Executive Order 18 and the Domestic Violent Extremist Threat
NYSAC 2022 Fall Seminar
“Domestic violent extremism represents the most persistent and lethal terrorism-related threat facing the United States today.”

-U.S. DHS 2022 National Threat Assessment

Chart recreated from data from Erik Dahl, Assessing the Effectiveness of the Department of Homeland Security, 20 Years After 9/11
Diverse and Diffuse Threat Environment

- Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs)
  - Al-Qa’ida, Islamic State, Hizballah, IRGC

- Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs)
  - Most commonly lone offenders inspired by jihadist FTOs
  - Threat largely driven by availability of English language online propaganda

- Domestic Violent Extremists (DVEs)
  - Also likely to be lone attackers
  - Subscribe to a variety of ideologies: Racially-motivated, Anti-gov’t/militia, anarchist, abortion-related, incel, environmental/animal rights
DVE Online Threat Environment
May 2022 Buffalo Top’s Market Shooting
NYS Policy Response to Buffalo Shooting

1. 10 bill legislative package to strengthen gun laws

2. Executive Order 18 requiring counties to create domestic terrorism prevention plans and DHSES to establish a domestic terrorism prevention unit

3. Executive Order 19 requiring NYSP to file extreme risk protection orders against individuals likely to harm themselves/others
Components of EO 18 (I)

1. Every County must develop and maintain a domestic terrorism prevention plan, which must include input from law enforcement, mental health professionals, school officials, and other key stakeholders. **Must be submitted to DHSES by December 31, 2022.**
II. DHSES to establish a domestic terrorism prevention unit. This unit must:

A. Serve as information hub to share best practices to prevent targeted violence

B. Develop training to address DVE and radicalization

C. Implement a program to use social media to intervene in the radicalization process

D. Develop a Threat Assessment & Management (TAM) program to disperse funds and help counties develop TAM teams
III. New York State Police to establish a dedicated unit within the New York State Intelligence Center to track domestic extremism online and increase social media monitoring.
County Domestic Terrorism Prevention Plans

- What work is currently happening in your county that's specific to domestic terrorism prevention?
- What are you planning to do going forward?
- What are the gaps in your jurisdiction?
- How are serious risks (related to domestic terrorism) escalated currently?

Figure 2: Percentage of Terrorism Attacks and Plots in New York State by Threat Actor (2000-2020)

- FTO: 5%
- HVE: 33%
- DVE: 62%

Data Source: JRIC Fighting Many Foes: 20 Years of Extremist Violence in America
Resources to support county plan development

COUNTY DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION PLANS

TRAINING
- Targeted trainings by DHSES and partner organizations
- Convenings such as the recent TAM Summit

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- Guidance documents – County Plan Guidance, TAM primer
- 1:1 support to counties, connections to other SMEs

RESOURCES
- NYS Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant funding – $10 million in FY22
- Federal TVTP program – $400k awarded in FY22
- Federal SHSP program – $45 million awarded statewide FY22
Questions?

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https://www.dhses.ny.gov/state-funded-programs