



# Maine Information and Analysis Center



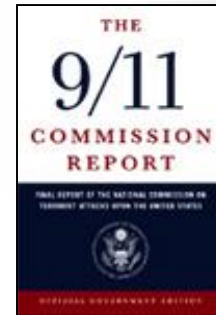
# What is a Fusion Center?

- Fusion centers operate as state and major urban area focal points for the receipt, analysis, gathering, and sharing of threat-related information between federal, state, local, tribal, territorial (SLTT) and private sector partners.
- Bridge from SLTT to Federal LE, HS and Intel Community
- Fusion Center provide:
  - Unique Information
  - Unique Perspective
  - Unique Role



# National Network of Fusion Centers

- September 11, 2001
  - 9/11 Commission Report
- Legal Authorities:
  - Homeland Security Act 2002
  - Intelligence Reorganization and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) of 2004
- Creation of Fusion Centers



## “Unity of Effort:”

**The system of *need to know* should be replaced by a system of *need to share*.”**

*(The 911 Commission Report, 13.3 Unity of Effort in Sharing Information)*



# Fusion Center Continued

- Created in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Fusion Centers<sup>1</sup> are state-owned and operated centers that serve as focal points in states and major urban areas for the receipt, analysis, gathering and sharing of threat-related information between State, Local, Tribal and Territorial (SLTT), federal and private sector partners. The centers are organized into the National Network of Fusion Centers which brings critical context and value to Homeland Security and Law Enforcement that no other federal or local organization can replicate. Fusion Centers utilize this network to share information on emerging threats, providing partners with a unique perspective on threats to their state or locality. The National Network of Fusion Centers is the hub of much of the two-way intelligence and information flow between the federal government and our SLTT and private sector partners. The fusion centers represent a shared commitment between the federal government and the state and local governments who own and operate them. Individually, each is a vital resource for integrating information from national and local sources to prevent and respond to all threats and hazards. The enhanced collaboration between the federal government, SLTT and private sector partners represents the new standard through which we view homeland security.



