

# **Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin** No. 473 **April 29, 2022**

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** All State Administrative Agency Heads

> All State Administrative Agency Points of Contact All Urban Area Security Initiative Points of Contact

All State Homeland Security Directors

All State Emergency Management Agency Directors

Pamela S. Williams **FROM:** 

> **Assistant Administrator Grant Programs Directorate**

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Assistant Secretary for State and Local Law Enforcement

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Department of Homeland Security

**SUBJECT:** Supplemental Guidance for Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention

**Activity Expenditures** 

#### I. Purpose

The purpose of this Information Bulletin (IB) is to provide applicants, recipients, and subrecipients of the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) with additional guidance and priorities regarding the HSGP's law enforcement terrorism prevention activities (LETPA) requirement. This requirement is a critical component of the HSGP and all applicants, recipients, and subrecipients must meet it. This IB supersedes IB #412, issued July 25, 2016.

### II. Applicability

This IB is applicable to all applicants, recipients, and subrecipients of HSGP funding.

#### III. Guidance

Per section 2006 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002* (Pub. L. No. 107–296), as amended (6 U.S.C. § 607), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is required to ensure that at least 25 percent of the funds appropriated for the HSGP, and related programs are used for LETPA. In order to adhere to this obligation, FEMA requires all State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) recipients to ensure that at least 25 percent of the combined HSGP funds allocated under SHSP and UASI are dedicated to LETPA, as defined in the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended, and are linked to one

or more core capabilities within the National Preparedness Goal. For fiscal year (FY) 2022, this percentage requirement is being raised from 25 percent to 30 percent. The allocation can be from SHSP, UASI, or both (this requirement does not include funds awarded for Operation Stonegarden). As a reminder, at least 80 percent of SHSP and UASI funding must be passed through to local units of governments and tribes, and the 30 percent LETPA allocation can be used to help meet the pass-through requirement.

The allocations for LETPA continue to build state, local, tribal, territorial, and campus law enforcement capabilities to prevent terrorist attacks and provide the law enforcement and public safety communities with funds to support critical prevention activities. HSGP provides funding to all 56 states and territories and to high-risk urban areas based on a risk methodology and effectiveness.

The National Prevention Framework describes those activities that should be executed upon the discovery of intelligence or information regarding an imminent threat to the homeland, in order to thwart an initial or follow-on terrorist attack and provides guidance to ensure the Nation is prepared to prevent, avoid, or stop a threatened or actual act of terrorism. Activities outlined in the National Prevention Framework should be the primary focus for use of LETPA funds. In addition, where capabilities are shared with the protection mission area, National Protection Framework activities are also eligible.

When identifying and selecting projects to meet the LETPA set-aside requirement, applicants, recipients, and subrecipients are strongly encouraged to consult with the law enforcement community and to consider the capabilities and resource requirements of law enforcement agencies and their unique and central role in preventing acts of terrorism. In particular, DHS encourages HSGP recipients (i.e., states, high-risk urban areas, tribes, and territories) to consider allocating LETPA-focused grant funding to activities such as:

- Intelligence analysis and information sharing capabilities, including the maturation and enhancement of designated state and major urban area fusion centers, to include reporting of tips, leads, and suspicious activity reports, information sharing and analysis, threat recognition, terrorist interdiction, and intelligence analyst training and salaries (subject to certain conditions);
- Regional counterterrorism training programs for small, medium, and large jurisdictions to exchange information and discuss the current threat environment, lessons learned, and best practices to help prevent, protect against, and mitigate acts of terrorism;
- Training exercises to enhance preparedness for and response to mass casualty and active shooter incidents and security events at public locations, including airports and mass transit systems; and
- Law enforcement chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high yield explosives detection capabilities, such as bomb detection/disposal capability deployment, sustainment, or enhancement, which can include canine teams, robotics platforms, and x-ray technology.

Additional examples of allowable LETPA projects include but are not limited to:

- Efforts to enhance coordination between fusion centers and other intelligence, operational, analytic, or investigative efforts including, but not limited to, Joint Terrorism Task Forces, Field Intelligence Groups, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas, Regional Information Sharing Systems Centers, criminal intelligence units, real-time crime analysis centers, and DHS intelligence, operational, analytic, and investigative entities;
- Implementation and maintenance of the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative, including training for front-line personnel on identifying and reporting

- suspicious activities, tips/leads, and online/social media-based threats, as well as the execution and management of threat assessment programs to identify, evaluate, and analyze indicators and behaviors indicative of terrorism, targeted violence, threats to human life, and other criminal activity;
- Management and operation of activities that support the execution of the intelligence process and fusion centers, including but not limited to Fusion Liaison Officer programs, security programs to protect the facility, personnel, and information, and the protection of privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties;
- Implementation of the "If You See Something, Say Something®" campaign to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and associated efforts to increase the sharing of information with public and private sector partners, including nonprofit organizations. Note: DHS requires that all public and private sector partners wanting to implement and/or expand the DHS "If You See Something, Say Something®" campaign using grant funds work directly with the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement (OPE) to ensure all public awareness materials (e.g., videos, posters, tri-folds, etc.) are consistent with DHS's messaging and strategy for the campaign and compliant with the initiative's trademark, which is licensed to DHS by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Coordination with OPE, through the Campaign's Office (seesay@hq.dhs.gov), must be facilitated by your FEMA Preparedness Officer;
- Increase physical security, through law enforcement personnel and other protective measures, by implementing preventive and protective measures at critical infrastructure sites or at-risk nonprofit organizations;
- Building and sustaining preventive radiological and nuclear detection capabilities, including those developed through the Securing the Cities initiative;
- Integration and interoperability of systems and data, such as computer aided dispatch and record management systems, to facilitate the collection, evaluation, and assessment of suspicious activity reports, tips/leads, and online/social media-based threats; and
- Development of prevention-focused programs, projects, and initiatives to address violent extremism, including training on roles of law enforcement and how to effectively partner with law enforcement; developing and promoting training specifically for law enforcement executives and frontline officers on potential behaviors and indicators of violent extremism and how to appropriately analyze and report them; and supporting community and law enforcement engagement strategies, plans, and projects to increase the awareness of violent extremist threats and community mitigation solutions.

In addition to the allowable LETPA referenced in the National Prevention Framework noted above, the LETPA identified in Section 2006 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended, remain allowable and are listed below:

- Information sharing and analysis;
- Target hardening;
- Threat recognition;
- Terrorist interdiction:
- Overtime expenses consistent with a state homeland security plan, including for the provision of enhanced law enforcement operations in support of federal agencies, including for increased border security and border crossing enforcement;
- Establishing, enhancing, and staffing with appropriately qualified personnel state, local, and regional fusion centers that comply with the guidelines established under section 210A(i) of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended;

- Paying salaries and benefits for personnel, including individuals employed by the grant recipient on the date of the relevant grant application, to serve as qualified intelligence analysts; and
- Any other terrorism prevention activity authorized by the Administrator of FEMA.

Questions about expenditures that qualify as LETPA should be addressed to your FEMA Preparedness Officer.

## IV. Questions

Questions regarding this IB may be directed to your assigned FEMA Preparedness Officer or the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) at <a href="mailto:askcsid@fema.dhs.gov">askcsid@fema.dhs.gov</a> or (800) 368-6498, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

#### V. Review Date

This IB will be reviewed on April 28, 2025.