

**Training Program Title: Training to Enhance Effective and Timely Sharing of Information and Intelligence on the Importation and Transportation of Food, Food Ingredients, and Animal Feed in the US**

**Funding: \$2,367,011, Awarded September 15, 2008, 3 Year Program**

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**Executive Summary:** Importation and transportation of food, food ingredients, and animal feed poses a broad spectrum of homeland security-related risks. In multiple federal analyses, imports and transportation have been identified as areas of concern. Recent reports regarding concerns over the safety of imported food and food ingredients showcase the need to develop a better system for effective and timely sharing of information and intelligence between law enforcement and federal, state, local, tribal, regional, and private sector entities to achieve coordinated awareness, prevention, protection, and response to a threatened or actual incident affecting movement of these products into and through the US. Importation and transportation of these products are regulated by multiple federal and state agencies with varying missions. Timely information sharing mechanisms between these agencies, law enforcement, and the private sector are not well established. Our training program will assist in the development of intelligence and information sharing networks at the local, state, and regional level between law enforcement, public safety agencies, and the private sector. These local networking efforts will coordinate and support the state-wide fusion centers. **Effective and timely sharing of intelligence and information between federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, regional, and private sector entities to achieve coordinated awareness, prevention, protection against, and response to a threatened or actual domestic terrorist attack, major disaster, or other emergency will be one of the primary measurable outcomes of this program.**

The program will include three components: A) a 4 hour online course at the awareness level; B) a 1 day instructor-led course at the performance level that will be delivered in the local community; and C) a 1 hour training video at the awareness level for the transportation industry. Over 3 years, the online course will be launched, the video disseminated and 52 deliveries of the instructor-led course will be offered nationwide. The total estimate of individuals to be trained is 8200. Project partners include: TN and NM Depts. of Agriculture, New Mexico State University, VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center, FDA, FSIS, USDA/APHIS and CBP. Private sector partners involved in importation or transportation of these products will be identified. We will also work with 2 national associations to ensure national applicability as part of the development process: the Association of Food and Drug Officials and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.