CAPO operates within the DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T).

However, CAPO responsibilities are DHS-wide, and its services are available to all DHS Components and performers.

CAPO performs compliance support and oversight functions to ensure DHS-funded/-sponsored/-conducted activities are compliant with:

- Federal regulations, policies, and guidelines
- Applicable international agreements
- Internal DHS Directives and Instructions

CAPO performs compliance assurance and oversight in eight areas:

- Treaty (Biological Weapons and Toxins Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention)
- Biosafety
- Biological select agents and toxins (BSAT)
- Animal care and use
- Human subjects research
- Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC)
- Export Controls
- Committee on Foreign Investments in the U.S. (CFIUS)
DHS Directives (Department-Wide)

- Compliance With, and Implementation of, Arms Control Agreements [Directive 041-01]
- Biosafety [Directive 066-02, Rev 01]
- Select Agent and Toxin Security [Directive 026-03, Rev 01]
- Care, Use, and Transportation of Animals [Directive 026-01, Rev 01]
- Protection of Human Subjects [Directive 026-04, Rev 01]
- Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern [026-02]

Biological & Chemical Arms Control Branch

CAPO

Research Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Requirements for DHS

All DHS efforts must be conducted in accordance with relevant Federal regulations and guidelines, including:

- CDC and USDA Regulations for Biological Select Agents and Toxins (BSAT)
- CDC/NIH Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL)
- NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules
- USDA Implementation of the Animal Welfare Act (9 CFR Chapter 1)
- White House Policies on Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern
- Public Health Service Policy for Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
- United States Government Policy for Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern (March 2012)
- United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern (September 2014)
CAPO BSAT Project Review

- DHS-sponsored projects involving BSAT must be reviewed and cleared by CAPO prior to the initiation of work, even if that work uses exempt quantities.
- CAPO conducts an initial documentation review, which is coordinated with the DHS Program Manager and registered entity, prior to clearance.
  - Statement of work
  - Biosafety manual
  - Copy of current FSAP certificate of registration
  - Project specific protocols/research plans/etc.
- Upon completion of review, CAPO sends the registered entity a memo approving the initiation of work.
- DHS performers who work with BSAT must comply with all aspects of the Select Agent Regulations (i.e. no additional requirements).
Following project initiation, CAPO conducts periodic documentation reviews and site visits as part of an ongoing effort to ensure regulatory compliance.
DHS S&T has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CDC and APHIS (first signed in October 2011) to participate in joint select agent inspections at entities conducting DHS-sponsored research activities involving BSAT.

CAPO routinely participates in joint inspections of DHS performers working with BSAT with the FSAP.

Benefits:

- Coordinated inspections to reduce time and resource burdens for registered entities.
- Improved transparency and information sharing.
- Increased dialogue and collaboration in addressing compliance issues.
Coordination of Joint Inspections

- Joint inspection schedules are set by DSAT and/or AgSAS, not CAPO.
- CAPO shares a list of registered entities conducting DHS-sponsored BSAT work with DSAT/AgSAS.
- DSAT/AgSAS inform CAPO of upcoming select agent inspections at those entities.
- CAPO coordinates with DSAT/AgSAS for upcoming inspections (i.e. inspection plan, logistics, tentative schedule, entry requirements, etc.).
- Initial agenda established by DSAT and/or AgSAS leads. CAPO may request documentation or accommodations.
- CAPO inspectors participate in inspections alongside DSAT and/or AgSAS inspectors (i.e. inspection of registered spaces, documentation review, interviews, etc.).
- CAPO does not write an independent inspection report.
## DHS CAPO-FSAP Inspection History

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Questions?

Questions and/or requests for more information may be directed to:

- Treaty Compliance:
  treatycompliance@hq.dhs.gov

- Regulatory and DURC Compliance:
  stregulatorycompliance@hq.dhs.gov

christopher.odonnell@hq.dhs.gov