

NATIONWIDE SAR INITIATIVE ACTIVITY SUMMARY



April 2009

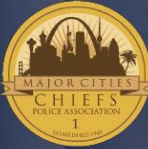
Program Overview

State, local, tribal, and federal partners, along with several national law enforcement organizations, have collaborated to develop the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI). Although the initiative began as an operational study project, it is currently an evaluation environment involving multiple pilot projects throughout the United States. The effort will be evolving into a national program to share terrorism-related SAR data at all levels of government. The NSI incorporates agencies' individual SAR processes (the gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing of suspicious information) into a nationwide capability to share terrorism-related SAR data on a national level. The SAR process focuses on what law enforcement has been doing for years—gathering information regarding behaviors and incidents associated with crime and establishing a process to share information to detect and prevent criminal activity, including crime associated with domestic and international terrorism. This document is a monthly summary that illustrates the accomplishments and upcoming activities and events associated with the NSI. This fourth edition provides a summary of the NSI activities over the course of April 2009.

Accomplishments

ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment Privacy Policies

During the month of April, 3 of the 12 fusion centers—the Florida Fusion Center, the Virginia Fusion Center, and the Miami-Dade Fusion Center—participating in the ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment (EE) submitted privacy policies that were recommended by the EE's privacy policy review team to the federal partners as meeting all NSI-related policy requirements to enable them to share and access privacy field information within the ISE-SAR Shared Spaces. In addition, the New York State Intelligence Center and the Boston Regional Intelligence Center submitted policies that will be recommended for early May consideration. Of the remaining seven participating centers, all but one have submitted privacy policy documents that have either been returned with comments and recommendations or are currently under review. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) SAR Team continues to work with the remaining agencies to finalize their policies, and it is anticipated that the remaining policies could be completed during the month of May.



Accomplishments (continued)

ISE-SAR Training

Training continued during the month of April with the Chief Executive Officer Briefing being conducted in Houston, Texas, on April 23. To date, a total of seven sessions have been completed. Delivery of the SAR analyst/investigator training also continued, with training being conducted at the Virginia State Police on April 2 and at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department on April 7. To date, a total of nine sessions have been completed.

ISE-SAR Shared Spaces System Deployment

Computer hardware and software systems were installed at the Houston Regional Intelligence Service Fusion Center during the month of April. With this new installation, eight fusion centers have received ISE-SAR Shared Spaces hardware, network, and software applications and are “technically ready” to begin sharing ISE-SAR information. In addition to the Houston installation, hardware has been ordered or received for the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) Guardian; Las Vegas, Nevada, Metropolitan Police Department; Los Angeles Police Department; and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Discussions continued to finalize hardware specifications for the Seattle, Washington, Police Department.

Federal ISE-SAR Shared Spaces

Guardian—The FBI and BJA’s SAR Technical Team discussed and finalized the data exchange process between Guardian and the ISE-SAR Shared Spaces, and test data is currently being analyzed. Guardian software engineers are working actively with the BJA Technical Team to develop, test, and integrate ISE-SAR Shared Space eGuardian applications, with the goal to have a fully functional eGuardian ISE-SAR Shared Space available by the end of June 2009.

DHS—The Office of the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE), the BJA SAR Technical Team, and DHS are in discussion over the plan for implementation of the ISE-SAR Shared Spaces server in the DHS environment, with an initial focus on the integration of the Federal Air Marshal Service SAR

database. It is anticipated that the DHS ISE-SAR Shared Space will be implemented in May or early June 2009.

U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) SAR Efforts

In December 2008, the FBI and DoD began an operational pilot of the eGuardian system and policy to identify information sharing issues and validate the proposed SAR policy, system, and information flow as an enduring solution for DoD SARs. This pilot is being tested with the following participants:

- National Capital Region (NCR)—Pentagon Force Protection Agency; Andrews Air Force Base (AFB); Fort Belvoir; Washington Navy Yard; Anacostia, Virginia
- Hampton Roads/Norfolk, VA—Norfolk Navy Base; Langley AFB; Fort Lee; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Florida—Naval Air Station, Jacksonville; Mayport Naval Base, Jacksonville; MacDill AFB, Tampa
- U.S. Northern Command (Colorado Springs, Colorado)

The SARs gathered by DoD are now shared with 214 local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies. This sharing of data continues to test our draft information flow and policy. In the five months since the beginning of the pilot, DoD has been able to call out many success stories in which suspicious activity, with a DoD nexus, was identified by civilian law enforcement and rapidly shared with the DoD law enforcement community. This information sharing ability has enhanced the Force Protection capability to detect, defend, and deter attacks against DoD personnel and assets.

Collection of ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment Performance Measures

The PM-ISE has completed the first ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment data collection. The process included identifying measurement points of contact at each of the sites, holding a virtual kickoff meeting, and working with each site to determine what data to report. The information is being analyzed and will inform the development of the PM-ISE’s Annual Report. While many sites are still working on implementation or policy issues, this data provides a baseline of the level of

Accomplishments (continued)

activity for future measurement activities, scheduled to occur quarterly.

Upcoming Planned Activities/Events

ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment Meeting

A meeting is tentatively being scheduled for the beginning of June to bring together the ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment sites—specifically, the individuals responsible for implementing the SAR process within their agency and a lead analyst that reviews SARs. It is anticipated that at the time of the meeting, the 12 ISE-SAR Evaluation Environment sites will be fully operational and sharing ISE-SARs, and the goal is to bring the sites together to discuss the ISE-SAR Shared Spaces and any issues or questions they may have with their systems or the process. In addition, the sites will also have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on a new training curriculum provided by DHS. The training will illustrate the behaviors and indicators of terrorists and reaffirm the necessity for the sharing of suspicious activity at all levels of law enforcement.

ISE-SAR Training

The development of the SAR training for line officers continues to make progress. The first pilot training is scheduled for June 9, 2009, in Richmond, Virginia, with the Virginia State Police. The training will introduce key concepts/practices related to SAR and reinforce the vital role played by line officers.

The Chief Executive Officer Briefing is scheduled for the following agencies:

- Seattle Police Department (May 28)
- Phoenix Police Department (Tentative)

The analyst/investigator training is scheduled for the following agency:

- Seattle Police Department (May 14)

ISE-SAR Shared Spaces Rollout Schedule

The remaining fusion centers are scheduled for installs in the spring of 2009:

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department

Los Angeles Police Department

Phoenix Police Department

The FBI's eGuardian and DHS's ISE-SAR Shared Spaces are also tentatively planned to be technically operational in May.

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