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STRATEGIC GOAL 1: Prevent Terrorism and Promote the Nation's Security

10% of the Department's Net Costs support this Goal.

The Department's foremost focus is protecting the Homeland from future terrorist attacks. To ensure attainment of this goal, prevention is our highest priority. The Department has and will continue to take assertive actions to prevent, disrupt, and defeat terrorist operations before they occur by developing knowledge of terrorist organizations and an understanding of their intentions. In order to have the information we need to keep our nation safe, we are continuing to strengthen and expand our counterintelligence capabilities. The Department is also working hard to ensure that the people that intend to do us harm come to justice. The Department will investigate and prosecute those who have committed, or intend to commit, terrorist acts in the United States.

FY 2008 Outcome Goal: No terrorist acts committed by foreign nationals within U.S. borders

Background/Program Objectives: As the leader of the nation's counterterrorism efforts, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) must understand all dimensions of the threats facing the nation and address them with new and innovative investigative and operational strategies. The FBI must be able to effectively respond to the challenges posed by unconventional terrorist methods, such as the use of chemical, biological, radiological, explosive, and nuclear materials. When terrorist acts do occur, the FBI must rapidly identify, locate, and apprehend those responsible. As part of its counterterrorism mission, the FBI will continue to combat terrorism by investigating those persons and countries that finance terrorist acts. The FBI will aggressively use the money laundering and asset forfeiture statutes to locate and disrupt the financial sources of terrorist organizations. The FBI will also work to effectively and efficiently utilize the tools authorized by Congress in the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001. While the ultimate goal is to prevent a terrorist act before it occurs, the FBI must be able to respond should an act occur. The FBI's efforts in this area include improved intelligence gathering and sharing, improved analytical capabilities, and enhanced training and liaison.

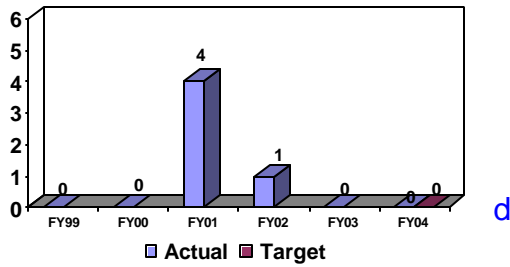
Performance Measure: Terrorist Acts Committed by Foreign Nationals Against U.S. Interests (within U.S. Borders)

FY 2004 Target: 0

FY 2004 Actual: 0

Discussion: No incidents falling into this category were reported in FY 2004. NOTE: Performance for FY 2002 has been updated. On July 4, 2002, Hesham Mohamed Ali Hedayat, an Egyptian immigrant, shot random victims who stood in line at the ticket counter of El Al Israeli National Airlines at the Los Angeles International Airport. During this attack, two other persons were killed before Hedayat was killed by the security officer on duty. Subsequent to a worldwide investigation regarding the attack, it was determined that Hedayet's religious and political beliefs were the primary motivation for the attack, and not personal revenge. Thus, pursuant to these investigative findings, this case was officially designated as an act of international terrorism.

Terrorist Acts Committed by Foreign Nationals Against U.S. Interests (within U.S. Borders)



Data Definitions: Terrorist Acts Committed by Foreign Nationals counts separate incidents that involve the "unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives." (28 C.F.R. Section 0.85). For the purposes of this measure, the FBI defines a terrorist act as an attack against a single target (e.g., a building or physical structure, an aircraft, etc.). Acts against single targets are counted as separate acts, even if they are coordinated to have simultaneous impact. For example, each of the September 11, 2001, acts (North Tower of the World Trade Center (WTC), South Tower of the WTC, the Pentagon, and the Pennsylvania crash site) could have occurred independently of each other and still have been a significant terrorist act in and of themselves. The FBI uses the term terrorist incident to describe the overall concerted terrorist attack. A terrorist incident may consist of multiple terrorist acts. The September 11, 2001, attacks, therefore, are counted as four terrorist acts and one terrorist incident.

Data Collection and Storage: The reported numbers were compiled through the expert knowledge of FBI Counterterrorism senior management at FBI headquarters.

Data Validation and Verification: See above.

Data Limitations: The decision to count or discount an incident as a terrorist act, according to the above definition, is subject to change based upon the latest available intelligence information and the opinion of program managers. In addition, acts of terrorism, by their nature, are impossible to reduce to uniform, reliable measures. A single defined act of terrorism could range from a small-scale explosion that causes property damage to the use of a weapon of mass destruction that causes thousands of deaths and massive property damage and has a profound effect on national morale.