

## **Lesson 25: Watchlisting and Screening**

### **Readings:**

1. National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States. “Staff Statement No. 2: Three 9-11 Hijackers: Identification, Watchlisting, and Tracking” in [\*Staff Statements of the 9/11 Commission\*](#). (New York, NY: Public Affairs, 2004): 17-31.
2. National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States. *The 9/11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States*. (New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2004): 176-182; 353-357; 383-395.
3. FBI, [\*Fact Sheet: Terrorist Screening Center\*](#), September 16, 2003. (2 pages)
4. George W. Bush, [\*Homeland Security Presidential Directive-6 \(HSPD-6\)\*](#), September 16, 2003.
5. Skim: Attorney General, Secretary of State, Secretary of Homeland Security, Director of Central Intelligence, [\*Memorandum of Understanding on the Integration and Use of Screening Information to Protect against Terrorism\*](#), September 16, 2003. (6 pages)
6. Skim: George W. Bush, [\*HSPD-11: Comprehensive Terrorism-Related Screening Procedures\*](#), August 27, 2004. (2 pages)

### **Study Questions:**

1. What is “watchlisting?” What is “screening?” What are different methods of screening?
2. The 9-11 Commission makes a variety of recommendations related to screening on pages 383 to 395. What sorts of issues or problems do those recommendations address?
4. What opportunities exist to screen persons? Which of these opportunities are appropriate for such screening?
5. What are the potential downsides of watchlisting and screening? What are the weaknesses and limits of watchlisting and screening as a method of identifying and apprehending terrorists?
6. What do HSPD-6, the MOU on the Integration of Screening Information to Protect Against Terrorism, and HSPD-11 do?

7. Understand the following terms: “US person,” “Terrorist Information,” “Purely Domestic Terrorist Information,” and “Terrorist Related Screening.” Why are these definitions, and particularly the distinctions among them, important?
8. What is the Terrorist Screening Center (TSC)?
9. What effect do the following have on the watchlisting and screening challenge:
  - Information sharing
  - Agency legal authorities (and associated agency policies) to gather, share, use, and maintain information
  - Information technology
  - Secure identification
  - Biometrics
  - Civil liberties
  - Efficiency of flows of people
  - International cooperation
  - Culture
10. What role do biometrics play in watchlisting and screening? What are the challenges associated with biometrics?
11. What are the benefits of international cooperation in watchlisting and screening? What concerns or constraints make such cooperation difficult?