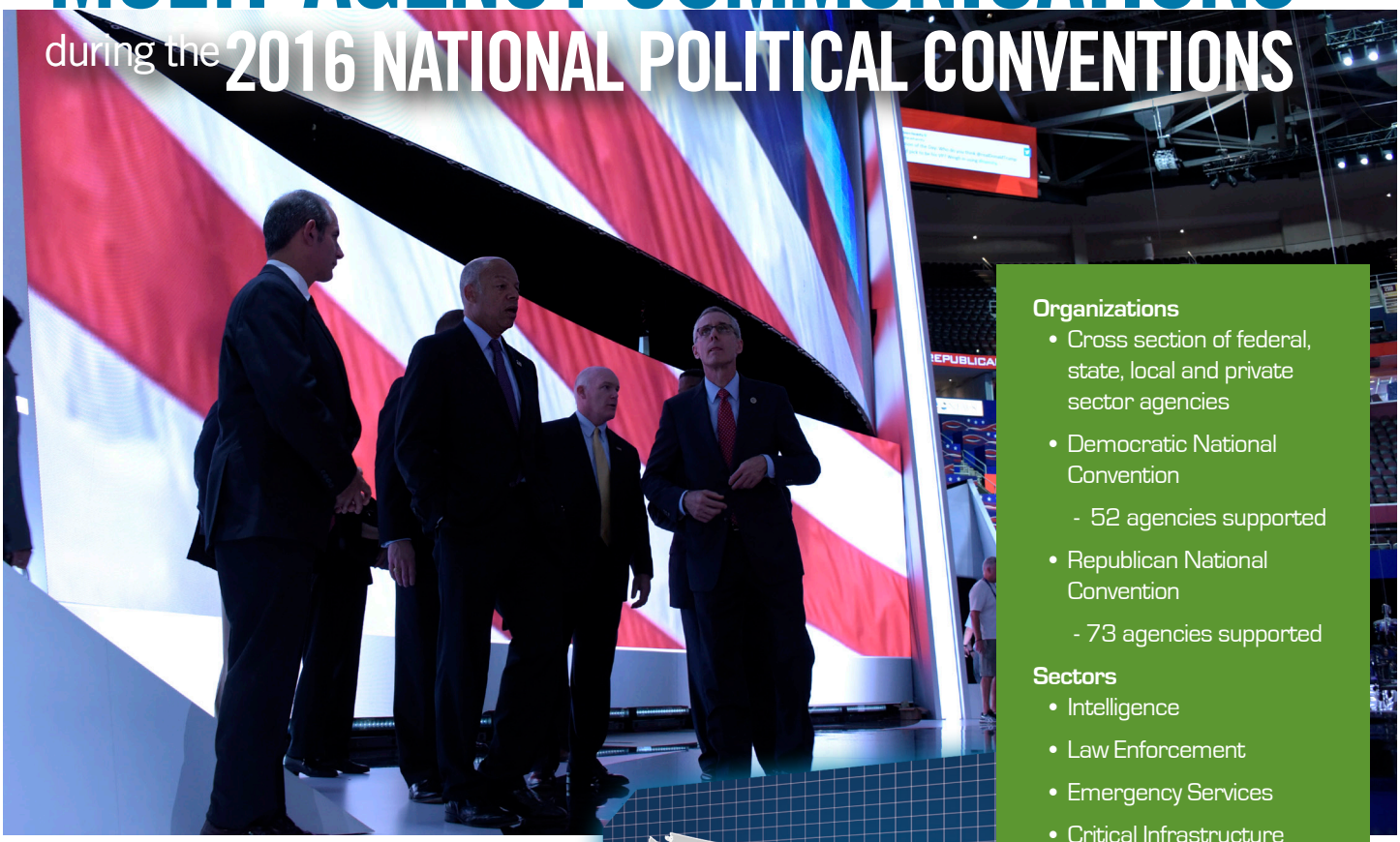
HSIN | Homeland Security Information Network

HSIN Supports MULTI-AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS during the 2016 NATIONAL POLITICAL CONVENTIONS



Organizations

- Cross section of federal, state, local and private sector agencies
- Democratic National Convention
  - 52 agencies supported
- Republican National Convention
  - 73 agencies supported

Sectors

- Intelligence
- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Services
- Critical Infrastructure

National political conventions require a massive coordination of effort to ensure safety and security. Officials in the operation centers at both 2016 conventions relied on HSIN to support operational information sharing and interagency coordination.

HSIN | Homeland Security Information Network

CASE STUDY

HSIN ENABLES INTERAGENCY COORDINATION DURING PLANNING AND OPERATIONAL PHASES OF CONVENTIONS

Every four years, the major political parties bring together delegates from across the nation to formally nominate their party's candidates for president and vice president as well as adopt their party's platform and rules. In addition to the thousands of delegates and party officials, thousands of demonstrators also converge in hopes of getting their messages heard. For the 2016 Democratic and Republican National Conventions, HSIN worked with key stakeholders to support operational information sharing and ensure they were able to maintain situational awareness.

Incident Tracking

At the Republican National Convention, the numbers demonstrated the complexity of event security operations for a national political convention. More than 650 HSIN users from over 70 agencies used HSIN to support multiagency collaboration among 15 operations centers in both Cleveland and Columbus.

Private Sector Coordination

In addition to the HSIN community that was used in operation centers to support overall situational awareness and incident tracking during the Democratic National Convention, agencies such as the Delaware Valley Intelligence Center also relied on HSIN to support their individual mission objectives.

"To provide focus for the various types of communication required," said Stacy Irving, senior advisor for Homeland Security Planning, Programs and Strategic Partnerships with DVIC, "we opened up separate rooms for law enforcement information sharing, special event support and social media monitoring for situational awareness. However, we also wanted to support our business community and provide them with a forum that would enable an open dialogue with real-time updates so the private sector could have access to critical information to avoid disruptions."

Using a dedicated space, the DVIC provided confirmed information on proposed street closures, traffic detours, and the location, size and direction of public demonstrations—all in real time for close to 50 different businesses and organizations.

Operational Impact

- **Planning Phase**
  - Document and calendar sharing
  - Training
- **Operational Phase**
  - Custom incident monitoring tools
  - Mapping and data visualization tools
  - On-site support at the operation centers

"HSIN was a vital part of the communications network to keep Ohio partners outside the Cleveland area in the loop. HSIN played an important role in every element of our operations."

Director Brian Quinn,
Ohio Homeland Security
Strategic Analysis and Information Center

"For [our private sector partners] ," continued Irving, "our Business Operations Center became a one-stop-shop where businesses could rely upon us to confirm or disprove an idle rumor was invaluable. They could then go back to their executives, managers and workforce to make appropriate and informed decisions for business continuity."

For more information, contact the HSIN Outreach Team at **HSIN.Outreach@hq.dhs.gov** or visit our website at **www.dhs.gov/hsin**.

Version 1.0 | Revised: August 29, 2016

Scan the QR code* or visit our website to learn more about how HSIN can help support your mission.

* You must have a QR code reader installed on your mobile device.