

# HSI HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS



The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) directorate is a critical asset in the ICE mission, responsible for investigating a wide range of domestic and international activities arising from the illegal movement of people and goods into, within, and out of the United States.

**HSI** is the principal investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**Vision Statement:** To secure the Homeland from transnational criminal threats.

**Mission Statement:** To investigate, disrupt, and dismantle terrorist, transnational, and other criminal organizations that threaten or seek to exploit the customs and immigration laws of the United States.

## GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

**HSI** consists of more than 8,500 employees, including more than 6,000 special agents, who are assigned to 210 offices in 205 cities throughout the U.S. and 63 international offices in 47 countries.

HSI is DHS' largest investigative law enforcement presence overseas. HSI advances U.S. based investigations through coordination with foreign counterparts; disrupts transnational criminal organizations before they bring illicit products, people, and proceeds into or out of the U.S.; and builds international partnerships and increases foreign capacity through outreach and training.

## HSI PROTECTS & ENSURES

By targeting transnational threats, both at home and abroad, HSI protects and ensures:



## HSI INVESTIGATES

HSI enforces a diverse portfolio of federal laws, more than any other federal agency. HSI is responsible for investigating violations of U.S. customs and immigration laws pertaining to border security, homeland security, and public safety—all of HSI's mission sets have a nexus to those three areas.



## STRATEGIC MISSION PRIORITIES

Homeland Security/ Counter-Terrorism	Child Exploitation/ Cybercrimes	Human Trafficking/ Human Smuggling	Transnational Gangs/ Narcotics
<p>To protect the homeland from terrorists who seek to do harm to the U.S.</p> <p><b>HSI's unique</b> combination of law enforcement <b>authorities</b> enables HSI to target the people, money, and materials that support terrorist activities and to identify and prevent systemic vulnerabilities in the nation's border, financial, trade, and transportation systems.</p> <p>HSI is the largest contributor of federal task force agents to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTFs), with more than 300 special agents assigned to more than 100 JTTFs nationwide.</p> <p><b>2.2 million</b> visa applications were screened in FY 2016, and <b>8,599</b> were refused based on terrorist connections or derogatory information</p> <p>Of the 209 JTTF disruptions of terrorist activity in the U.S., <b>39%</b> were achieved using HSI's authorities (FY 2016)</p> <p>HSI is the <b>only federal agency</b> with the full range of investigative and border-related authorities to investigate and enforce all U.S. export laws related to military items, sensitive dual-use commodities, and sanctioned or embargoed countries.</p> <p><b>2,203</b> seizures for violations of various U.S. export laws and regulations in FY 2016</p> <p>HSI specifically targets the trafficking or illegal export of materials used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction, chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials, military equipment and technology, controlled dual-use commodities and technology, and firearms and ammunition.</p> <p>Impact: </p>	<p>To combat criminal activity conducted on or facilitated by the internet—transitioning from the physical to virtual world.</p> <p>HSI has established itself as a <b>world leader</b> in online child exploitation investigations due to the <b>wide range of its authorities</b> and presence throughout the world.</p> <p> HSI protects children from sexual predators through the disruption and dismantlement of individuals and groups involved in the possession, receipt, distribution, transportation, advertisement, and production of child pornography; and travel in foreign commerce and engaging in illicit sexual conduct with minors.</p> <p><b>820</b> sexually exploited children identified and/or rescued in FY 2016</p> <p>HSI's cyber related investigations focus on the transnational criminal organizations that use cyber capabilities to further their criminal enterprise.</p> <p> HSI focuses on cyber economic crimes that affect international commerce, online theft of intellectual property, personally identifiable information, and export controlled data; cyber-enabled crimes including illicit underground marketplaces, identity theft and document fraud, and other crimes.</p> <p><b>6.3 petabytes</b> total data examined by HSI in FY 2016 - The equivalent of: approx. <b>81 years</b> of high definition video play</p> <p>Impact: </p>	<p>To identify transnational criminal organizations engaged in human trafficking and human smuggling, and investigate the groups that pose the greatest risk to the U.S.</p> <p>HSI is the <b>lead federal agency</b> with the full range of investigative and border-related authorities to investigate human trafficking and human smuggling.</p> <p> <b>Human Trafficking:</b> sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion; or the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.</p> <p> <b>Human Smuggling:</b> importation of people into the U.S. involving deliberate evasion of immigration laws.</p> <p><b>435</b> victims of human trafficking identified in FY 2016</p> <p><b>2,110</b> cases initiated for human smuggling in FY 2016</p> <p>HSI's worksite enforcement and identity and benefit fraud programs further support HSI's efforts to prevent human trafficking and human smuggling.</p> <p> In many instances, worksite enforcement cases reveal a host of other crimes, such as human smuggling or harboring, forced labor trafficking, document fraud, identity theft, money laundering, and wage and labor violations.</p> <p> Identity and benefit fraud are elements of many immigration-related crimes, such as human smuggling and human trafficking, critical infrastructure protection, worksite enforcement, visa compliance enforcement, and investigations involving the security of the homeland.</p> <p>Impact: </p>	<p>To enhance public safety through investigations of dangerous transnational gangs and narcotics.</p> <p>HSI <b>prioritizes</b> transnational criminal organizations that <b>exploit U.S. borders</b>, DHS trusted traveler programs, DHS insider threats, and other border vulnerabilities such as tunnels.</p> <p> HSI's <b>unique dual federal authorities</b>, both criminal and administrative, have made HSI a leader in criminal investigations targeting transnational street gangs, prison gangs, and outlaw motorcycle gangs that pose a threat to the public safety and homeland security.</p> <p><b>4,606</b> transnational gang members criminally arrested in FY 2016</p> <p> HSI's narcotics enforcement investigations focus on border violators and the transnational criminal organizations they support.</p> <p><b>1.5 million</b> pounds of narcotics seized in FY 2016</p> <p><b>11,846</b> narcotics related criminal arrests in FY 2016</p> <p>HSI's Border Enforcement Security Task Forces (BESTs) play a key role in the government's efforts to enhance border security.</p> <p>HSI leads <b>42 BESTs</b> throughout the United States; these task forces are comprised of members from HSI, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as well as other federal, state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement officials.</p> <p><b>3,624</b> BEST related criminal arrests in FY 2016</p> <p>Impact: </p>

**Every criminal case** HSI investigates, regardless of category, **has a financial nexus.** HSI seeks to identify not only the illicit proceeds of crime but also target the financial networks and third-party facilitators hiding the illegal proceeds.



**\$473 MILLION**

Illicit currency and assets seized in FY 2016 — to include cash, stocks, bank accounts, planes, vehicles, homes, boats, etc.