

# BIOTERRORISM RISK ASSESSMENT GROUP (BRAG)



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



# MISSION

- To enhance national security and public safety by providing the timely and accurate determination of an individual or entity's eligibility to possess, use or transport select biological agents and/or toxins.

# 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



# 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



# Databases Queried

- Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task Force databases:
  - Terrorist Screening Database
  - Violent Terrorist Organization File
- National Counterterrorism Center
  - Terrorist Identities Data Environment
- Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Department of Defense (ABIS)
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (IDENT)



# Databases Queried

- National Crime Information Center Files
- Interstate Identification Index
- FBI files - ACS and Sent
- Department of State - Consolidated Consular Database



# Additional checks

- If a candidate is foreign-born, immigration status checks are completed by ICE at the Law Enforcement Support Center in Vermont
- Additional follow-up with the Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate and Field Offices if necessary



# SRA PROCESS

- BRAG determines if a candidate meets the criteria of a "restricted person" based on search results
- SRA result sent to sponsor, who denies or grants access and notifies the candidate of decision



# PROHIBITORS

## Bioterrorism Act

The individual is reasonably suspected by any Federal law enforcement or intelligence agency of:

- Committing a federal crime of terrorism



# PROHIBITORS

- Having knowing involvement with an organization that engages in domestic or international terrorism or any organization that engages in intentional crimes of violence
- Being an agent of a foreign power



# PROHIBITORS

18 USC 175b

The candidate:

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



# PROHIBITORS

- is a fugitive from justice
- is an unlawful user of any controlled substance
- is an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States



# PROHIBITORS

- has been adjudicated a mental defective or committed to any mental institution
- 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
- has been discharged from the US armed forces under dishonorable conditions



# Gaps identified by FESAP

- Vetting 12E (mental defective)
  - Access to NICS index system to include mental health files

## Vetting of Foreign Nationals

- Limited criminal history data available
- Working to gain access to limited RCMP records



# Statistics

- Individuals (active):
  - APHIS: 1,938
  - CDC: 11,495
- Entities (active): 400
- Total SRAs completed: 45,592
- Total SRAs restricted: 296



# Restricted by category

- Since inception program inception
  - Adjudicated mental: 6
  - Agent of a Foreign Power: 2
  - Alien of a Terror State: 5
  - Controlled Substance: 27
  - Dishonorable Discharge: 2
  - Federal crime of terrorism: 0



# Restricted by category

- Continued
  - Criminal conviction: 193
  - Fugitive from justice: 13
  - Illegal/unlawful alien: 19
  - Intentional crimes of terrorism: 0
  - Under indictment: 29
    - Total: 296



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS ACT: ENTITY / INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION**

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 states that knowingly and willfully falsifying or concealing a material fact is a felony that may result in fines or imprisonment for not more than 5 years or both.

**Section I: Entity Information**

1. Legal Name of Entity and Entity Registration Number (AGRXXXXXXXX or CDCXXXXXXXX):

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code):

\_\_\_\_\_

**Section II: Individual Information**

3. Unique Identifying Number (UIN Supplied by Sponsor): \_\_\_\_\_

4. Full Name (Last, First, Middle): \_\_\_\_\_

- 4a. Aliases/Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Residence Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code):

\_\_\_\_\_

- 7a. Additional State(s) of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Sex:

Male

Female

9. Race:

White

Black or African

Hispanic or Latino

Asian/Native Pacific Islander

American Indian or other Alaska Native

10. Place of Birth (City and State or Foreign Country): \_\_\_\_\_

Country or Countries of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Renounced Country or Countries of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Foreign Place of Birth Information: (If born in the U.S., proceed to Section III. If a U.S. Citizen Born Abroad, attach a copy of the born abroad certificate or U.S. passport and proceed to Section III.)

Alien Registration Number or Admission Number (9-11 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Immigration Status and Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Full Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Immigration Status at Entry: \_\_\_\_\_



### Section III: Certification Questions

12a. Are you under indictment or information in any court for any crime for which the judge could imprison you for more than one year?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12b. Have you been convicted in any court for a crime for which the judge could have imprisoned you for more than one year even if you received a shorter sentence or probation?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12c. Are you a fugitive from justice?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12d. Are you an unlawful user of any controlled substance (as defined in Section 102 of the Controlled Substance Act [21 U.S.C. 802])?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12e. Have you ever been adjudicated as a mental defective or been committed to any mental institution?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12f. Are you an alien illegally or unlawfully in the United States?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12g. (I) Are you an alien (other than an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence) who is a national of a State Sponsor of Terrorism; or (II) acts for or on behalf of, or operates subject to the direction or control of, a government or official of a State Sponsor of Terrorism?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12h. Have you been discharged from the Armed Services of the United States under dishonorable conditions?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12i. Are you a member of, act for or on behalf of, or operate subject to the direction or control of a terrorist organization (as defined in Section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act [8 USC 1182])?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



#### Section IV: Certification and Consent of Applicant

By signing this form, I certify that the above certification answers are true, correct and complete. I understand that making of a false oral or written statement is a crime.

I hereby authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to obtain any information relevant to assessing my suitability to access, possess, use, receive or transfer select agents and toxins from any relevant source, including, but not limited to, individuals, public sources, and government sources. This information may include, but is not limited to, biographical, financial, law enforcement and intelligence information.

I further authorize any individuals having information pertinent to such an assessment to release such information to a duly accredited representative of the U.S. Department of Justice. The authorization set forth in this paragraph is valid for five (5) years from the date on which this form is signed.

I further authorize the U.S. Department of Justice to disclose the results and records or information supporting such results relating to, or obtained in connection with, my security risk assessment to: the U.S. Department of Agriculture; the Department of Health and Human Services; any agency contractors assisting in the determination of risk.

I further authorize the release of records, results or information relating to, or obtained in connection with my security risk assessment to any law enforcement or intelligence authority or other federal, state or local entity with relevant jurisdiction where such information reveals a risk to human, animal and/or plant health or national security, in accordance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Department of Health and Human Services regulatory authority.

I further authorize disclosure of records results or information relating to, or obtained in connection with my security risk assessment to organizations or individuals, both public and private, if deemed necessary, in the sole discretion of the U.S. Department of Justice, to elicit information or cooperation from the recipient for use in assessing my suitability to access, possess, use, receive or transfer select agents and toxins.

**I understand that this is a legally binding document and false statements provided by me are violations of federal law and may lead to criminal prosecution or other legal action.**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Section V: Certification of Responsible or Alternate Responsible Official

As the Responsible or Alternate Responsible Official, I certify that I have reviewed this form in its entirety for completeness and legibility. Furthermore, I have reviewed the certification questions (Section III) and discussed any issues with the applicant and determined, based upon my review, that all certification questions have been answered no prior to transmitting this information to the FBI for the Security Risk Assessment.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# Points of Contact

## Supervisory Personnel Security Specialist

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## BRAG

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