Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
CRCL Institute

MISSION
Effective training is key to ensuring DHS’ capacity to meet its mission, while protecting individual civil rights and civil liberties. In 2005 CRCL established the Institute as the first DHS-wide civil rights and civil liberties (cr/cl) training enterprise.

The CRCL Institute develops and delivers targeted civil rights and civil liberties training for state, local, and tribal homeland security partners to:

- build public trust;
- operationalize DHS policy; and
- promote partner cooperation with DHS’ mission.

The CRCL Institute also works with DHS Components to promote our mutual mandate under the DHS mission.

TOOLS and CAPABILITIES
The Institute uses a range of activities, approaches, and delivery methods to implement change: needs assessments, training design, research and development, video creation, job aids and tool kits, graphical design and layout, posters, online resources, learning management system courses, web-based training, webinars, classroom instruction, manuals, exercises, evaluations, and technical assistance.

FY 2019 CRCL-Focused Activities
Connecting with Internal and External Partners
In 2019 the CRCL Institute supported the CRCL Officer by leading three office-wide initiatives to enhance the visibility of CRCL’s mission and to recognize the accomplishments of internal and external homeland security partners working to protect individual civil rights and civil liberties.

- CRCL’s first Annual Open House was attended by DHS leadership and nearly 200 Component staff from across the country.
- CRCL’s first Excellence Awards recognized 31 DHS Component staff and projects.
- A CRCL Challenge Coin Program

FY 2019 Major Training Projects
Law Enforcement Awareness Briefing (LAB) on Targeted Violence & Terrorism Prevention
Nearly 60% of smaller law enforcement agencies (LEAs) are unfamiliar with the U.S. strategy to work with civil society to prevent terrorism. To address this critical gap, CRCL and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) worked with over 60 state, local, tribal, and fusion center representatives to create a research-driven training program designed to be delivered by state and local LEAs to state and local LEAs.

While awaiting rollout funding, in FY 2019 the Institute:

- Briefed 64 representatives of 22 countries as part of the Department of State’s International Visitor Leadership Program and began development of an international LAB template;
- Gathered broader community feedback on the LAB program from partners in Atlanta, GA, King County, WA, and Chicago, IL;
- Undertook a technical redesign of the secure, online program delivery platform for LAB instructors.

National Fusion Center Training Program
The Institute leads the initiative with the DHS Privacy Office (PRIV) to meet mutual 9/11 Act obligations to provide training/technical assistance to the network of 80 state and major urban area fusion centers.

In FY 2019 the Institute, with its PRIV partner,

- Undertook a renewal of its past four-pronged training program. After some delay due to resource issues, the first pilots of this newly designed program will be held in FY 20.
- Presented the first annual Fusion Center Excellence awards to the Civil Liberties Privacy Officer at a CA fusion center and a shared program award to three fusion center partnerships (two PA centers and OH).
- Partnered with PRIV and the National Fusion Center Association (NFCA) to create a new region-based initiative among the Civil Liberties Privacy Officers.