



Bureau of Justice Assistance

Program Brief



State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training Program

American law enforcement and intelligence agencies face threats of unprecedented terrorism and criminal extremism that present unique challenges to conventional investigative strategies and intelligence operations. Tragically, these challenges were made clear by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

To help our nation's law enforcement and intelligence agencies confront these threats, the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training (SLATT) Program provides training in detecting, investigating, and prosecuting extremist criminal activity, including activity that is inspired by international events. This focus distinguishes SLATT training from first responder and related weapons of mass destruction/nuclear, biological, and chemical response training provided to emergency service personnel. In response to the September 11 attacks, SLATT expanded its training and research on foreign-inspired terrorism to include specific organizations believed to be involved in the attacks.

SLATT is a joint effort of the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Richard R. Nedelkoff, Director

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA

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About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance was established in 1984 as a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. BJA provides leadership and resources to state, local, and tribal governments and communities to reduce crime, violence, and drug abuse and to strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. BJA provides this assistance through formula and discretionary grants, training and technical assistance, publications, and the BJA Web site.

For Further Information

For information about the SLATT Program, contact:

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For publications and information on other BJA-funded programs, contact:

Bureau of Justice Assistance Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 6000
Rockville, MD 20849-6000
1-800-688-4252
Web site: www.ncjrs.org

Clearinghouse staff are available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. eastern time. Ask to be placed on the BJA mailing list.

U.S. Department of Justice Response Center
1-800-421-6770 or locally at 202-307-1480

Response Center staff are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern time.

Who Should Consider SLATT Training

SLATT specialized courses are designed for state and local law enforcement executives, command personnel, intelligence officers, investigators, training directors, and prosecutors. Courses cover the gamut from street-level officer safety to executive policymaking issues. SLATT's service includes the coordination of training logistics, the selection and development of instructors, the preparation of training and resource materials, the selection of training sites, liaison with potential trainees and cosponsors, and close coordination with the FBI's National Security Division Training Unit. Since its inception, SLATT has trained more than 15,600 law enforcement personnel.

SLATT Training Topics

Terrorism Overview and Identification of Terrorist and Extremist Crimes—Offers a global perspective of terrorism and criminal extremism by addressing international, domestic, and special-interest groups, organizations, and ideologies.

Law Enforcement and Its Role in National Defense—Identifies the roles and responsibilities of state and local law enforcement in the protection of American communities against attacks by foreign-inspired terrorist groups and organizations.

Antigovernment Extremism: Origins, Ideology, and Tactics—Contrasts the realities of the historical militia with the modern-day militia philosophy.

Political Violence—Provides a briefing on the ideologies, tactics, and goals of foreign-inspired terrorist and extremist groups and organizations. Explores the theological divisions of mainstream



“Providing SLATT’s unique training to state and local law enforcement personnel is one of the best investments we can make to improve community security.”

—Richard R. Nedelkoff, Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance

and fundamentalist Islam and how extremist groups misrepresent the teachings of Islam.

Legal Issues in Extremist Investigations—

Explains the federal legal issues associated with the investigation of domestic terrorism.

Domestic Terrorism Investigations—Explores the process, complexity, and differences in conducting a domestic terrorism investigation versus a typical criminal investigation.

Who Are They, How Are They Different, and How To Assess Your Community—Delineates the characteristics of criminal extremists and how those characteristics differ from typical criminal behavior.

Behavioral Considerations and Threat Assessment for Group-Related Targeted Violence—Identifies the behavioral characteristics of domestic terrorist and criminal extremist personalities.

The Intelligence Process and Preparation of Threat Assessments—Demonstrates the need to effectively gather and analyze intelligence information to produce a specific threat assessment.

Investigative Techniques—Describes the surveillance process and provides recommendations for assessing when to conduct a surveillance operation, the benefits of employing surveillance, and the drawbacks of surveillance operations. Explains the use and management of informants.

Interview Techniques With Extremists—Introduces the unique challenges of conducting investigative interviews with criminal extremists.

Explosives and Explosive Devices—Explores the dangers of investigating individuals who use



explosives as part of their crimes, and how to recognize explosive devices.

The Internet: An Investigative Tool—Provides insight into how terrorists and criminal extremists use the Internet for communication. Offers instruction on using the Internet to find information.

The Future: What To Expect—Addresses general ideas concerning the future of terrorist and criminal extremist activity, and summarizes a number of national assessments and possible future trends and scenarios.

SLATT Research

SLATT Program staff collect information on terrorist acts committed on U.S. soil; international terrorist groups and ideologies; U.S. extremist groups and criminal activities; preincident awareness, preparation, prevention, and interdiction; and other related areas. SLATT provides a public source research database and research products such as publications, videos, and multimedia applications that are disseminated





through training classes, the Regional Information Sharing Systems secure intranet, and other means as appropriate.

Issues and Curriculum Development

SLATT convenes focus groups to evaluate law enforcement and prosecution issues to ensure that training and related activities are timely, relevant, and responsive to the needs and requirements of the law enforcement community. The focus groups comprise select law enforcement and prosecution practitioners and other experts. They identify issues emerging

from terrorist and extremist movements and review and refine SLATT's training curricula, products, and research agenda.

Technical Assistance

An important part of SLATT assistance is meeting the technical assistance needs of state and local law enforcement in terrorism detection, investigation, and prosecution. The SLATT Program has established a pool of anti-terrorism experts who deliver specialized training and research products in response to requests from law enforcement agencies and referrals from the FBI and BJA.

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