Law Enforcement Roles in the Shadow War on Terrorism
Law Enforcement Roles Topics

- Introduction
- Roles and responsibilities
- Intelligence operations
- Terrorism resources
Terrorism Awareness

- Regardless of assignment, every law enforcement officer has a role in the shadow war on terrorism.
- While specialized terrorism units may have the lead responsibility for terrorism-related activities, all officers have a supporting role.
Teamwork

- Just as one football player cannot play the game alone, no single organization (regardless of resources) can be effective in countering terrorism.
Prevention Is the Key

- Intervention
- Investigation
- Prevention
- Response
- Crises management
- Consequence management
Preparation and training to respond to a terrorist attack is both vital and necessary, but preventing the attack from occurring is the most desirable outcome.
Prevention Is the Key (continued)

- Effective efforts to detect and prevent further acts of terrorism are going to require cooperation across all spectrums—from the street officer to the highest levels of the national and international intelligence communities.
Prevention Is the Key (continued)

- Community policing and terrorism prevention share common goals
  - Both are proactive and preventive in nature
  - Both require an interactive relationship with the community
  - Both are intelligence-driven
Prevention Is the Key (continued)

- One of the goals of community policing is for law enforcement to address the issues that are of most concern to the community they serve.
- Since September 11, 2001, the fear of further terrorist attacks has concerned every community.
Prevention Is the Key (continued)

- Citizens at all levels expect the police to
  - Understand the threat
  - Identify community vulnerabilities
  - Work to assist in hardening the targets, when possible
  - Monitor those who may be a threat
Information and Intelligence

- Community policing principles stress that information and intelligence are key factors in addressing and responding to community concerns.
- Nowhere is this more critical than in identifying and preventing terrorist attacks.
“Obtaining information about the identity, goals, plans, and vulnerabilities of terrorists is difficult. Yet no other single policy effort is more important for preventing, preempting, and responding to terrorist attacks.”

- National Commission on Terrorism
**Information and Intelligence** (continued)

- General mission of law enforcement intelligence is the gathering of information about individuals and groups that may pose a threat, and the use of that knowledge to forecast future activities.
Information and Intelligence (continued)

- A puzzle has many pieces; each is important
  - Information is not intelligence until it is properly analyzed
  - While a piece of information may not appear relevant, it may be the piece that brings the plot together
Information and Intelligence Sources

- There are numerous existing sources of intelligence and mechanisms for information exchange
  - Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program
  - FBI Law Enforcement Online (LEO)
  - NCIC Violent Gang and Terrorist Organization File (VGTOF)
  - U.S. Attorney Anti-Terrorism Task Forces (ATTF)
Information and Intelligence Sources (continued)

- There are numerous existing sources of intelligence and mechanisms for information exchange (continued)
  - State and regional intelligence centers
  - High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) intelligence centers
  - El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC)
  - State homeland security offices
  - Other intelligence sources
Terrorism Task Forces

- FBI Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF)
- After the September attacks, the FBI Director ordered that a JTTF be established in each FBI field office
Terrorism Task Forces (continued)

- JTTFs include various federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies
- State and local representatives are sworn in as Deputy U.S. Marshals and are given security clearances
Terrorism Task Forces (continued)

- JTTF mission and purpose
  - Obtain and develop terrorism-related information
  - Share terrorism-related information with others in law enforcement
  - Deter and prevent possible terrorist-related activity
  - Assist in the prosecution of terrorism-related cases
  - Implement information and intelligence-related investigations
Terrorism Task Forces (continued)

- Other terrorism working groups operate much like JTTFs, except
  - Officers are often not assigned full-time
  - Members often do not have security clearances
  - May span FBI divisional boundaries
  - They often exist as an informational sharing and exchange forum
Terrorism Task Forces (continued)

- ATTFs
  - Formed by the U.S. Attorney General in all U.S. Attorney Offices on September 17, 2001
  - Organization varies between the offices
  - Some have joined with JTTFs; others have created separate task forces
Terrorism Task Forces (continued)

- ATTF objectives
  - Prevent, disrupt, and/or defeat terrorist operations and their support mechanisms
  - Develop and implement the full range of resources available to investigate terrorist incidents, bringing their perpetrators to justice
  - Vigorously prosecute those who have committed, intend to commit, or support terrorist acts in the U.S.
Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

- Homeland Security Act of 2002
  - Merges parts of 22 agencies into one department of roughly 170,000 employees
  - Major agencies absorbed into DHS include
    - Secret Service, Customs, Coast Guard, INS
    - Transportation Security Administration (TSA), FAA
    - FEMA
Homeland Security Act of 2002

- Other entities transferred to DHS include
  - The State Department’s Visa Office
  - The FBI’s National Domestic Preparedness Office (NDPO) and National Infrastructure Protection Center (NIPC) functions
  - The Office of Justice Program’s (OJP) Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP)
  - Elements of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Defense, and the Government Services Administration (GSA)
Homeland Security Act of 2002 (continued)

- DHS will be organized into four directorates, plus the Secret Service and a management unit
  - Border and Transportation Security
  - Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection
  - Emergency Preparedness and Response
  - Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Countermeasures
Homeland Security Act of 2002 (continued)

- The Border and Transportation Security Directorate will include
  - Coast Guard
  - Customs Service
  - INS
  - Border Patrol
  - TSA
  - Related functions from other departments
Homeland Security Act of 2002 (continued)

- The Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate will include infrastructure protection and threat analysis, absorbing
  - The FBI’s NIPC
  - The Defense Department’s National Communications System
  - Related functions from the Departments of Commerce, Energy, and the GSA
Homeland Security Act of 2002 (continued)

- The Emergency Preparedness Directorate includes FEMA and related functions
- The Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Countermeasures Directorate includes divisions for
  - Science and Technology Development
  - Chemical
  - Biological/Agricultural
  - Radiological/Nuclear
Other Terrorism Resources

- Other state and local agencies and organizations
Practical Examples Where One Alert Officer Made the Difference

- Yu Kikumura
- Timothy McVeigh
- Ahmed Ressam
Law Enforcement Roles Recap

- Introduction
- Roles and responsibilities
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- Terrorism resources
Questions