



Homeland Security

Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Educational Sheet
In partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation

CVE Overview

To counter violent extremism, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is working with a broad range of government and civilian partners to gain a better understanding of the behaviors, tactics, and other indicators that could point to potential violent and/or terrorist activity; and the best ways to mitigate or prevent that activity. This initiative is designed to support the National Strategy on Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism and the Strategic Implementation Plan for Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism in the United States, which President Obama released in 2011. Our approach to CVE emphasizes the strength of local communities. We begin with the premise that well-informed and equipped families, communities, and local institutions represent the best defense against terrorist ideologies. While our primary purpose is to prevent terrorist and violent extremist attacks by individuals or groups recruited by violent extremist organizations, or inspired by violent extremist ideologies, we also support strong and resilient communities as important ends themselves.

Secure Information Sharing

One of the venues utilized by DHS to promote information and intelligence sharing on a broad range of topics is the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). This network provides a secure and trusted environment for information sharing and collaboration between federal, state, local, tribal, private sector, civilian, and international partners engaged in the prevention, protection against, mitigation, response to, and recovery from a variety of threats, crimes, hazards, and incidents. Within HSIN, the Joint DHS and FBI Countering Violent Extremism and Active Shooter (CVE-AS) Web Portal provides a forum for the exchange of Unclassified FOUO, SBU, and LES information to sworn, full-time, law enforcement officers (federal, state, or local); federal employees affiliated with the criminal justice system or intelligence communities; military personnel; and government agencies associated with infrastructure protection of the United States.

The CVE-AS Web Portal also shares Unclassified FOUO or SBU information with private sector partners, civilian security personnel, corporate executives, educational institutions/academia, international partners, community leaders, and other state and local partners, as appropriate. The Web Portal provides users and training practitioners with accurate, appropriate, and relevant CVE training development resources; information on outreach initiatives and subject matter experts; and forums to provide feedback, share products, and to ask questions.

Core Initiatives for Countering Violent Extremism:

DHS Outreach on CVE: Conferences, workshops, and online forums for federal, state, local, tribal, private sector, civilian community, and international partners.

Training Initiatives: DHS and its partners continue to educate front line officers, first responders, and community leaders on identifying and reporting suspicious activities and efforts to CVE.

Grants: DHS has prioritized prevention activities through our grants that directly support local law enforcement and community outreach efforts to understand, recognize, prepare for, prevent, and respond to terrorist pre-cursor activity, and separately to raise public awareness and vigilance through the "If You See Something, Say Something"™ public awareness campaign.

Analysis and Research: DHS has produced substantial analysis and research on violent extremism to support state and local partners in detecting and mitigating threats.

For more information from DHS on CVE initiatives, please visit the following DHS websites:

- Countering Violent Extremism at: <http://www.dhs.gov/topic/countering-violent-extremism>
- CVE-AS Public Portal at: <http://www.dhs.gov/cveas-portal>
- or email the program manager at: cveasportal@hq.dhs.gov