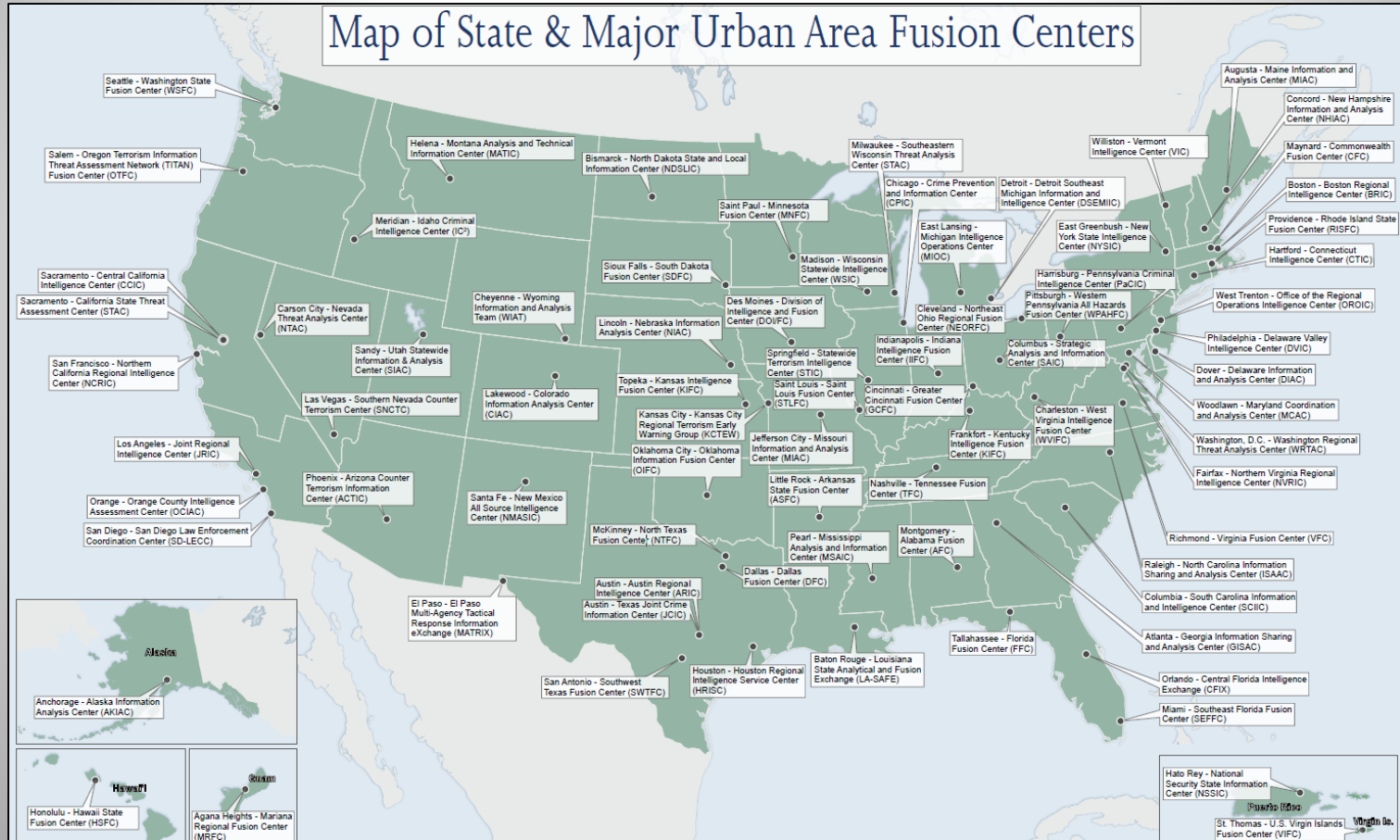


# Fusion Centers

- There are 80 fusion centers in the network. Each state has at least one Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sponsored fusion center. Some states have multiple fusion centers (e.g. Massachusetts) which has a State owned and operated fusion center run by the Massachusetts's State Police and the Boston Regional Intelligence Center which supports the greater metropolitan Boston area. Maine only has one fusion center.
- Fusion centers contribute to the information sharing process so that critical information impacting public safety does not “slip through the cracks”. Our nation faces an evolving threat environment, in which threats not only emanate from outside our borders, but also from within our communities. Centers receive threat information from the federal government; analyze that information within the context of their local environment; and disseminate that information to state and local agencies. Centers receive, analyze and - when appropriate - share tips, leads, and suspicious activity reports (SAR) from local agencies and the public with the federal government. Integrating and connecting these state and local resources creates a national capacity to gather, process, analyze, and share information in support of efforts to protect the country and the State of Maine.
- Finally, the MIAC functions to support all law enforcement agencies by providing analytical support for major or complex criminal investigations. This support frees law enforcement agencies and investigators to focus on the investigation while MIAC staff perform analytical and research functions.



# National Fusion Center Network





# Creation of the MIAC

- Governor's Executive Order, December 2006
  - Prioritize and analyze
  - Coordinate interagency participation
  - Share intelligence
  - [MIAC Executive Order.pdf](#)



# MIAC Mission Statement

- To collect, process, analyze and appropriately share intelligence between the federal government and the State of Maine. This shall be accomplished through the combination of resources from principle agencies, and the establishment of relationships from all levels of government and the private sector.





# MIAC Oversight and Regulation

- MIAC OVERSIGHT/REGULATION
- OPERATING AUTHORITY – Federal Government & State of Maine
- The MIAC was established through Executive Order by Governor Baldacci in December of 2006.
- As a unit within the Bureau of State Police, the MIAC operates within MRSA Title 25, C. 351.
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- FEDERAL DHS OVERSIGHT:
- The MIAC is a member of the national Fusion Center network and operated under guidelines from DHS.
- Privacy Policy (28 CFR Pt 23) Civil liberties / Civil rights focus.
- Baseline Capabilities (COCs), self & peer assessments.
- The MIAC has a designated ‘Privacy Officer’ and a ‘Security Officer’, roles required and defined by DHS.
- The MIAC technology applications utilize the Global Justice Exchange Model / ISE.
- The MIAC complies with the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan
- DOJ CJIS security standards which require that records in NCIC be protected from unauthorized access through appropriate administrative, physical, and technical safeguards. These safeguards include restricting access to those with a need to know to perform their official duties, and using locks, alarm devices, passwords, and/or encrypting data communications. Users of the NCIC system will be restricted to only those privileges necessary to perform an authorized task(s). All users must attend training on the use and access to NCIC.
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- STATE LEVEL OVERSIGHT:
- MIAC Advisory Board (Board operated under by-laws).
- Maine OIT standards for network and firewall data security (email and systems).
- The MIAC operates as a unit within DPS, Bureau of State Police. The MIAC is overseen by a State Police Lieutenant who serves as the Director, and a Sergeant who is the Compliance Officer.



