

NLETS MESSAGE (ALL REGIONS)

11/28/03

MESSAGE FROM FBI COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION, WASHINGTON, D.C.

BRING TO THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF COMMAND PERSONNEL

TERRORIST SCREENING CENTER

THE TERRORIST SCREENING CENTER (TSC) WILL BEGIN OPERATIONS ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2003. THE TSC WILL SERVE AS THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF SUBJECTS WITH POSSIBLE CONNECTIONS TO TERRORISM.

WHEN A PATROL OFFICER RUNS A NAME CHECK QUERY ON A SUBJECT THROUGH THE NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER (NCIC), THE SYSTEM WILL NOW INCLUDE A CHECK FOR ANY KNOWN OR SUSPECTED LINKS TO TERRORISM. A SINGLE QUERY MAY RETURN MANY POSSIBLE MATCHES AND OFFICERS SHOULD FOLLOW THEIR STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR REVIEWING RECORDS. IN CASES WHERE A POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION IS STILL NOT POSSIBLE, THE OFFICER CAN REACH OUT TO THE TSC THROUGH THE DEPARTMENTAL DISPATCHER USING A TOLL-FREE NUMBER REFLECTED IN THE NCIC RECORD AND REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS. ANALYSTS AT THE TSC WILL HAVE ACCESS TO SUPPORTING INFORMATION BEHIND THE RECORD AND WILL WORK WITH THE DISPATCHER TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE. IF THE INDIVIDUAL'S IDENTITY IS CONFIRMED OR REMAINS UNCERTAIN, THE TSC WILL COORDINATE WITH THE FBI'S COUNTERTERRORISM WATCH AT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, DC, TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS ARE TAKEN.

ON DECEMBER 1, 2003, INITIAL CAPABILITIES OF THE TSC WILL BE LIMITED--RECORDS WILL BE PHASED IN TO ENSURE THE IDENTITIES OF SUBJECTS ARE IN FACT TERRORISTS. A DETAILED PLAN OF THE INFORMATION ROLL-OUT WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

ISSUES AND QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SYSTEM AND PROCEDURES MAY BE ADDRESSED, AFTER DECEMBER 1, 2003, TO THE TOLL-FREE INFORMATION LINE: 1-866-872-5678 (M-F/9-5) OR E-MAILED TO TSC@TECHTRACK.GOV. CUSTOMER SERVICE CAPABILITIES WILL BE EXPANDED AS THE TSC FUNCTIONALITY INCREASES.