

Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Programs Branch



Homeland Security

Through its five sections, the **CRCL PROGRAMS BRANCH** works with DHS Components, state and local partners, and the public to ensure that DHS policies, programs, and practices protect civil rights and civil liberties.

Applying civil rights and civil liberties expertise to:

9/11 Act

DHS Nondiscrimination for Individuals with Disabilities

Data about People

Biometrics

Surveillance

Outreach to Civil Society

Watchlisting

REAL ID Act

Act

Fusion Center Support

Community Awareness Briefings

Law Enforcement Awareness Briefings

Credible and Reasonable Fear

Emerging Technology

Worksite Enforcement: E-Verify, Form I-9, SAVE

Screening

287(g) Program

International Human Rights Treaties

Detention Conditions

Cyber-security

Immigration Enforcement

Disaster Response, Recovery & Resilience

Asylum

ADVICE on policy formulation and Implementation

On an ongoing basis, the Branch advises DHS on a broad range of topics through reviewing draft policies, work products, and proposed legislation in addition to consultations with DHS leadership.

FY 2019 additional activities:

- Incorporated civil rights/civil liberties equities into responsibilities of the new DHS Chief Data Officer.
- Issued recommendations to state/territorial emergency management agencies on complying with federal disability law.
- Led the DHS Council on Combating Violence Against Women.
- Supported CBP in its sexual abuse prevention audit.



The **FIVE** sections of Programs Branch support its **FOUR** functions

TRAINING – In FY 2019, the Programs Branch entered

into a major new training partnership to support the national cadre of Civil Liberties Privacy Officers at the State and Major Urban Area intelligence fusion center network, led the DHS-wide revision of its “Alien Victims of Crimes” training, and conducted training on a wide range of topics nationwide.

Program review and OVERSIGHT – FY2019 highlights include:

- Co-chaired the Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Working Group of the National Vetting Governance Board: supported the National Vetting Center.
- Implemented a Civil Rights Evaluation tool to support financial assistance recipient compliance.
- Participated in the DHS Data Access Review Council process to ensure bulk data sharing agreements contained protections for individual rights.
- Evaluated candidate jurisdictions for ICE’s 287(g) program.

Community Engagement and OUTREACH – In FY 2019, CRCL engaged nationwide with multiple non-DHS partners, including federal, state and local officials and law enforcement, immigration and disability advocates, and the general public. Activities ranged from conference presentations and meetings to CRCL-led community roundtables and issue-specific townhalls.

FY 2019 - By the Numbers

- **Reviewed** more than **800** intelligence products.
- **Met** with over **400** nongovernmental organizations.
- **Sponsored** the 1st CRCL Open House with over **200** attendees from around the country; initiated the 1st annual CRCL Partnership awards recognizing 31 DHS Component staff and programs.
- **Mitigated** over **100** civil rights and civil liberties grievances from the public.
- **Conducted** over **50** quarterly interagency community roundtable meetings.
- **Promoted** inclusion of civil rights and civil liberties consideration in over **40** new immigration-related DHS policies and regulations.
- **Supported** over **15** State Department International Visitor Leadership Programs.
- **Coordinated** DHS review of more than **12** international/regional human rights inquiries.
- **Provided** technical assistance to **12** DHS Components on addressing barriers/gaps in plans providing access to activities/programs by persons with disabilities.
- **Reviewed** **10** data sharing agreements.
- **Presented** the **1st** national awards for Fusion Center Excellence on privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties issues.