# Privacy, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

- ANNUAL DHS AUDIT - METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS
- Since 2011, the MIAC has participated in and completed an annual assessment by DHS to certify compliance with key baseline capabilities and grant funding requirements. This resource also supports the Fusion Center Performance Program (FCPP), which includes an annual assessment process facilitated by the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis and is designed to capture objective, standardized data for the purpose of evaluating the value and impact of the National Network of Fusion Centers.<sup>3</sup>
- The MIAC is subjected to periodic physical and policy inspections by DHS regarding the storage of classified and sensitive security information. In August of 2018 MIAC was physically inspected as part of a security performance audit by DHS. It was determined that MIAC has established and implement a program that meets federal regulations and directives for the protection of classified national security information.
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# Privacy

- MIAC has a privacy policy that governs its operations. After an extensive review and update to reflect best practices it was certified by the Department of Homeland Security in 2018.
- MIAC Advisory Board- meets to review policies and procedures and to advise on matters pertaining to the protection of civil liberties by the Maine Information and Analysis Center in its day to day operations, particularly regarding the collection and handling of information that comes into the MIAC.
- MIAC Advisory Board also reviews privacy audits conducted by MIAC.

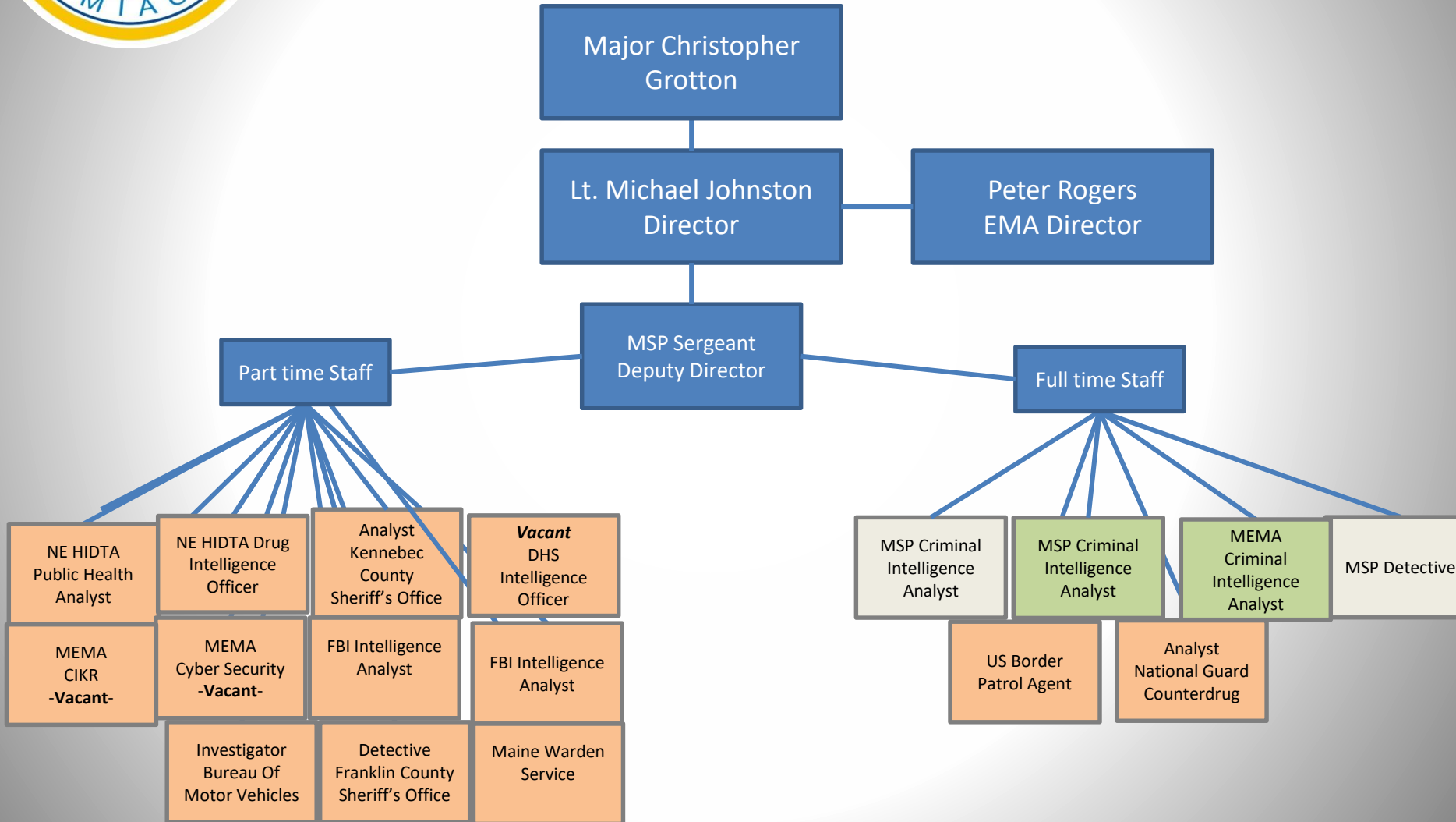
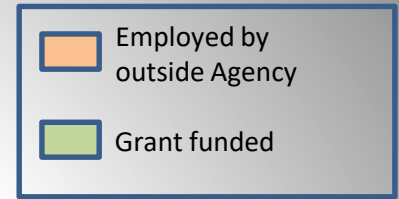


