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**Homeland
Security**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Thomas Atkin
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland
Defense and Global Security
U.S. Department of Defense

FROM: Alan D. Bersin 
Assistant Secretary for International Affairs
& Chief Diplomatic Officer
Office of Policy
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

SUBJECT: Update to DHS-DoD MOA on Biometric Information Exchange

In early 2011, our offices signed the "Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on Information Sharing and Technology Partnering Relating to Identity Verification and Screening Activities" ("DHS-DoD MOA"). The DHS-DoD MOA governs information sharing and technology partnering between DoD and DHS with respect to biometric, biographic, contextual, and other identity management data related to screening people and identity verification.

Our staffs have worked together over the last several years to update Appendix A of this MOA to allow additional DHS and DoD users and uses for the biometric information exchange, and better describe current capabilities and existing users' purposes and uses. In response to your 2013 request for DHS to provide biometric information via bulk data exchange as an interim sharing measure until full interoperability is achieved between DoD, DHS, and the Department of Justice, Appendix H provides the capability for DHS to export select categories of subjects of interest in its Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) to DoD.

Although these changes do not require a formal revision to the MOA, both of our Departments must approve the updates to Appendix A and the new addition Appendix H. Please find attached the two appendices for your review and concurrence.

My staff looks forward to continuing work with your office to document the implementation requirements (including the data that will be shared between DoD and DHS, and instructions for handling of the data shared including DHS special protected information) in Operational Protocols that will be included as addendum(s) to the appendices. Given that no new data will be shared under Appendix A or H until the terms of the appendix and the Operational Protocols document(s) are finalized, DHS is committed to working with you to expedite their completion.

If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 282-9658 or Kelli Ann Burriesci at (202) 447-3814

cc: Stevan E. Bunnell, General Counsel, DHS

Attachments