



BIOTERRORISM RISK ASSESSMENT GROUP (BRAG)

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA**



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MISSION

Conduct Security Risk Assessments (SRAs) on individuals and entities who possess, use or transport select biological agents and/or toxins.



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AUTHORITIES

- **Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (Bioterrorism Act), Public Law 107-188 42 USC 262a 3b**
- **Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002, 7 USC 8401**
- **USA Patriot Act**



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HISTORY

- **January 2003: Attorney General directs FBI to conduct Bioterrorism SRAs**
- **March 2003: FBI directs CJIS Division to conduct SRAs**
- **April 2003: CJIS Division initiates first SRAs**



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SRA PROCESS

- Initiated upon receipt of fingerprint cards and FD-961 form
- Fingerprint cards are processed and data entered into our stand-alone bioterrorism database
- File is assigned to a BRAG analyst for completion



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Databases Queried

- Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task Force - TSDB
- Veterans' Affairs
- Department of Defense
- National Crime Information Center Files
- Interstate Identification Index
- FBI files
- Law Enforcement Support Center (foreign-born only)



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SRA PROCESS

- If a candidate is foreign-born, additional checks are completed by the Law Enforcement Support Center in Vermont
- Additional follow-up with FBI field offices and FBIHQ if necessary



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SRA PROCESS

- BRAG determines if the candidate is a restricted person based on database queries
- Results sent to sponsor, who denies or grants access and notifies the candidate of decision



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PROHIBITORS

- Candidate is reasonably suspected of committing a federal crime of terrorism
- Candidate has involvement with an organization that engages in domestic or international terrorism or any organization that engages in intentional crimes of violence



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PROHIBITORS

- Candidate is an agent of a foreign power
- Candidate is under indictment for a crime punishable for a term exceeding one year
- Candidate has been convicted in any court of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year



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PROHIBITORS

- Candidate is a fugitive from justice
- Candidate is an unlawful user of any controlled substance
- Candidate is illegally in the US



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PROHIBITORS

- Candidate is an alien (other than an alien lawfully permitted for permanent residence) who is a national of a country the Secretary of State has determined to be a supporter of acts of terrorism
- Candidate has been adjudicated mental defective
- Candidate has been discharged from the US armed forces under dishonorable conditions



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Points of Contact

Supervisory Special Agent Liz Snyder

- 304-625-2176 desk
- 304-672-0392 mobile
- elizabeth.snyder@ic.fbi.gov

Supervisory Personnel Security Specialist John Strovers

- 304-625-4766

Personnel Security Specialist April Burke

- (304) 625-2687



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