Fact Sheet

October 2008

The Office of Fraud Detection and National Security

The Office of Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) is a division housed within the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) National Security and Records Verification Directorate. It was created in 2004 to enhance the quality, integrity, and security of the U.S. legal immigration system. FDNS' primary mission is to detect, deter, and combat immigration benefit fraud and to strengthen USCIS' efforts aimed at ensuring benefits are not granted to persons who threaten national security or public safety. FDNS is USCIS' primary conduit to the law enforcement and intelligence communities.

Organization

The current Chief of FDNS is Don Crocetti. Mr. Crocetti was assigned to lead FDNS after having served more than 25 years with INS and USCIS. FDNS has four branches:

- The Fraud Detection Branch, which is responsible for developing and overseeing anti-fraud policies and procedures, detecting fraudulent immigration activities and identifying fraudulent benefit applications.

- The National Security Branch, which is responsible for developing and overseeing national security policies and procedures and resolving national security concerns with the law enforcement and intelligence communities.

- The Intelligence Branch, which is responsible for the collection analysis, and sharing of information, as well as coordination of information and activities with the law enforcement and intelligence communities.

- The Mission Support Branch, which provides administrative support by performing functions such as strategic planning and analyses, budget and finance, property and procurement, human resources, and facilities and systems support.

FDNS is a developing operation. By 2009, it will have a workforce of approximately 650 officers throughout the U.S. and in selected offices overseas.

FDNS officers are located in every USCIS center, district, and asylum office, and are detailed to other internal and external government agencies. FDNS partners with its sister agencies, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP), in a Department-wide effort to combat immigration fraud. It also partners with key government agencies in a global effort to combat terrorism and other national security and public safety threats.

Results

As a result of these collaborations, more immigration benefit fraud and other national security threats have been detected and pursued than at any other time in history. Through the development of FDNS and its work with other government partners, USCIS has been and will continue to be successful in its commitment to protect our national security.