

**From:** [Marston, Alex](#)  
**To:** [TSA-OLA](#)  
**Subject:** BDO briefing summary  
**Date:** Thursday, April 17, 2014 5:41:00 PM

---

This afternoon, Melanie Harvey, Sarah Tauber, Michael Silata, BWI FSD Andrea Mishoe (OSO), and Matt Cobey (OSC) hosted a House Committee on Homeland Security staff visit to BWI to view the BDO Targeted Conversation (BTC) Proof of Concept. Staff took turns standing with me behind a TDC podium to listen to BDO-passenger interactions. None of the passengers had negative reactions to being asked questions by the BDO.

Following the checkpoint visit, staff visited the BWI Coordination Center to ask questions about BTC. Questions focused on how TSA is evaluating BTC, procedures for passengers who are unable or refuse to answer questions, the extent to which BDOs are required to stick solely to the questions they are trained to ask, and the ability of TSA to collect passenger feedback. Staff believes TSA should survey passengers about their screening experience, and they requested a copy of the methodology being used for testing and evaluation.

Staff in attendance:

Amanda Parikh

Nicole Halavik

Kyle Klein

Brian Turbyfill

Cedric Haynes

Ryan Consaul

Diana Bergwin

**Alex Marston**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Transportation Security Administration

(571) 227 - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** [Marston, Alex](#)  
**To:** [TSA-OLA](#)  
**Subject:** BDO briefing summary  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 25, 2014 7:27:09 PM

---

Sarah Tauber, Michael Silata, Christina Koprivica (OSO), and Matt Cobey (OSC) briefed CHS TS Subcommittee staff on the BDO Targeted Conversation (BTC) Proof of Concept. TSA provided an overview of BTC as well as a demonstration of what BDO-passenger interactions might look like for both compliant and non-compliant passengers. Staff asked whether passengers will be referred to secondary screening based solely on their behavior or also on the content of their answers to the questions; how the decision will be made to expand BTC further; how TSA will gauge how passengers feel about being asked questions during screening; and whether the questions being used have been fully vetted by OCC and OCRL. Staff requested a list of the questions being used and said they may want a follow-up briefing from OCC and OCRL.

**Alex Marston**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Transportation Security Administration

(571) 227 - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** [Marston, Alex](#)  
**To:** [TSA-OLA](#)  
**Subject:** BDO briefing/tour  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 05, 2014 4:33:21 PM

---

This afternoon, Mike Silata/Scott Johnson/Jenel Cline (OSO) and Matt Cobey (OSC) provided a briefing on BDO operations and a tour of Dulles International Airport (IAD) to Senate Commerce Committee staff. OSO provided an overview of BDO history, procedures, and ongoing changes, and OSC discussed optimization efforts and updates to the indicators list. Questions focused on the ability of indicators to focus on terrorist intent versus criminal activity and the creation of the new dual-certification TSO-BD position. The briefing concluded with a visit to checkpoint to see in person how BDOs are positioned during operations, both during and outside of Managed Inclusion hours.

**Alex Marston**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Transportation Security Administration

(571) 227 - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** [Marston, Alex](#)  
**To:** [TSA-OLA; Storms, Benjamin](#)  
**Subject:** BDO briefings  
**Date:** Thursday, October 09, 2014 5:36:00 PM

---

Today, Sarah Tauber/Mike Silata (OSO) and Matt Cobey (OSC) briefed staff of the Senate Commerce and Senate Judiciary Committees on the Behavioral Detection and Analysis program. TSA provided an overview of the program, including racial profiling issues. Staff asked questions regarding TSA's definition of profiling, the process for referring allegations of profiling to the Inspector General, the effectiveness of behavioral detection as a deterrent factor, the use of BDOs outside the aviation arena, and the scientific studies supporting the use of individual indicators. Senate Judiciary staff also stated they believe they have jurisdiction over all civil rights issues and would like to discuss jurisdiction with TSA further.

Staff in attendance:

Jenny Solomon

Doug MacIvor

Tom Chapman (Commerce)

Joe Zogby (Judiciary Staff Director)

Stephanie Trifone (Judiciary)

Hasan Ali (Judiciary)

The same briefers then briefed House Committee on Homeland Security staff, including both the Subcommittee on Transportation Security and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency. TSA provided an overview of upcoming changes to the program, including the reduction of BDO positions at certain airports, the creation of a TSO-Behavioral Detection dual-certification position, and plans to pilot new indicators and procedures starting next week at Portland International Airport. Staff asked about how TSO-BDs will be hired and used, how views on behavior detection have changed over the years, whether TSA plans to incorporate behavior detection capabilities into regular TSO training further in the future and reduce the size of the BDO workforce, and whether there is any overlap among behavioral indicators and (b)(3):49 U.S.C. § 114 Staff requested as get backs data on the reduction in passenger volume covered by BDOs in FY15, the list of Category II airports that will retain BDOs, the factors used to determine which airports will retain BDOs, a positional breakdown of the 1,400 current agency vacancies for which BDOs may apply, and details on the procedures for handling violently ill passengers at a checkpoint.

Staff in attendance:

Amanda Parikh

Kyle Klein

Brian Turbyfill

Cedric Haynes

Ryan Consaul

Diana Bergwin

**Alex Marston**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Transportation Security Administration

(571) 227 - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** [Marston, Alex](#)  
**To:** [Dietch, Sarah](#); [Hearding, Peter](#); [Beck, Carol](#)  
**Subject:** Briefing summary  
**Date:** Friday, November 08, 2013 3:11:00 PM

---

This morning, House Homeland Security Committee (Transportation Security and Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittees) staff visited HQ along with staff from Reps. Hudson and Richmond's personal offices.

Pete Garcia (OSO) and Mike Duffy (OSPIE) briefed the staff on TSA requirements for LEOs as outlined in Airport Security Plans. Pete explained the difference between fixed post and flexible response LEOs, the process for amending ASPs, and general response time requirements. Staff questions focused on why an airport would prefer one style (fixed vs. flexible) over another, as well as the specific requirements at LAX. Staff requested as get backs confirmation of the response time requirement at LAX, the number of cases of non-compliance at LAX, and information on how requests for LEOs at the checkpoint are documented.

Melanie Harvey, Sarah Tauber, Kim Lambert (OSO), and Matt Cobey (OSC) then briefed the staff on the BDO program. TSA provided an overview of recent and ongoing changes to the program, including the reallocation for FY14 and the ongoing indicator optimization. Questions focused on the methodology of S&T's 2011 validation study, the scientific validity of the program as a whole and of specific indicators, the need for a BDO workforce separate from TSOs with physical screening duties, the use of BDOs within Managed Inclusion, and the hypothetical effects of reduction to the program. Staff requested as get backs an update on the number of airports using MI1 and MI2 and data on prohibited items discovered in TSA Pre✓™ lanes during MI operations.

**Alex Marston**

Office of Legislative Affairs

Transportation Security Administration

(571) 227-(b)(6)

(b)(6)