



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

The New and Improved Blue Campaign

Earlier this month, DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano announced the launch of the redesigned [Blue Campaign](#), an effort to raise awareness about human trafficking and to help victims of this hidden crime. The initiative includes the introduction of a microsite, logo and mission statement, general awareness posters, a PSA, and tip sheets. The Blue Campaign also offers new, comprehensive resources to educate about the indicators of human trafficking, how to report suspected instances of human trafficking to law enforcement, and resources for potential victims.

Human trafficking raises significant civil rights concerns, and with CRCL playing an active role in the Blue Campaign, we strive to add a civil rights perspective to this work. Every year DHS initiates hundreds of investigations while providing support for victims through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Victim Assistance Program. In fiscal year 2012, ICE Homeland Security Investigations initiated 894 cases, made 381 convictions, and seized assets of more than \$1 million.

Working with law enforcement, government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, the Blue Campaign strives to further protect the basic right of freedom and bring those who exploit human lives to justice. To learn more about the Blue Campaign and DHS' efforts to combat human trafficking, please visit www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign.

CRCL Officer Testifies Before House Homeland Security Committee

On June 14, CRCL Acting Officer Tamara Kessler testified before the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Oversight and Management Efficiency, during a hearing titled, "[Why Can't DHS Better Communicate with the American People?](#)" Her testimony highlighted CRCL's engagement work with diverse ethnic and religious communities; including American Arab, Muslim, Sikh, Southeast Asian, Latino, Jewish, South Asian, and interfaith communities helping to ensure that all communities in this country are active participants in the homeland security effort.



CRCL Acting Officer Tamara Kessler testifies before the House Homeland Security Committee.

[Read Tamara's written testimony](#), and also [watch video](#) of her and DHS Public Affairs Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert Jensen respond to questions from Chairman Jeff Duncan (R-SC).

Inside

[New and Improved Blue Campaign](#)

[CRCL Officer Testifies Before House Homeland Security Committee](#)

[Secure Communities Video Series](#)

[CRCL Participates in Country-to-Country Program](#)

[Countering Violent Extremism](#)

[CRCL Leads Cybersecurity Meetings](#)

[Hurricane Season 2013](#)

[CRCL On the Road](#)

[Contact Us](#)

CRCL and ICE Release Final Videos in Secure Communities Briefing Series

CRCL recently released the final three roll call videos and associated modules for law enforcement leadership, completing its series of eight [training briefing modules](#) for state and local law enforcement officials about civil rights and civil liberties issues related to Secure Communities. These modules are the result of a two year collaborative effort between CRCL and ICE, with assistance of many state and local partners, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, USCIS, and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). CRCL now aims to disseminate these videos to the approximately 800,000 state and local law enforcement officers and leaders throughout the country.



The briefing series provides actionable information to the front line officers who need it and supports the DHS commitment to protect the rights and liberties of all persons affected by DHS activities and programs. Each module contains a short video, downloadable job aids designed for line officers, and materials for law enforcement leadership, such as planning tools and web-based resources.

Concerns about the civil rights and civil liberties of individuals in communities where there is significant immigration enforcement activity are not unique to Secure Communities. Officers and agencies can now turn to this series to learn more about Secure Communities, as well as civil rights and civil liberties issues in the context of: immigration detainers, consular notification, unlawful retaliation by private actors, community outreach, assisting certain crime victims and witnesses, limited English proficiency, and avoiding racial profiling.

CRCL Participates in Country-to-Country Program

This month, a CRCL representative traveled to Bosnia to serve as a trainer in a unique “Country-to-Country” program designed to promote implementation of [UN Human Rights Council \(UNHRC\) Resolution 16/18](#), which was adopted in March 2011. The UNHRC Resolution 16/18 was sponsored by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on “Combating Intolerance, Negative Stereotyping and Stigmatization of, and Discrimination, Incitement to Violence and Violence Against, Persons Based on Religion and Belief.”



Country-to-Country meeting in Bosnia

The Resolution focuses on concrete, positive measures that states can take to combat religious bias and intolerance rather than legal measures to restrict speech. For example, the resolution calls on states to take effective measures to prevent discrimination based on religion, to protect the ability of members of all religious communities to exercise their faith and participate fully in society, to speak out against religious hatred and intolerance, and to foster greater outreach by governments to diverse religious communities, among other recommendations.

