MEMORANDUM FOR: Peter T. Edge  
Executive Associate Director  
Homeland Security Investigations

THROUGH: Derek Benner  
Deputy Executive Associate Director  
Homeland Security Investigations

FROM: Patrick J. Lechleitner  
Acting Assistant Director  
National Security Investigations Division

SUBJECT: TIDE Notification Process Termination

Purpose

This memorandum provides background information on the Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment (TIDE) notification process and discusses the value of the program moving forward.

Background

National Security Investigations Division (NSID), Visa Security Coordination Center (VSCC) has a National Program Manager (NPM), and an Intelligence Research Specialist (IRS) assigned to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) National Targeting Center-Passenger (NTC-P). The primary function of this section is to coordinate the vetting of TIDE encounters and provide notifications on positive encounters to Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Special Agents and HSI Attachés for appropriate response. VSCC has been located at the NTC-P since 2005.
The purpose of this process is to identify derogatory information for possible criminal prosecution, possible inadmissibility, and to provide information obtained during the interview and search to the Intelligence Community (IC) to update the TIDE record.

The VSCC provides notification to HSI domestic offices and HSI Attaché offices on over 700 TIDE encounters each year. Below is the current TIDE notification process.

Field compliance with the TIDE policy is remarkably low, averaging approximately 10-12% annually.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>FY16</th>
<th>FY15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notifications</td>
<td>ROIs completed</td>
<td>Compliance Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>566</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY14 Notifications  ROIs completed  Compliance Rate
721  85  12%

FY13 Notifications  ROIs completed  Compliance Rate
757  94  12%

FY12 Notifications  ROIs completed  Compliance Rate
708  60  9%

There are no enforcement statistics, seizures or arrests, resulting from TIDE notifications.

Discussion

The TIDE notification effort was essential at its inception but over time, the Watchlisting and screening community has evolved and developed more efficient, while HSI process has changed little. Therefore, this effort is now ineffective and duplicative. VSCC recommends that HSI terminate the program and realign two of the personnel to other duties.

Recommendation

The termination of the VSCC TIDE notification process is justified and approved.

Approve  Disapprove  Needs more discussion