

# AGRICULTURE IN FUSION CENTERS

~ CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ~

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Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer  
Services



# Overview

- Definition of Intelligence Fusion
- Why Fusion Centers?
- Fusion Centers in Florida – State and Regional Centers
- Agriculture's Involvement in Fusion Centers
- Success Stories/Benefits
- Challenges – Training and Privacy Issues
- Fusion Center Resources
- Discussion



# Definition and Purpose of Fusion Centers

- A fusion center is an effective and efficient mechanism to:
  - exchange information and intelligence, maximize resources,
  - streamline operations, and improve the ability to prevent crime and terrorism by analyzing data from a variety of sources.
- Data fusion involves the exchange of information from different sources - including law enforcement, public safety, and the private sector
- The purpose is to develop a collaborative process to improve intelligence sharing and
- To increase the ability to detect, prevent, and solve crimes
- **Fusion: Turning Information and Intelligence Into Actionable Knowledge**



# Why Fusion Centers?

- The events of 9/11 exposed gaps in federal, state, and regional intelligence sharing capabilities and practices
- Section 1006 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 established the **Information Sharing Environment (ISE)**
- Fusion centers serve as the primary focal point for the ISE for the exchange of terrorism and homeland security information between Federal and State and local governments.

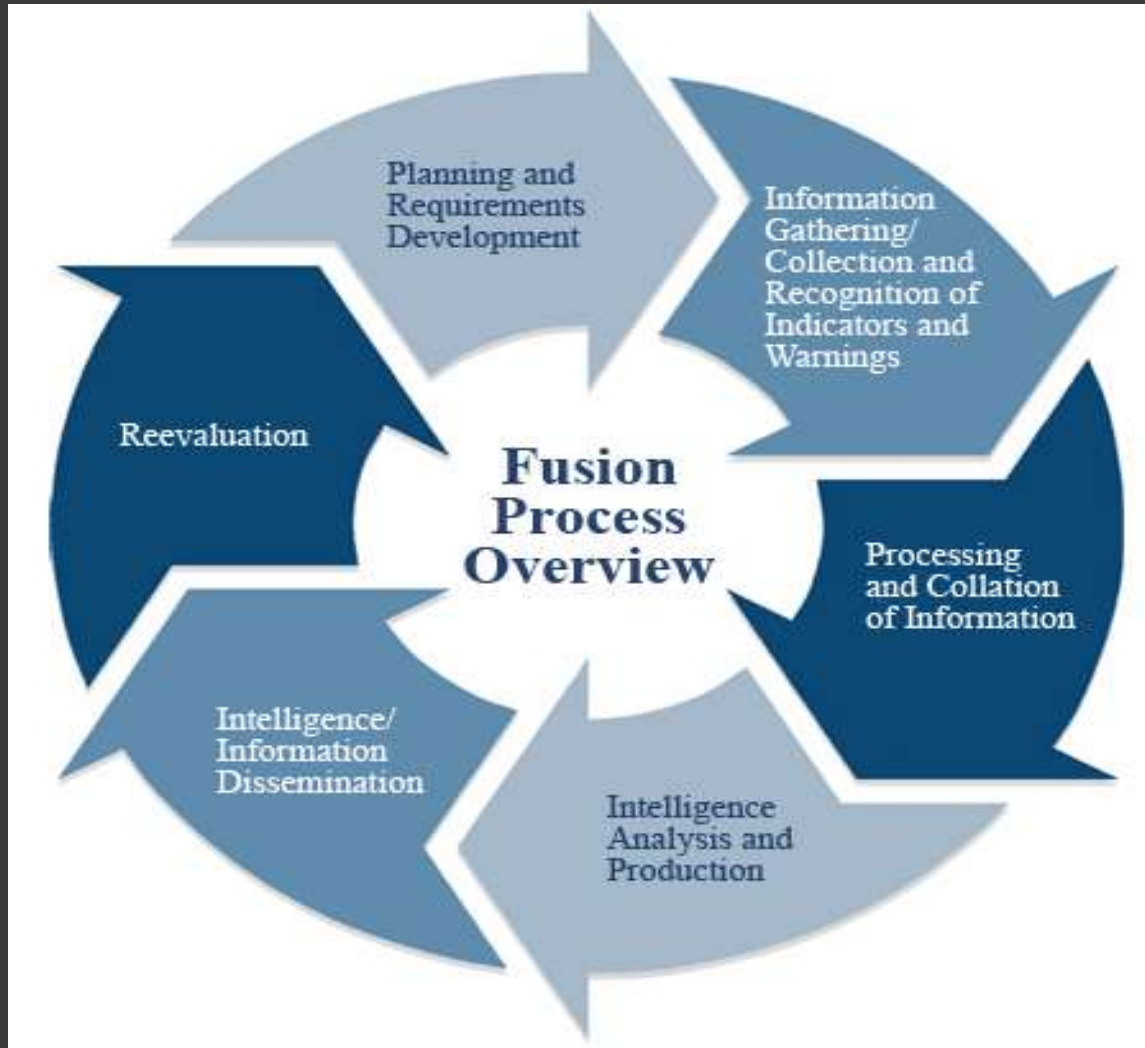


# NBC Las Vegas: Fusion Centers





# Intelligence Fusion Process





C E N T E R



# Florida Fusion Centers

- The Florida Fusion Center (FFC) consists of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Federal agencies, state multi-disciplinary partners and includes outreach to private sector entities.
- The FFC serves as the state node and provides connectivity and intelligence sharing amongst the Regional Fusion Centers.
- Virtual vs. Physical Fusion Centers
  - Regional Fusion Centers adopt a virtual approach to save facility/equipment and staff deployment costs



# Florida's Fusion Process



# Florida's Fusion Partners

Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
Department of Business and Professional Regulation  
Department of Corrections  
Department of Education  
Division of Emergency Management  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Department of Financial Services  
Department of Health  
Department of Highway Safety  
Department of Transportation  
The Attorney General



National Guard  
Department of Homeland Security  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Transportation Security Administration  
U.S. Attorneys Office  
