Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Overview

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DHS at a Glance

- Approximately 240K personnel
- FY 2019 Budget Request: $74B

Core Missions of the Department:
- Securing Our Borders
- Enforcing Our Immigration Laws
- Maritime Security
- Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience
- Transportation Security
- Disaster Preparedness and Resilience
- Executive Protection/Financial Crimes

Large Department with Broad Authorities and Mission
CWMD Office Creation

“As terrorism evolves, we must stay ahead of the enemy and the establishment of this office is an important part of our efforts to do so.”
–Secretary Nielsen, December 2017

In December 2017, DHS established the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Office to elevate and streamline DHS efforts to prevent terrorists from using weapons of mass destruction against the United States.
CWMD Responsibilities

CWMD’s primary objective is to support the President’s National Security Strategy by leading the Department’s efforts to develop and enhance programs and capabilities that defend against WMD, and to combat bio-threats and pandemics. (President’s 2019 Budget Request)

Specific Responsibilities:
- Deter, Detect and Disrupt WMD
- Enhance Counter-proliferation Measures
- Combat Biothreats and Pandemics
- Promote Resilience

Requirements Analysis – 
R&D- Rapid Prototyping – T&E – Acquisition – Life Cycle Support
Primary Responsibilities

- **Operational Support**
  - Provide information, equipment, and expertise to frontline personnel who protect the Nation from WMD terrorism
  - Identify solutions for operational gaps and field capabilities that enhance detection and situational awareness
  - Provide medical expertise and support to front line operators/EMTs and for BioDefense Planning and Preparedness

Provide information/intelligence analysis and technology to operators
Primary Responsibilities

- **Close Capability Gaps**
  - Provide rapid solutions to emerging threats based on intelligence
  - Improve counter WMD information-sharing and integration to support coordination
  - Enhance security measures on and around critical pathways into the Nation in order to detect threats sooner

*Intelligence based gap analysis and solutions development*
Primary Responsibilities

- **Improve Technology**
  - Develop and deploy improved BioDetection technology: networked, digital system with near real time detection
  - Shift to streaming sensors, leverage Big Data capabilities and advanced computing algorithms improve anomaly detection
  - Support targeting and interdiction operations, integrate CWMD sensors with other targeting platforms

*Deploy 21st Century Detection and Information Sharing Capabilities*
What’s Next?

- The Future of DHS/CWMD
  - Working closely with Congress on our authorizations
  - Integrating programs and capabilities to better support operators across the counter WMD mission space
  - Communicating about our mission and services
  - Engaging with the operator community to determine how we can best support their efforts