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Homeland Security Investigations

Mission Statement

To conduct criminal investigations that protect the United States against terrorist and other criminal organizations who threaten our safety and national security; to combat transnational criminal enterprises who seek to exploit America's legitimate trade, travel, and financial systems; and to uphold and enforce America's customs and immigration laws at and beyond our nation's borders.

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Homeland Security Investigations

Homeland Security Investigations has a wide range of investigative authorities and priorities to include:

- **Money Laundering / Bulk Cash Smuggling / MSBs**
- **Narcotics Smuggling / Trafficking**
- **Commercial Trade Fraud**
- **Human Smuggling / Trafficking**
- **Transnational and Anti-Gang Enforcement**
- **Weapons Smuggling**
- **Counter Proliferation / Export Enforcement**
- **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)**
- **Cyber Crimes / Child Sexual Exploitation**
- **Immigration Document / Benefit Fraud**
- **Human Rights Violations**
- **Worksite Enforcement / Critical Infrastructure Protection**

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Homeland Security Investigations

69 International HSI offices in 47 Countries

Combating Illicit Finance and Proceeds of Crime

- HSI efforts to combat illicit finance are focused on identifying and addressing a comprehensive and exhaustive list of vulnerabilities and loopholes that may be exploited by criminal groups. To do this, HSI uses a multi-pronged, comprehensive approach that involves:
  - **Interagency coordination;**
  - Domestic investigations and operations;
  - Foreign training and technical assistance; and
  - **International cooperation and operations**.
- This approach allows law enforcement to address vulnerabilities *before* the vulnerabilities are exploited, increasing the chances of identifying important criminal associates, such as cash couriers that provide services on a contract basis.

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HSI Investigative Strategy

Focus investigative resources to:

- **Apply HSI's broad jurisdictional authorities and utilize available investigative tools such as Bank Secrecy Act (CMIR's, SAR's, etc.) and the Trade Transparency Unit (Trade Based Money Laundering);**
- **Identify methods and systemic vulnerabilities exploited by terrorist and other criminal organizations to *earn*, *move* and *store* their illicit proceeds;**
- **Eliminate these vulnerabilities through partnerships with the private sector and international partners through the *Cornerstone Outreach Initiative*.**

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Combating Illicit Finance and Proceeds of Crime

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OPERATION FIREWALL INFORMATION SHARING

REAL TIME INTELLIGENCE SHARING

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

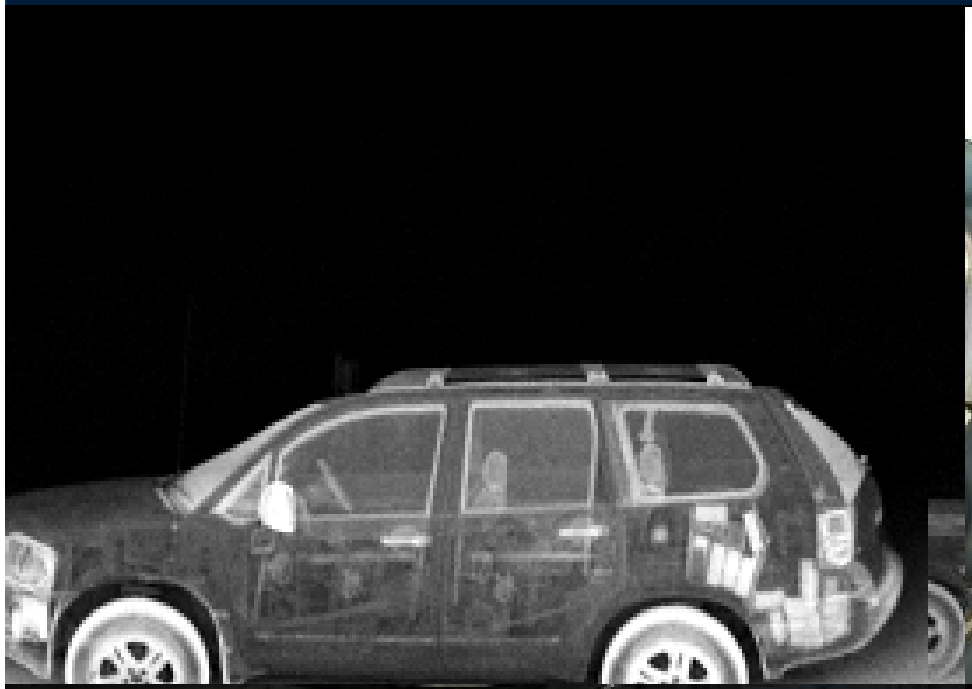
Operation Firewall

Since inception in August of 2005, Operation Firewall has resulted in the following:

- **$508.1 million seized in U.S. currency and negotiable instruments**
  - ***$241.2 million of which seized internationally***
  - **993 criminal arrests**
  - ***197 arrests occurred internationally***

At JFK International Airport, $176,320 concealed within black leotards on a passenger traveling from the U.S. to Istanbul, Turkey.

In Laredo, Texas, $541,365 concealed in a vehicle attempting to depart the U.S. for Mexico.



At JFK International Airport, $186,000 was discovered rolled and concealed in cigarette packs destined for Turkey.

Homeland Security Investigations

In an Average Year HSI Special Agents*

- **Initiate 126,425 new investigations;**
- **Make over 25,141 criminal arrests;**
- **Seize $422.6 million in currency and monetary instruments;**
- **Seize nearly 1.9 million pounds of narcotics and other dangerous drugs;**
- **Seize $126.1 million of contraband and other illegal merchandise;**
- **Respond to 1,133,130 inquiries and calls for assistance from other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies through ICE's Law Enforcement Support Center.**

**** Based on FY10 statistics***

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