



## National Protection and Programs Directorate Office for Strategic Engagement-Los Angeles 2013 Highlights and Accomplishments

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In response to the White House Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP), "Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism in the United States", DHS partnered with the City of Los Angeles in 2011 to establish the DHS Office for Strategic Engagement (OSE). The office works to strengthen the department's relationships with state and local law enforcement, government officials, community groups, academic institutions, and the private sector. The office seeks to partner with both government and non-government entities locally to jointly help mitigate risks of violent extremists related threats to the homeland. The program in Los Angeles has not only become a valuable resource for the Department, but as envisioned, a critical partner in the region working regularly with stakeholders on CVE initiatives and training programs. This forward-leaning initiative has chartered a path for the Department by which all four fundamental activities and three objectives as outlined in the SIP are satisfied.

### 2013 SNAPSHOT

- ◆ Syrian American Outreach
  - ◆ In response to civil war in Syria and threat of foreign fighters, OSE began a focused outreach campaign to the Syrian-American community in Southern California, the largest in the U.S.
  - ◆ Presentations included travel/redress procedures for humanitarian groups operating in Syria as well as briefings to parents on recruitment efforts targeting Westerners to join both sides of the war.
- ◆ CVE Law Enforcement Training
  - ◆ Worked with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department to create a stand alone 8hr course on CVE for their training academy.
- ◆ Seminary National Security Module
  - ◆ Regular guest lecturer on national security at Claremont Lincoln School of Theology.
- ◆ Provided protective security measures briefings to 53 faith-based organizations in partnership with Protective Security Advisors.
- ◆ Worked with Director of fusion center to ensure any CT or CVE related training is based on DHS approved research and intelligence.
- ◆ In conjunction with FEMA, hosted or participated in 17 Grant Information Sessions to faith-based organizations.
- ◆ Presented White House CVE Strategic Implementation Plan at numerous national conferences including the National Homeland Security Conference, the National Church Security Summit, and the National Jewish Community Centers Board of Directors Meeting.
- ◆ Boston Bombings
  - ◆ In the hours after the incident at the request of community stakeholders in Boston, worked with various faith-based organizations to ensure there were clear lines of communication with law enforcement in Boston.
  - ◆ Participated as SME on numerous DHS and White House hosted conference calls with stakeholders across country.
- ◆ Provided 19 briefs on the threat of online radicalization to various community groups.
- ◆ Presented DHS CVE approach at 3 CRCL Roundtables.
- ◆ Met with Imams and leadership from various Islamic Centers 45 times to ensure they are aware of potential opportunities for collaboration and also maintain an open line of communication.
- ◆ Participated in 15 career panels highlighting the importance of civil service and national security at faith-based private schools and weekend schools.