Drug Enforcement Administration

# Agriculture and Fusion Centers

- Fusion Centers should integrate the following:
  - U. S. Department of Agriculture
  - U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
  - U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - State Agriculture Departments
  - County or Local Agricultural Enforcement Units
  - Private Sector Food/Water Producers and Processors

Agriculture



# Florida Ag Law: Bob Johnson





# Daily Operations and Success Stories

- SARs (Suspicious Activity Reports)
- Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) hits
- Intelligence Sharing: Al-Qaeda/Bio-weapons
- Happy Bird

# Intelligence Sharing

## Al-Qaeda/Bio-weapons News Report

- ◉ **January 22, 2009, 8:11 pm** – News sources reported 40 Al-Qaeda terrorists were dead after a failed plague bio-weapon experiment
- ◉ **January 23, 2009, 8:46 am** – Office of Agricultural Emergency Preparedness (OAEP) contacted Florida Fusion Center for confirmation and vetting of story
- ◉ **January 23, 2009, 8:56 am** – OAEP notified key Florida Department of Agriculture and Department of Health staff members, advising that Fusion Center assistance had been requested
- ◉ **January 23, 2009, 10:25 am** – Fusion Center reports information received from the Department of Homeland Security National Operations Center: the story is unconfirmed and unable to be corroborated by credible sources





# Liquid Petroleum Vessel Tampa, Florida

- ⦿ **April 27, 2009, 6:21 pm** – Florida Fusion Center sends initial report of dead birds discovered on a 363' tanker, and reports CDC is enroute
- ⦿ **April 27, 2009, 8:42 pm** – State Veterinarian sends email reporting that the birds in question are already being tested for Avian Influenza and Exotic Newcastle Disease at KDL (Kissimmee)
- ⦿ **April 27, 2009, 9:34 pm** – Florida Fusion Center reports 78 dead birds on the “Happy Bird’s” deck @ Port of Tampa. Originally from Cartagena, Columbia, the crew of 24 people are being quarantined until lab results on AI and END are returned. This ship usually carries propane or  $\text{NH}_3$



# Liquid Petroleum Vessel “Happy Bird”

- ◎ **April 28, 2009, 7:53 am** – DOACS investigator reports being on the ship. He finds:
  - Ship unloaded cargo in Houston, and was empty
  - The ship’s captain was purging the tanks; pumping the tanks with pure nitrogen, then releasing the nitrogen gas
  - Gas exits through two vents above the upper deck
  - The captain said the birds came in groups when anchored 18 miles offshore from April 24-27
- ◎ **April 28, 2009, 8:52 am** – State Veterinarian sends follow-up email concerned that someone mentioned “CDC enroute” from an e-mail the night before
- ◎ **April 28, 2009, 10:00 am** – Briefing @ Port of Tampa with DOACS, AgLaw, USCG, CBP, Tampa Port Authority, and Pinellas, Hillsborough & Manatee Counties’ Sheriff’s Offices