The “Country-to-Country” program follows the [December 2011 Experts’ Meeting](#) held in the U.S. which brought together ministry of justice officials, legal experts, human rights officials, and others involved in the enforcement, drafting, policy, or community engagement relating to anti-discrimination laws, hate crime laws, and other legal measures in line with Resolution 16/18. At that meeting, participants discussed comparative legal frameworks, comparative enforcement mechanisms and tools, case studies, and best practices in government engagement with diverse religious communities.

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The “Country-to-Country” program that took place in Bosnia was a pilot-program that allowed for a deeper dive into comparative legal frameworks, best practices, and technical assistance, and involved a much larger number of individuals from Bosnia. CRCL’s representative provided in-depth descriptions and simulations, including hypothetical exercises, of the Department’s community engagement programs tailored to topics related to Bosnia. Based on lessons-learned from the Bosnia program, CRCL and DOJ’s Civil Rights Division plan on implementing similar programs with four additional countries in the future.

Countering Violent Extremism

In an effort to foster stronger partnerships between communities and law enforcement, CRCL recently conducted a table-top exercise designed to share perspectives and improve communication. Participants included FBI federal agents, local law enforcement officials, and community leaders from throughout the National Capital Region. The table-top exercise featured an unfolding scenario of possible criminal activity in a high threat environment, spurring discussion of how law enforcement and local communities should respond and work together.



Participants at the table-top exercise

With any homeland security issue, neither the government nor communities can achieve success alone. Working together on these complex issues requires significant trust between communities and government. This exercise was designed to reinforce the theme that “homeland security begins with hometown security.”

Civil Rights/Civil Liberties Impact Assessment on Border Searches of Electronic Devices

The Civil Rights/Civil Liberties Impact Assessment on Border Searches of Electronic Devices is now available online at: <http://www.dhs.gov/civil-rights-civil-liberties-impact-assessments>.

CRCL and DHS Privacy Office Lead Cybersecurity Meetings

In February 2013, the President signed [Executive Order \(EO\) 13,636, “Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity,”](#) and [Presidential Policy Directive \(PPD\) 21, “Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience.”](#) The policies set forth in these directives will strengthen the security and resilience of critical infrastructure against evolving threats and hazards, and call for an updated and overarching national framework that reflects the increasing role of cybersecurity in securing physical assets.

DHS is the federal government’s lead agency for coordinating the protection, prevention, mitigation, and recovery from cyber incidents. In support of the Department’s efforts to implement EO 1636 and PPD 21, CRCL and the DHS Privacy Office recently hosted a series of meetings that brought together privacy and civil liberties advocates and leaders of eight DHS Cybersecurity Integrated Task Force working groups for an extended conversation about the Department’s efforts to protect cybersecurity in the Nation’s critical infrastructure. The meetings provided transparency into DHS cybersecurity activities and gave advocates and experts on cybersecurity and civil liberties a chance to offer constructive feedback and helpful criticism in the context of a nearly three month-long dialogue.

Hurricane Season 2013

The Atlantic hurricane season lasts from June 1 to November 30 each year, with the peak season from mid-August to late October. This year, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts a 70 percent likelihood that there will be 13 to 20 named storms; of which seven to 11 could become hurricanes, including three to six major hurricanes at Category 3, 4, or 5 with winds of 111 miles per hour or higher.

Hurricanes can cause catastrophic damage to coastlines and several hundred miles inland, producing strong winds exceeding 155 miles per hour, as well as [tornadoes](#) and microbursts. Additionally, hurricanes can create storm surges along the coast and cause extensive damage from heavy rainfall. [Floods](#) and flying debris from the excessive winds are often the deadly and destructive results of these weather events.



Visit www.ready.gov to learn how to prepare for a hurricane beginning with [building an emergency kit](#) and [making a family communications plan](#). Become familiar with what to do [during and after](#) a hurricane strikes and [make a Pledge to Prepare!](#)

CRCL on the Road, June

June 13 – Los Angeles, California

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

June 14 – Houston, Texas

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

June 18 – Seattle, Washington

CRCL participated in the Seattle Joint Counterterrorism Workshop, sponsored by DHS, FBI, and NCTC.

June 27 – Chicago, Illinois

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

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 make complaints; ongoing and upcoming projects; opportunities to offer comments and feedback; etc. We distribute our newsletters via an email list and make them available to community groups for redistribution. We also post information pulled from the newsletter on a webpage, [CRCL at Work](#). 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. If you are on this list, but no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to the same address asking us to unsubscribe you. For more information, including on how to make a civil rights or civil liberties complaint about DHS activities, see www.dhs.gov/crcl.

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

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