBI plans to engage with DHS and NCTC to discuss future visits and coordinate the visits with the field offices.

West Point Combating Terrorism Center (CTC)

West Point CTC provides CVE and cultural awareness training, as well as counterterrorism and regionally focused instruction where CVE modules could easily be inserted. The CTC's course catalogs are available upon request.

The CTC's educational seminars provide students with an understanding of the political, social, theological and organizational contours shaping partner communities at home and abroad. Within these contours, the CTC's subject matter experts introduce students to the key individuals, organizations, historical moments, and ideas that comprise the intellectual and social terrain of their community engagement efforts.

The CTC's CVE course menu is comprised of twenty-one classes divided into four categories: Understanding Islam; understanding political ideologies and forms of activism based on Islamic values; understanding radicalization and countering violent extremism; and cultural and regional awareness.

The CTC currently partners with the FBI, Intelligence Community, DoD, ICE, local law enforcement and first responder communities through various programs such as the DOJ ATAC program.