



The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) supports the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as it secures the nation while preserving individual liberty, fairness, and equality under the law.



Farewell Message from Officer Megan H. Mack



This month, my tenure as DHS Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties comes to an end. For the past three and half years, it has been my honor and privilege to lead this unique office charged with a critical mission to ensure that liberty, fairness, and equality are preserved in the Department’s work to secure the Nation.

I am grateful for the time I have spent here and I am proud to have worked with a truly exceptional team of professionals dedicated to ensuring civil rights and civil

liberties principles and protections are embedded in every aspect of the Department’s core mission areas of counterterrorism, border security, immigration enforcement, cybersecurity, and disaster resilience and preparedness.

I offer sincere thanks to CRCL’s diverse stakeholders, from our government and law enforcement partners, to representatives from nongovernmental organizations and advocacy groups, as well as diverse community organizations—our work is enriched by your participation and partnership.

I am proud of all we have accomplished at CRCL, and I am confident that this office will continue its work to protect and preserve the rights and freedoms we cherish as a Nation.

Secretary Johnson’s Cabinet Exit Memorandum to President Obama

Secretary Jeh Johnson issued a Cabinet Exit Memorandum on the Department’s progress over the past eight years, the vision for the country’s future, and the work that remains in order to achieve that vision. The memo highlights the Department’s accomplishments in counterterrorism, aviation security, emergency response and resilience, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Secret Service, lawful trade and travel, and management reform. Read the full exit memo at: dhs.gov/DHSInReview.

Inside

[Farewell Message from Officer Megan H. Mack](#)

[Secretary Johnson’s Cabinet Exit Memorandum to President Obama](#)

[TSA to Notify Travelers of 2018 REAL ID Airport Enforcement](#)

[DHS Releases End of Year Fiscal Year 2016 Statistics](#)

[DHS Announces CVE Grants](#)

[National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month](#)

[CRCL on the Road](#)

[Contact Us](#)

TSA to Notify Travelers of Upcoming 2018 REAL ID Airport Enforcement

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will begin posting signs at airports this week notifying travelers that beginning January 2018 it will start enforcing REAL ID requirements at airport security checkpoints, meaning that travelers seeking to use their state-issued driver's license or identification card for boarding commercial aircraft may only use such documents if they are issued by a REAL ID compliant state or a non-compliant state with an extension.

TSA's notification follows Secretary Johnson's [announcement](#) earlier this year of the final phase of implementation of the REAL ID Act. Effective January 22, 2018, TSA will only accept state-issued driver's licenses or identification cards if they are issued by a REAL ID compliant state or a non-compliant state with an extension. As always, travelers may use alternate forms of identification such as a passport, military ID, or permanent resident card. A complete list of identification documents accepted at TSA checkpoints is available on tsa.gov.

The REAL ID Act, passed by Congress in 2005, establishes the minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits federal agencies, like TSA, from accepting licenses and identification cards for certain official purposes, including boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft, from states that do not meet these minimum standards and have not received an extension for compliance from DHS.

DHS continues to work with states to encourage compliance and may grant extensions or determine compliance for additional states as warranted. TSA will update signage if and when states that are currently listed receive extensions. Learn more about [REAL ID](#), [check the status of your state's compliance](#) or [read the frequently asked questions](#).

DHS Releases End of Year Fiscal Year 2016 Statistics

DHS released its end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 statistics. These statistics reflect the Department's immigration enforcement efforts prioritizing convicted criminals and threats to public safety, border security and national security.

Overall, in FY 2016, the Department apprehended 530,250 individuals nationwide and conducted a total of 450,954 removals and returns. The U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) reported 415,816 apprehensions nationwide, compared to 337,117 in FY 2015; and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested 114, 434 individuals, compared to 125,211 in FY 2015. Although apprehensions by the USBP in FY 2016 increased from FY 2015, they remain a fraction of the number of apprehensions routinely observed from the 1980s through 2008. In addition, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Field Operations (OFO) identified 274,821 inadmissible individuals at ports of entry, compared to 253,509 in FY 2015. ICE removed or returned 240,255 individuals in FY 2016, compared to 235,413 in FY 2015.

The Department continues to successfully implement the civil immigration enforcement priorities announced by Secretary Johnson in November 2014. In FY 2016, 98 percent of initial enforcement actions – a set of actions that includes USBP apprehensions, OFO determinations of inadmissibility, and ICE administrative arrests – involved individuals classified within one of the three enforcement priority categories. Ninety-one percent were among the top priority (Priority 1), which includes national security threats, individuals apprehended at the border while attempting to enter unlawfully, and the most serious categories of convicted criminals as well as gang members.

[continued on next page]



Secretary Johnson made the following statement concerning the FY 2016 numbers:
The immigration statistics released in today's report reflect the continued effort by this Administration to dedicate the Department of Homeland Security's resources to smart enforcement of our nation's immigration laws, with a particular focus on public safety and border security. Read the [full statement](#).

