

The Statewide Integrated Intelligence System (SIIS)

Background and Intent:

In 2002, the Intelligence Subcommittee of the Governor's Committee on Homeland Security (CHS) and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) recognized that it was critical for this state to develop a capacity to gather, analyze and share intelligence on terrorist and other organized criminal groups. As a result, they joined with key representatives of local, tribal, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, and created a statewide, jurisdictionally integrated, intelligence and analysis system.

Key initiative principles:

- Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in Washington State must place a high priority on the development of an integrated intelligence system with a capacity for collecting, analyzing and sharing critical information.
- The goals of the intelligence process are to prevent crime, including terrorist acts, and to facilitate the complete and successful criminal investigations.
- A wide variety of criminal activity may precede a terrorist act. Discovery and interruption of this activity can result in the prevention or disruption of a terrorist event. Therefore, the intelligence and analytical process must take an "all-crimes approach" to terrorism prevention.
- The system must be a true cross-jurisdictional partnership, integrating local, state, and federal law enforcement, first responders, emergency management and, when appropriate, the private sector.
- The system must be cooperative in its development and must benefit all participants.
- The system must fully integrate human and technological components.
- The system must respect and protect the civil rights, civil liberties and personal privacy of all people and groups.

The Statewide Integrated Intelligence System (SIIS) includes two key components - an intelligence and analytical center known as the Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC) and Regional Intelligence Groups (RIGs) situated throughout the state. The Fusion Center and the RIGs, working in partnership with law enforcement and representatives from public safety agencies and the private sector, are critical to the success of the SIIS.

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Unifying SIIS Principles:

WASPC will exercise overall strategic guidance and direction of the SIIS, including setting policy parameters for the overall system.

The WSFC will operate consistent with the overall framework of the SIIS, which includes the WSFC, RIGs, other state, regional and local public safety agencies, and private sector partners.

WASPC does not manage or direct the functions of the WSFC, which shall remain vested in the WSFC Executive Board. The WSFC Executive Board retains the authority to make policy, set strategic priorities and to manage and direct the functions of the WSFC.

The WSFC does not manage or direct the functions of the Regional Intelligence Groups, which are managed and governed by their respective regional governance boards.

1. Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC) Executive Board

The WSFC Executive Board (Board) is comprised of agencies and representatives participating in public safety and homeland security missions. Bylaws govern the activities, membership, and authorities of the Board. The Board is responsible for authorizing agencies to participate in the WSFC and has the authority to make policy, set strategic priorities and provide overall direction to the WSFC Director and staff. Permanent membership is comprised of the following:

- The Washington State Homeland Security Advisor
- The Chief of the Washington State Patrol
- The Chief of the Seattle Police Department
- The King County Sheriff
- One at-large Eastern Washington law enforcement representative appointed by WASPC
- The FBI Special Agent in Charge, Seattle Field Office
- The President of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC)
- The U.S. Attorney (rotating between Eastern and Western Washington Districts bi-annually)

The Board appoints the WSFC Director who reports directly to the Board for all matters related to the WSFC.

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2. Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC) The Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC), created by Charter in May 2009, operates according to a concept of operations and standard operating procedures approved by the WSFC Executive Board. The WSFC Charter describes the mission, organizational principles, authorities and governance structure of the WSFC.

The WSFC works closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Field Intelligence Group (FIG) and Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTFs) to encourage real-time two-way exchange of information and intelligence for terrorism investigations.

a. Mission

The mission of the WSFC is to support the public safety and homeland security missions of federal, state, local, tribal agencies and private sector entities by:

- (i) Serving as the state's single fusion center.
- (ii) Detecting, deterring and preventing terrorist attacks.
- (iii) Detecting, deterring and preventing significant criminal activity.
- (iv) Performing threat assessment and information management services, including supporting the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources.
- (v) Providing support to all hazards preparation, planning, response and recovery efforts.

b. Responsibilities

- i. The WSFC shall collaborate with multiple agencies and non-governmental partners in support of a unified capability for the pursuit of state, local, tribal and federal public safety and homeland security objectives.
- ii. An interagency agreement shall govern mutual responsibilities, obligations and conditions of participation between the WSFC and participating agencies and entities. Interagency agreements will be

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approved by the WSFC Executive Board and executed by all appropriate parties.