# Challenges

- Identification of Partners and Training
- Size & Scope
- On-going funding
  
- Privacy Issues
- Information Sharing
- Media Scrutiny



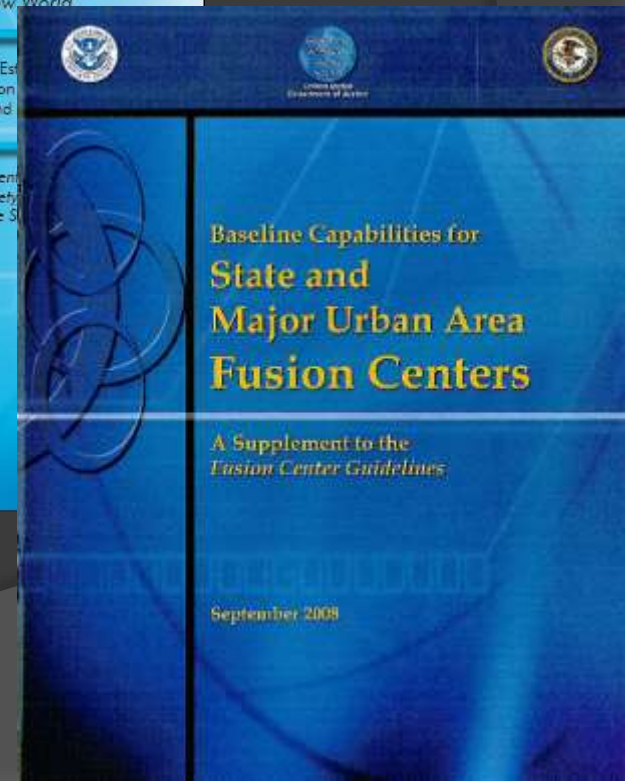
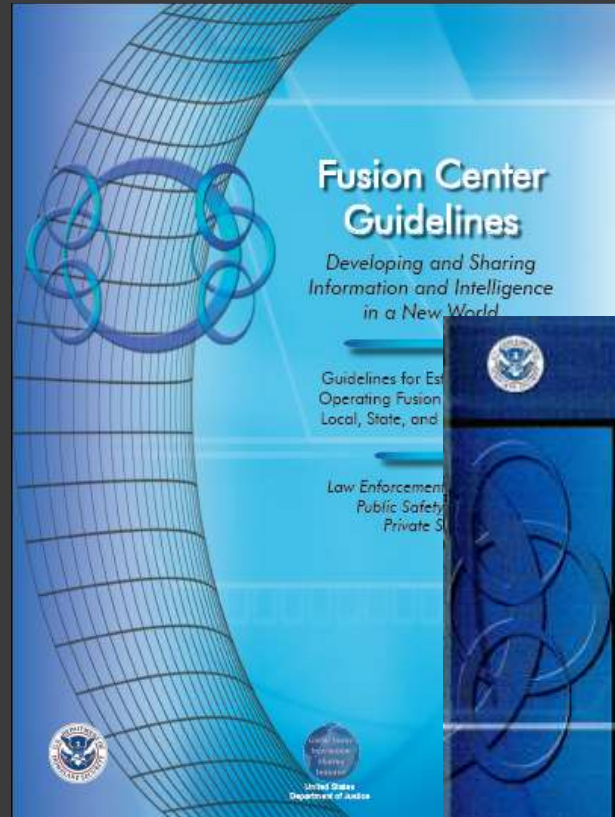
# On Privacy

The FFC is committed to the responsible and legal compilation and utilization of criminal investigative and criminal intelligence information and other information important to protecting the safety and security of the people, facilities, and resources of the State of Florida. All compilation, utilization, and dissemination of information will conform to requirements of applicable laws, regulations and rules, and to the greatest extent practicable be consistent with Fair Information Practices.



# Information Sharing & Analytic Challenges

- Lack of communication and information sharing
- Technology issues
- Lack of intelligence standards and policies
- Lack of intelligence analysis
- Poor working relationships



# TOP SECRET AMERICA

*A Washington Post Investigation*

SHARE TSA

WATCH THE INTRO



READ THE STORIES

NOW VIEWING

SEE THE MAP



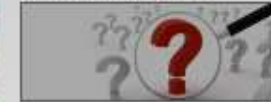
EXPLORE CONNECTIONS



FIND COMPANIES



SEARCH THE DATA



Posted at 12:00 AM, 7/21/2010

## The secrets next door

BY DANA PRIEST AND WILLIAM M. ARKIN

*In suburbs across the nation, the intelligence community goes about its anonymous business. Its work isn't seen, but its impact is surely felt.*



Along the main street, the signs in the median aren't advertising homes for sale; they're inviting employees with top-secret security clearances to a job fair at Cafe Joe, which is anything but a typical lunch spot.

The new gunmetal-colored office building is really a kind of hotel where businesses can rent eavesdrop-proof rooms.

Even the manhole cover between two low-slung buildings is not just a manhole cover. Surrounded by concrete cylinders, it is an access point to a government cable. "TS/SCI," whispers an official, the abbreviations for "top secret" and "sensitive compartmented information" - and that means few people are allowed to know what information the cable transmits.

