Transportation Security Unified Stakeholders Group (TSUSG) Fiscal Year 2022 Third Quarter Tactical Meeting Report

June 14, 2022

Shannon Morgan welcomed everyone. While normally a two-hour meeting, this quarter's meeting was extended an hour and was led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Directorate.

FBI WMD Response: Transportation – Juan Gonzalez

Juan kicked off the program by giving a brief synopsis of the content that would be presented during the meeting.

WMD Directorate Overview – SSA Suzy Swaagman

Suzy gave a synopsis of the FBI WMD Directorate's landscape. She also discussed involvement with the sections within the FBI WMD Directorate, including Countermeasures and Mitigation, Intelligence Analysis, and Investigation and Operations.

FBI Radiological and Nuclear Threat Overview – Dr. Daniel Bahr

Dr. Bahr discussed worldwide radiological/nuclear threats to include movement of nuclear weapons and material, covering specific concerns and investigations.

Cyber Vulnerabilities Related to the Trucking Industry – SSA Dan Getchell

Dan's presentation covered global technical surveillance, the benefits and vulnerabilities of GPS, and vulnerabilities specific to the JD848.

Weapons of Mass Destruction – SA Steven Zeringue

Steven described the critical role and responsibilities of the FBI WMD Coordinator and gave an animated presentation on specific events involving the threat drones pose in various scenarios and modes of transportation.

Investigations Unit Overview – SSA Kristen Larson

Kristen discussed her unit's mission which includes identification, prevention, mitigation, investigation, resolution, and resolve in the use or threatened use of any WMD as a means of threat directed against the United States, its citizens, or its interests.

Response Unit Overview – SSA Russel S. Romero

Russel defined response management which includes threat credibility evaluations. He also discussed the Response Unit's responsibilities.

Close out - Juan Gonzalez

Juan closed the program thanking all for attending.

Wrap up - Shannon Morgan

Although there was opportunity for questions during the program, the wrap up was followed by a short period for more questions.

Are shippers able to detect jamming and spoofing? No, an example of internal jamming is the cartels that use jamming on their own vehicles to move clandestinely in Mexico once they cross the US/Mexico border.

In the cases discussed, why weren't people charged for purposely exposing someone to radiation? It is difficult to prove lasting harm for small amounts of exposure.

Are there Federal laws on the use of drones? There are currently no Federal laws on drones; however, a Presidential Directive issued in 2021 focuses on the use of drones. Each state has their own drone laws. Louisiana has several drone laws that have been used to charge individuals. Louisiana currently has in operation, in the local and federal level, systems that can locate drones and their pilots. It is important to interview the drone pilot to obtain motive.

What are the concerns of drones? Drones can be used to attack special events, infrastructure, transportation, and symbolic targets. Drones can transport considerable payloads several miles and can be operated from other countries. Additionally, drones can be used in an explosive attack and used as a listening post.

How are you working with first responders in radiological exposure? Most local law enforcement officers are not aware of what radiation is, how it affects them, and that radiation is all around them. Therefore, each year, the FBI conducts at least one WMD radiation training class for first responders. The New Orleans FBI WMD Coordinator is working with the DHS Secure the Cities program handing out personnel radiation detectors to first responders in the New Orleans AOR. Along with training on how to use the devices, over 200 radiation detection devices have been distributed.

Do you have a working relationship with Canada? Yes, we do.