



Homeland Security

January 22, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary Chertoff

FROM: Roger T. Rufe, Jr. *✓R, 2/12/08*
Director for Operations Coordination

SUBJECT: Homeland Security Information Network Advisory
Committee Strategic Recommendations

The purpose of this memorandum is to transmit for your consideration the first set of recommendations from the recently established Homeland Security Information Network Advisory Committee (HSINAC)

Background:

A central component of the effort to improve HSIN is the recently established HSINAC. The mission of the HSINAC is to provide independent recommendations to the senior leadership of the Department for the improvement of business processes, governance structure and policy. The HSINAC, which conducted its first meeting from October 30 to November 1, is comprised of representatives from Federal, state and local law enforcement, emergency response and the private sector. Attached, for your consideration, are the first recommendations the committee has produced.

Recommendation:

That you accept for consideration the recommendations developed by the HSINAC and appoint the Director of Operations Coordination to lead a department-wide effort to examine the feasibility of implementation and report back to you on their findings.

Rufe *3/14/08*
Approve/date _____ Disapprove/date _____

Modify/date _____ Needs Discussion/date _____

UNCLASSIFIED // PREDECISIONAL

Issue: Lack of empowered governance, oversight and accountability to establish and maintain a single National system for the exchange and dissemination of key information.

Recommendation 2: The Homeland Security Council should designate the Secretary of Homeland Security as the executive agent to establish, charter, and oversee a HSIN governance board comprised of key Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Private Sector stakeholders and partners to:

- Identify and de-conflict the missions and roles of HSIN information sharing stakeholders,
- Develop business processes and metrics for information sharing with stakeholders,
- Establish and implement a knowledge management framework across the HSIN Communities of Interest (COIs),
- Identify, consolidate and where appropriate, eliminate duplicative system components and information sharing overlaps,
- Report semi-annually to the HSC Principals Committee the status/progress of the above.

Issue: Multiple overlapping, independent competing information sharing systems within DHS and between its federal, state, local, tribal and private sector partners result in confusion of the Homeland Security community and fragmentation of the knowledge base.

Recommendation 3: Recommend the Secretary of Homeland Security demonstrate total DHS commitment to HSIN both within DHS and between its federal, state, local, tribal and private sector partners as the platform for information sharing by:

- Establishing HSIN as the principal Homeland Security information sharing platform for the Department and external partners,
- Conducting a Department-wide review of existing systems and networks upon which DHS shares information with external partners in order to identify, consolidate and where appropriate eliminate duplicative DHS systems to HSIN,
- Establishing a process that includes the HSIN governance board to validate the need for the creation of new or additional DHS information sharing systems not using HSIN,
- Eliminating the use of DHS funds to develop and/or maintain other information sharing systems that compete with HSIN.

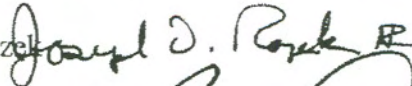
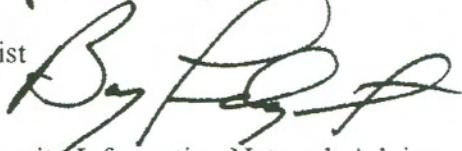
Issue: The HSIN Program Management Office is under-resourced to develop, implement and manage a national system (Homeland Security Information Network Next Generation) or respond to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) directives etc.

Recommendation 4: The Secretary of Homeland Security should review and provide appropriate resources to implement the recommendations for the Homeland Security Information Network Next Generation.

January 4, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Roger Rufe
Director for Operations Coordination

THROUGH: Elliott Langer
Designated Federal Officer

FROM: Joe Rozek 
Chair
Barry Lindquist 
Vice Chair

SUBJECT: Homeland Security Information Network Advisory Committee
Strategic Recommendations

This memorandum provides the initial set of recommendations developed by the Homeland Security Information Network Advisory Committee (HSINAC) for consideration by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

BACKGROUND:

These recommendations are strategic in nature, creating a sound foundation for the development of the Next Generation of the Homeland Security Information Network. These recommendations also serve as a vision from which operational and tactical level recommendations will be generated. It should be noted that the recommendations are not intended to be implemented simultaneously, but rather incrementally and as appropriate as the development of HSIN Next Generation matures.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Issue: There is no single national system identified for information sharing between Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Private Sectors, resulting in duplicative systems for the exchange and dissemination of information causing inconsistent distribution of key information, financial waste, burden on users and information gaps.

Recommendation 1: Pursuant to the Homeland Security Act, Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5, and the National Strategy for Information Sharing, dated October, 2007 and consistent with the Katrina After Action Report, the Secretary of Homeland Security should request the Homeland Security Council designate HSIN as *the* national "one-stop shop" system for Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Private Sector Sensitive But Unclassified information sharing in support of the Homeland Security missions of Prevent, Protect, Respond, Recover.