# Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) Directorate

**U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services**

**Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) Directorate**

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*To enhance the integrity of the legal immigration system by identifying threats to national security and public safety, detecting and combating immigration benefit fraud, and removing systemic and other vulnerabilities.*

*- Fraud Detection and National Security Directorate (FDNS) Mission Statement*

**U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services**

FDNS was created to strengthen the ability of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to provide the right benefit to the right person at the right time; and no benefit to the wrong person.

**FDNS** will enhance national security and the integrity of this country's legal immigration system by:

- **Identifying** threats to national security and public safety posed by applicants and petitioners seeking immigration benefits.

- **Detecting**, pursuing, and deterring immigration benefit fraud.

- **Identifying** and removing systemic and other vulnerabilities that compromise the integrity of the legal immigration system.

- **Performing** as USCIS's primary conduit for information sharing and collaboration with other government agencies.

**FDNS** and U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) have developed and implemented a joint anti-fraud strategy to enhance DHS' effectiveness in detecting, deterring, and combating immigration benefit fraud. By identifying those who are attempting to defraud the system, USCIS will also be able to provide better service to those who are legally entitled to the benefits.

The FDNS organization consists of more than 700 FDNS Immigration Officers, Intelligence Research Specialists, and Analysts located in field offices throughout the U.S.

## FDNS MISSION ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

### Fraud Detection:

- **Develop** policies, programs, and procedures designed to detect and deter fraud and eliminate vulnerabilities in the immigration petition and application process.

- **Review** worldwide fraud trends and access their impact on USCIS operations and programs.

- **Systematically identify**, update, and record indicators of fraudulent activity as well as manage fraud cases.

- **Provide** field adjudicators and managers with fraud indicators and up-to-date reports on fraud trends and patterns to enhance fraud detection capabilities.

- **Collect** and analyze data to quantify and define fraud activity and trends.

- **Detect** suspected fraud and conduct administrative investigations unilaterally or jointly with law enforcement agencies.

- **Conduct** Operational Risk Assessments to determine the nature and extent of fraud in certain immigrant and non-immigrant applications and petitions, and propose strategies for reducing vulnerabilities.

### National Security:

- **Develop** and oversee the implementation of national security-related policies and programs.

- **Develop** policies and guidelines relating to background and security checks conducted on all persons seeking immigration benefits.

- **Confirm** or resolve national security and public safety concerns through coordination with law enforcement and intelligence community partners as well as with other government agencies.

- **Perform** assessments and studies aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of USCIS's handling of cases involving national security concerns.

- **Provide** field adjudicators and managers with up-to-date National Security trends and patterns reports.



### Intelligence:

- **Collect**, analyze, prepare, and disseminate immigration intelligence information in support of the DHS Intelligence Enterprise and the national Intelligence Community.

- **Provide** quality analytical responses to Immigration Information Sharing requests and initiatives from law enforcement and the Intelligence Community.

### Liaison:

- **Serve** as USCIS's primary conduit for information-sharing with law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

- **Act** as USCIS's information sharing liaison to DHS and other federal agencies through on-site operational representation.

- **Provide** timely and accurate information to external partners on national security and fraud trends, patterns, and schemes uncovered during the course of agency operations.