



## **CVE Engagement Activities**

### **NCTC Directorate for Strategic Operational Planning Domestic Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Team**

NCTC's Directorate of Strategic Operational Planning (DSOP) works directly with the White House, Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Department of Homeland Security to help with the implementation of the U.S. government's Domestic CVE Strategy. This includes coordination of policies at the federal level, as well as direct engagement with local law enforcement and communities across the country using the following CVE tools.

#### **COMMUNITY AWARENESS BRIEFING (CAB)**

The Community Awareness Briefing (CAB) is an unclassified presentation on radicalization and violent extremist recruitment designed to build awareness and understanding of violent extremism and to catalyze community efforts on prevention. It is updated continually with new information and feedback. The CAB has been presented to law enforcement, public safety officials, and directly to communities in multiple U.S. cities over the past few years. Generally it has been well received, often serving as a catalyst for community-driven CVE projects. Due to the increasing number of individuals traveling to foreign conflicts, such as Syria and Iraq, the CAB now includes information relating to foreign fighter recruitment. This specialized version of the CAB has been shared with local law enforcement and U.S. Attorneys around the country, as well as with foreign partners through our Embassies for their own community engagement efforts.

#### **COMMUNITY RESILIENCY EXERCISE (CREX)**

The Community Resilience Exercise (CREX) is a half-day table-top exercise designed to improve communication between law enforcement and communities and to share ideas on how best to build community resilience. CREXs focus on building trust and empowering communities against violent extremism domestically, which directly supports the domestic CVE Strategy and Strategic Implementation Plan. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) and DSOP's Domestic CVE team have worked with local partners to implement this exercise in cities across the United States.

The CREX is based on a program that has been conducted over 50 times in the United Kingdom with great success. The CREX uses an unfolding scenario of possible violent extremist activity with two threads: one thread disclosing what the police have learned and the other thread what the community experiences. The scenario is revealed in several stages, with participants breaking into small groups after each stage to discuss potential responses and how they should work together. The scenario is hypothetical, but based on the behaviors exhibited by past violent extremists prior to their arrest. The exercise is facilitated by an individual with credibility in both the community and government. At the end of the exercise, the facilitators help the participants create a local action plan focused on prevention and intervention.