# Characteristics of a Fusion Center

- A fusion center is substantively and fundamentally different from a criminal intelligence unit.
- A fusion center is composed of staff from multiple agencies; federal, State, county and local partners.
- Analytical and support versus operational- not a primary investigative unit but serve to assist other agencies in their investigations.
- Focused on strong partnership with federal partners - specifically with DHS and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) - along with private sector and critical infrastructure agencies.
- The MIAC does not initiate criminal investigations based on information they receive. Instead the center serves in a support role, facilitating when appropriate the exchange of information with law enforcement agencies who ultimately evaluate and make the determination as to whether additional action is needed or required.
- We are often the bridge between federal officials and state and locals.
- Leveraging technology and collaboration, the MIAC serves as the conduit for the exchange of intelligence and information between Maine law enforcement and Federal Homeland Security agencies.
- MIAC personnel do not handle or deal with judicial process (we do not engage in activity that implicates the 4<sup>th</sup> amendment or that would require a search warrant, court order or grand jury subpoena).
- The MIAC works with private sector entities with an emphasis on the protection of critical infrastructure.
- The MIAC does not have an operational (field) mechanism for the collection of information and intelligence either through covert means such as surveillance or other technological applications. Instead, MIAC personnel rely on information being submitted from law enforcement, public and private sector or through open-source research or approved law enforcement databases.



# MIAC Organization







# MIAC Partnerships

## Agencies Co-located in the MIAC

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# Threat Priorities

- Counterterrorism
- Threat To Life
- Mass Casualty/Activity Shooter
- Felony Drug Trafficking
- Crimes Against Person such as homicide, domestic violence
- Public Health Matters (Related to opioid epidemic and COVID-19)
- Property Crimes (multi-jurisdictional fraud or burglary cases)
- Border Security
- Protection of Critical Infrastructure (Through partnership with MEMA and County EMA's)
- Cyber-Security



# INFORMATION TRACKING, DOCUMENTATION, SHARING WITHIN THE MIAC

- The MIAC does not have an active, on-going information collection process, instead relying upon the submission of information, tips and leads from the public or other law enforcement agencies. Once information or intelligence is received, it is documented in a 'records management system' or 'Activity Reporting System'. This system is used to document details about the information that was received, what (if any) action was taken, to whom the information was forwarded, and the final disposition of the activity or 'case'.





# Information Process Cont.





# MIAC Capabilities

- Research/Databases
- Case Support
- Production-Situational Awareness Bulletins
- Information Sharing
- Strategic Analysis
- Tactical Analysis





# Production

- Non-Analytical versus Analytical
- Strategic versus Tactical or Operational Intel
- Bulletins
- Pass-Throughs
- Joint Products
- Reference Aids



# See Something, Say Something Campaign Vetting and Analyst Suspicious Activity Reports

if you  
**SEE** | **SAY**  
something | something™

Together, we can help keep our community safe.



# NATIONAL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING (SAR) PROCESS:

- MIAC participates in the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative, a joint collaborative effort by the U.S. DHS, the FBI, and state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement partners. This initiative establishes a national capacity for gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing SAR information through the “*See Something Say Something*” campaign<sup>4</sup> to encourage the reporting of suspicious activity by the public and private sectors.
- The program uses a standardized process — including stakeholder outreach, privacy protections, training, and technology assistance — to identify and report suspicious activity in jurisdictions across the country to a single focal point for sharing SAR information.<sup>5</sup> The SAR process is critical to sharing information about suspicious activity with a potential nexus to terrorism, which can help prevent terrorist attacks and other related criminal activity from occurring.
- The National Suspicious Activity Report Initiative (NSI) defines suspicious activity as “observed behavior reasonably indicative of pre-operational planning associated with terrorism or other criminal activity.” This definition was developed after critical input from several privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties advocacy groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).



# Evidentiary Standard for SAR Reporting

SAR e-learning - Internet Explorer

https://learn.dhs.gov/lu3b17e0fe/refresh-parent=true&OWASP\_CSRFTOKEN=a173adae4fa9588c169cb278d73ef83395bb129b60621b95c376cafa04654bc5



## 28 CFR, Part 23 & Functional Standard



**TIPS AND LEADS**

**28 CFR, PART 23 (CII)**

**Fact Reliability Spectrum**

*Mere Suspicion*

*Reasonable Suspicion*

*Preponderance of Evidence*

*Clear and Convincing*

**0% Certainty**

**50% Certainty**

**100% Certainty**

*Reasonably Indicative*

*Probable Cause*

*Beyond a Reasonable Doubt*

**SAR**



Unclassified//Law Enforcement Sensitive

Start



100%

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**QUESTIONS?**