DHS Announces First Round of Countering Violent Extremism Grants

In 2016, Congress answered our call for federal grants, awarded and administered by the Department, to support local efforts to counter violent extremism. This month, DHS announced the first round of awards of these grants.

A total of 31 proposals, from various organizations in multiple communities, have been accepted to receive some part of the \$10 million appropriated by Congress last year. The funding will go for activities that include intervention, developing resilience, challenging the narrative, and building capacity. The organizations approved for grants include local governments, universities, non-profit organizations, and in cities across the country such as Boston, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Detroit, Houston, and New York City, and in the states of Nebraska, Illinois, New Jersey, and Texas. Among the awardees are organizations devoted specifically to countering ISIL's recruitment efforts in our homeland, and Life After Hate, an organization devoted to the rehabilitation of former neo-Nazis and other domestic extremists in this country.

In this age of self-radicalization and terrorist-inspired acts of violence, domestic-based efforts to counter violent extremism have become a homeland security imperative. Read the [full list of grant awardees](#).

DHS Works to Combat Slavery and Human Trafficking

The DHS mission is to safeguard the American people, our homeland, and our values. The Department works to combat the heinous crime of human trafficking each day because it robs people of their freedom; it makes our homeland less secure; and it stands in stark contrast to our American values.

By Presidential Proclamation January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. DHS employees can take a stand against human trafficking by recommitting ourselves to the fight to end human trafficking in the United States. But you don't have to be a homeland security professional to combat human trafficking. This January, learn how to recognize [the signs of human trafficking](#), and where to report suspected instances. We need you to help end trafficking in your community.

DHS created the [Blue Campaign](#) in 2010 to serve as the Department's unified voice to combat human trafficking. By prioritizing the fight against human trafficking and improving our coordination across the Department on this important issue, we embarked on a concerted effort to raise public consciousness of human trafficking, protect victims, and bring perpetrators to justice.

CRCL has strongly supported and participated in the Blue Campaign since its inception, working alongside the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and subject matter experts from ICE, CBP and USCIS to create numerous human trafficking awareness trainings over the past several years. CRCL has also taken the lead on developing Department-wide policy to protect confidentiality of human trafficking victims and others under the Violence Against Women Act. We regularly share information and tools to identify human trafficking with diverse communities and advocacy groups at our roundtables and other engagement events we host across the country. Please join us in this important fight.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

JOIN THE DHS BLUE CAMPAIGN

- Visit the Blue Campaign website: dhs.gov/blue-campaign
- Learn more about the signs and indicators of human trafficking: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/awareness-training
- Spread the word—download and share anti-human trafficking material: dhs.gov/blue-campaign/resource-catalog
- View and share our Public Service Announcement: dhs.gov/gallery/blue-campaign-video
- Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/bluecampaign

BE AN INFORMED CONSUMER

Know who makes the products you buy and the food you eat to help keep slavery tainted items out of your home.

Visit the Department of Labor list of goods that could be subject to human trafficking in: dhs.gov/lab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods

RECOGNIZE AND REPORT SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- To contact federal law enforcement, call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE
- Or submit a tip online at www.ice.gov/tips

For victim support from the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC), call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or NPO to: [Textline\(223373\)](https://textline.com/223373)

Help us bring this crime out of the shadows and into the light. Join the Blue Campaign.



CRCL on the Road, January

January 6-7 – Phoenix/Tucson, Arizona

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

January 18 – Seattle, Washington

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

January 28 – Denver, Colorado

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

January 10 – Atlanta, Georgia

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

January 25 – Los Angeles, California

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

January 30 – San Diego, California

CRCL will host an academic engagement event on efforts to combat violence against women.

Additional information, and contacting us

The goal of this periodic newsletter is to inform members of the public about the activities of the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, including: how to file complaints; ongoing and upcoming projects; opportunities to offer comments and feedback; etc. We distribute our newsletters via our stakeholder email list and make them available to community groups for redistribution. Issues of the newsletter can be accessed online at: www.dhs.gov/crcl-newsletter.

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, want to request back issues, or have other comments or questions, please let us know by emailing crcloutreach@dhs.gov. For more information, including how to make a civil rights or civil liberties complaint about DHS activities, visit: www.dhs.gov/crcl.

CRCL Phone: 202-401-1474 • Toll Free: 866-644-8360 • TTY: 202-401-0470 • Toll Free TTY: 866-644-8361

DISCLAIMER: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides links to non-government websites for convenience and informational purposes only. These websites may contain information that is copyrighted with restrictions on reuse. Permission to use copyrighted materials must be obtained from the original source and cannot be obtained from DHS. DHS is not responsible for the content of external websites linked to or referenced from the DHS web server. DHS neither endorses the information or content of external websites, nor guarantees the accuracy of the information contained on external websites. When you select a link to an external website, you are leaving the DHS site.

 Follow the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties on Facebook at: facebook.com/CivilRightsandCivilLiberties.