All of these places exist just outside Washington in what amounts to the capital of an alternative geography of the United States, one defined by the concentration of top-secret government organizations and the companies that do work for them. This Fort Meade cluster is the largest of a dozen such clusters across the United States that are the nerve centers of Top Secret America and its 854,000 workers.

# Washington Post: Top Secret America

- ◎ Some 1,271 government organizations and 1,931 private companies work on programs related to counterterrorism, homeland security and intelligence
- ◎ An estimated 854,000 people hold top-secret security clearances
- ◎ Around D.C., 33 building complexes for top-secret intelligence work are under construction or have been built since September 2001.
- ◎ Redundancy and waste: 51 federal organizations and military commands, operating in 15 U.S. cities, track the flow of money to and from terrorist networks
- ◎ Analysts are publishing 50,000 intelligence reports each year



Fusion Center

*Resources*



# Justice Information Sharing

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs

- Home
- Global Justice
- National Initiatives**
- Privacy & Civil Liberties
- Policy & Practice
- Implementation Assistance
- Help

## National Initiatives

## Fusion Centers and Intelligence Sharing

- Fusion Centers and Intelligence Sharing**
- Global Justice Reference Architecture
- National Information Exchange Model
- Global Justice XML (Archive)
- Security and Federated Identity Management

- **New! Common Competencies for State, Local, and Tribal Intelligence Analysts**
- **New! Privacy Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Compliance Verification for the Intelligence Enterprise**
- **National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (NCISP)**
- **Fusion Center Guidelines: Law Enforcement Intelligence, Public Safety, and the Private Sector** (*three formats available*): **Executive Summary; Full Text PDF; Complete Resource CD** (*High bandwidth required*)
- **Baseline Capabilities for State and Major Urban Area Fusion Centers**
- **Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR): Protection Capabilities for Fusion Centers**
- **Fire Service Integration for Fusion Centers**
- **Fusion Center Privacy Policy Development - Privacy Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Policy Template**

## Site Tools

- Events Calendar
- FAQ
- Document Library
- News Archive
- Site Map

As part of the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative's (Global) efforts to develop fusion

"In developing our country's response to the threat of terrorism, public safety leaders from all disciplines have recognized

An Official Website of the United States Government

Text -A A+A | SHARE

# Information Sharing Environment

Empowering the Frontline by Enhancing Information Sharing & Access



Get Email Updates | Contact Us

- Mission Processes
- Core Capabilities
- Enablers
- Mission Partners

## Cargo Screening



Every year almost 250 million tons of cargo crosses our Nation's land borders or arrives at air and seaports.... *read more*

### Most Popular

- Define ISE Mission Partners
- Define ISE Mission Processes
- Core Awareness Training
- Privacy, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Define ISE Enablers

### SEARCH ISE

Google Custom Search

### THE ISE BLOG

Tuesday, August 5, 2010  
Visits to ISE Mission Partners: The Federal Bureau of Investigations' Criminal Justice Information Services

### ISE SPOTLIGHT

Centers of Excellence building out the ISE

Tuesday, August 3, 2010  
Nationwide SAR Initiative Engages State and Local Law Enforcement Participation in the ISE

### Message From The Program Manager



# Fusion Center Guidelines

*Developing and Sharing  
Information and Intelligence  
in a New Era*

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Guidelines for Establishing and  
Operating Fusion Centers at the  
Local, State, and Federal Levels

# Fusion Center Resources

- ◎ DOJ: Justice Information Sharing
  - <http://www.it.ojp.gov>
- ◎ Information Sharing Environment
  - <http://www.ise.gov>
- ◎ Fusion Center Guidelines (PDF)
  - [http://www.it.ojp.gov/documents/fusion\\_center\\_guidelines\\_law\\_enforcement.pdf](http://www.it.ojp.gov/documents/fusion_center_guidelines_law_enforcement.pdf)



# Recap

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# Discussion: What Can Food and Agriculture Personnel Do . . .

- To increase awareness of the fusion center capabilities and functions within the agricultural community?
- To communicate information sharing benefits among both Law Enforcement and the agricultural community?
- To become leaders (not just observers) in the fusion center movement?



# For Discussion...

- ⦿ What has been your experience with Fusion Centers and Law Enforcement/Homeland Security Personnel?
- ⦿ What are the Costs and Benefits of participation with Fusion Centers?
- ⦿ How can you become involved with the Fusion Center in your state?
- ⦿ How can you fund an agricultural Fusion Center liaison for your state?
  
- ⦿ Remember . . . Every state, region, and locality is different.



Questions/  
Comments?

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Florida Department of Agriculture  
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