



Homeland Security

MEMORANDUM FOR: Judge William Webster
Chair, Homeland Security Advisory Council

FROM: Kirstjen M. Nielsen
Secretary

SUBJECT: **State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Cybersecurity Subcommittee**

Pursuant to the September 18th, 2018 HSAC meeting, I instruct the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) to establish a new subcommittee titled “The State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Cybersecurity Subcommittee” to provide recommendations regarding the following issues surrounding SLTT Cybersecurity:

Our nation faces serious and evolving cyber threats. As cyber and physical systems become more interconnected, the digital attack surface is extending further into our daily lives, with the potential for malicious cyber actors to create dangerous, real-world effects. Federal, State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) entities must collaborate and coordinate extensively with critical infrastructure private sector owners, operators, and stakeholders to identify and address these cybersecurity challenges. All parties need a common understanding of the threat, mechanisms to mitigate the threat, and the ability to detect and disrupt the threat. The SLTT Cybersecurity Subcommittee will examine DHS cybersecurity engagement with SLLT partners, and the Subcommittee will provide recommendations for improving DHS support to these stakeholders in order to better protect our nation's networks and systems. The subcommittee's mandate will include, but is not necessary limited to, the following:

1. How can DHS most efficiently and effectively, across all DHS components, support SLTT agencies and partners in pursuing cybersecurity and resilience of their IT infrastructure, to include incident response and recovery?
2. What programs, services, and outreach should DHS prioritize that would provide the greatest benefit to SLTT stakeholders in reducing risks to IT infrastructure?
3. How effective has the Homeland Security Grant Program been in addressing cybersecurity risks at the SLTT levels? How could the Homeland Security Grant Program, including associated grant guidance and technical assistance, be best structured to address cybersecurity risks?