- iii. In any developing terrorist situation, the WSFC collaborates with the affected jurisdiction(s), the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to organize and disseminate tactical intelligence information as quickly and efficiently as possible to law enforcement agencies, first responders, appropriate private sector representatives and other key decision makers throughout the state.
- iv. The WSFC shall create and regularly update Priority Intelligence Requirements (PIRs) to assist in identifying gaps in the statewide threat picture and to assist in driving the information collection process.
- v. Based upon the appropriate PIRs the WSFC will develop, disseminate and collect indicators of specific and definable activities potentially associated with criminal and/or terrorist planning activities.
- vi. As a participant in the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) the WSFC will coordinate training for recognition and reporting of suspicious activities for key homeland security groups in Washington State, including law enforcement, the fire service, health, emergency management and critical infrastructure.
- vii. The WSFC should follow the recommendations set forth in the National Fusion Center Guidelines (NFCG), Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers, the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (NCISP) and the National Strategy for Information Sharing (NSIS).

2. Regional Intelligence Groups (RIGs)

To maximize the effectiveness of the SIIS, it is imperative that regional collaboration be established. The composition, mission and operational details of such collaboration cannot be dictated by a central plan but must be developed to meet the needs and resources of the particular agencies that choose to form such partnerships. In accomplishing this, RIG's operate within certain guidelines and an overarching framework as described below.

a. Responsibilities

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- i. RIGs should adopt a Charter identifying key organizational concepts such as mission, organization and management, governance structure, and authorities.
- ii. RIGs should establish a written Privacy Policy that addresses Civil Liberties and Civil Rights protections.
- iii. RIGs should adopt practices and policies consistent with the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (NCISP) and the National Strategy for Information Sharing (NSIS).
- iv. RIGs shall facilitate the timely two-way flow of critical information and intelligence to all agencies within their region and to the WSFC.
- v. RIGs shall ensure that all tips and leads that have a potential nexus to terrorism are forwarded in a timely manner to the WSFC where the information will be vetted, analyzed and shared as appropriate with the FBI, DHS, and other key agencies.
- vi. RIGs shall enter into interagency agreements with the WSFC and other agencies to govern the two-way sharing of information and intelligence.

3. Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) Program

The Fusion Liaison Officer (FLO) program is a statewide network of agency-selected law enforcement, fire-fighting and critical infrastructure agency representatives. The FLO program serves as integral component of the SIIS and provides the mechanism to gather and analyze information and to share actionable intelligence.

The FLO program benefits its partners in the following ways:

- Expedites the flow of information throughout the state, providing a more rapid response to matters of both state and national security;
- Increases awareness of pre-incident indicators and warnings of terrorism and significant criminal activity;
- Establishes standardized reporting protocols for the SIIS;
- Opens communication channels between law enforcement, the fire-service, critical infrastructure, RIGs and the WSFC; and,
- Enhances SIIS efficiency and effectiveness while increasing information collection opportunities.

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4. Training

- a. The Homeland Security – Intelligence - Technology Committee of WASPC shall review training programs. Training programs shall be tailored to meet the standards set by the Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit (LEIU) and the International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA).
- b. Every intelligence officer, supervisor, manager, and executive with criminal intelligence operations oversight, and those personnel assigned to the WSFC or RIGs should receive training on the appropriate collection, storage, and dissemination of intelligence.
- c. Analysts shall be trained to the appropriate professional standards as determined by IALEIA.
- d. Every law enforcement officer recruit in the state of Washington should be required to receive at least two hours of training on the intelligence process consistent with LEIU standards as a mandatory part of Basic Law Enforcement Training administered through the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission or the WSP Trooper Basic Academy. Courses of instruction should include the proper handling of intelligence information and the recognition and reporting of the indicators of terrorist pre-operational planning.
- e. All Fusion Liaison Officers (FLOs) must attend a DHS approved basic course of instruction coordinated by the Washington State Fusion Center (WSFC).

5. Statewide Integrated Intelligence System Review

At least annually, the WASPC Homeland Security – Intelligence – Technology committee shall review this plan to identify any necessary changes.