



Deployed Intelligence Officers and Protective Security Advisors

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) deploys Intelligence Officers (IOs) and [Protective Security Advisors](#) (PSAs) to support state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT), and private sector partners in advancing the homeland security mission. IOs are embedded in recognized [state and major urban area fusion centers](#) (fusion centers) to advance the sharing of threat-related information among federal, SLTT, and private sector partners. PSAs engage these partners as regional critical infrastructure security and resilience specialists, providing local perspective to—and supporting the development of—the national risk picture by identifying, assessing, monitoring, and minimizing risk to critical infrastructure at the regional, state, and local levels. Their distinct yet complementary roles enable IOs and PSAs to jointly support DHS partners in ensuring the safety and security of our nation.

Responsibilities of Intelligence Officers

IOs are deployed by the DHS [Office of Intelligence and Analysis](#) (I&A) to apply their intelligence skills at a local level, in collaboration with state, local, tribal, territorial, and private sector partners and the DHS Intelligence Enterprise (IE), to promote information sharing and assist the implementation and execution of the intelligence cycle. IOs serve two primary roles: 1) partner with fusion centers to facilitate achievement of the *Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers* and 2) manage the intelligence cycle in their area of responsibility to include the sharing of threat-related information between SLTT partners and the federal government. The information and intelligence products shared by IOs provide the federal government with local context on emerging threats and inform the national threat picture.

IOs perform many of the responsibilities assigned to DHS by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, including:

- ◀ Assist fusion centers and SLTT partners in sharing and analyzing intelligence and information to develop a comprehensive threat picture.
- ◀ Review relevant homeland security information from SLTT partners and support the generation of

intelligence products for sharing with federal partners and the Intelligence Community.

- ◀ Provide guidance for the production and dissemination of intelligence and information products to SLTT partners, other fusion centers, and the federal government.
- ◀ Facilitate fusion center access to training, technical assistance, and exercises to regularly assess capabilities.
- ◀ Assist in the identification and reporting of threats and hazards to the homeland, consistent with DHS authorities and missions.
- ◀ Facilitate access to specialized subject-matter expertise resident within both DHS and the Intelligence Community.

To support fusion centers in their achievement of the *Baseline Capabilities*, IOs provide SLTT law enforcement and homeland security leadership with access to best practices, lessons learned, and other resources from the federal government and across the National Network of Fusion Centers. IOs serve as advocates for fusion centers to both DHS and the rest of the federal government to obtain resources and support necessary to implement the statewide fusion process.

Responsibilities of Protective Security Advisors

Established by the DHS [Office of Infrastructure Protection](#) (IP) in 2004, the PSA Program provides strategic guidance and coordinates overall efforts to promote the security and resilience of the nation's critical infrastructure. In achieving this objective, PSAs support critical infrastructure security and resilience efforts across the following mission areas:

- ◀ Plan, coordinate, and conduct security and resilience [surveys and assessments](#) at critical infrastructure sites.

- ◀ Plan and conduct outreach activities in support of critical infrastructure security and resilience efforts.
- ◀ Support National Special Security Events (NSSEs) and Special Event Activity Rating (SEAR) Levels I and II events.
- ◀ Support incident response to events impacting critical infrastructure.
- ◀ Coordinate and support improvised explosive device (IED) awareness and risk mitigation training.

Responsibilities of Protective Security Advisors (continued)

The PSA Program maintains a robust operational field capability, providing SLTT and private sector stakeholders with access to risk-mitigation tools, products, and services (such as training and facility assessments). PSAs also support response to all-hazard incidents through field-level coordination and information sharing, serving as Infrastructure Liaisons to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Offices and state and local [Emergency Operations Centers](#). By providing expert knowledge of affected infrastructure and maintaining communications with facility owners and operators, PSAs help prioritize and coordinate critical infrastructure response, recovery, and restoration efforts.

PSAs also engage with the United States Secret Service to support critical infrastructure assessments, security planning, and coordination during NSSEs and other large-scale special events. Such support includes conducting Enhanced Critical Infrastructure Protection (ECIP) surveys, which assess the overall security and resilience of a facility. These assessments may be conducted as stand-alone events or as part of a [Regional Resiliency Assessment Program \(RRAP\) project](#), an Office of Infrastructure-led assessment of specific critical infrastructure and a regional analysis of the surrounding infrastructure intended to examine vulnerabilities, threats, and potential consequences to all hazards (e.g., dependencies, interdependencies, cascading effects, resilience characteristics, and gaps).

Intelligence Officers

Focus on threat-related information

Support fusion centers to achieve the Baseline Capabilities and support the intelligence cycle in their area of responsibility

Share threat information across disparate disciplines on topics such as terrorism, criminal activity, and public safety

Produce actionable intelligence for dissemination to appropriate law enforcement and homeland security partners

Support coordination of fusion center participation in training and exercises so that they can regularly assess the capability of individual fusion centers and the National Network of Fusion Centers

Protective Security Advisors

Focus on critical infrastructure-related vulnerability, resilience, and security information

Support SLTT implementation of the [National Infrastructure Protection Plan \(NIPP\)](#) and risk management practices of the private sector

Conduct outreach to coordinate the [sharing of critical infrastructure information](#) among federal, SLTT, and private sector partners

Provide guidance to SLTT and private sector partners regarding critical infrastructure security and resilience and mitigation strategies

Coordinate infrastructure-related training and assessments, and support IED and risk-mitigation training for SLTT partners and infrastructure owners and operators

Partnership Between Intelligence Officers and Protective Security Advisors

As DHS colleagues with distinct yet complementary roles, IOs and PSAs exchange information to inform and enhance overall execution of the homeland security mission. IOs work closely with PSAs to incorporate critical infrastructure vulnerability, security, resilience, and threat-related information into intelligence products and analyses in order to develop a more comprehensive and accurate national risk profile. PSAs also maintain valuable relationships with

critical infrastructure owners and operators and private sector partners that assist IOs in conducting community outreach efforts. IOs provide access to important threat-related information from the federal government, as well as locally generated information pertaining to their jurisdiction. This allows PSAs to provide more informed guidance related to enhancing the security and resilience of critical infrastructure within state and local jurisdictions.