



*The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties supports the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as it secures the nation while preserving individual liberty, fairness, and equality under the law.*

### **DHS Announces Standards on Sexual Abuse and Assault in Confinement Facilities**

DHS is firmly committed to protecting detainees from all forms of sexual assault and abuse. In support of and accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003, the Department recently submitted to the [Federal Register](#) a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) on standards to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual assault and abuse in confinement facilities.

“DHS has a zero tolerance policy for sexual assault and abuse in detention facilities,” said Secretary Napolitano. “The standards we have put forth will further enhance our ability to protect the health and safety of individuals in DHS confinement facilities.”

On May 17, 2012, President Obama issued a Presidential Memorandum directing all Federal agencies with confinement facilities to issue regulations and procedures to satisfy PREA requirements. That same day, DHS announced that it would undertake its own rulemaking to apply PREA to immigrant confinement facilities, building upon the zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse and assault in confinement facilities that DHS previously adopted.

The proposed standards require that confinement facilities undergo prevention planning; prompt and coordinated response and intervention; training and education of staff, contractors, volunteers, and detainees; appropriate treatment for victims; procedures for investigation, discipline, and prosecution of perpetrators; data collection and review for corrective action; and audits for compliance with the standards. In addition, the standards require regular audits of each immigration detention facility and each holding facility that houses detainees overnight to assess compliance with the proposed standards.

The Department consulted with Federal, state, and local partners and received input from the public and agency stakeholders in drafting the standards. CRCL supported and contributed to this effort by lending its expertise in policy development, investigations, and training related to sexual abuse and assault in immigration detention. CRCL will continue to play a critical role in implementing these standards across the Department.

DHS encourages the public to submit formal input on the [proposed rule](#) through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) during the open comment period, which ends February 19, 2013.

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## **CRCL Sponsors National Fusion Center Conference**

This past fall, CRCL partnered with the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis and DHS Privacy Office to sponsor a national event for [state and major urban area fusion center](#) Privacy/Civil Rights Civil Liberties (P/CRCL) Officers in Nashville, Tennessee. This event was the first of its kind to focus exclusively on P/CRCL issues in the Information Sharing Environment.



The two-day conference was attended by officers from 41 of the 77 recognized fusion centers, along with Federal, state, and local partners. Conference participants discussed a range of topics focused on identifying P/CRCL issues in intelligence products, social media, First Amendment-protected activities, and special issues related to large-scale events. CRCL will explore ways to integrate issues raised during the conference into its fusion center training program and technical assistance provisions in 2013.

## **CRCL Supports Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts**

Hurricane Sandy's devastating impact along the eastern seaboard created an immediate need for disaster assistance. In support of response and recovery efforts, CRCL activated its Disaster Civil Rights Coordination Team (DCCT) prior to landfall and during the storm to address potential civil rights and civil liberties concerns involving disaster response and recovery efforts.

CRCL's DCCT translated and disseminated a joint ICE-CBP statement concerning the evacuation of detainees/detention facilities, which affirmed that there would be no immigration enforcement initiatives associated with evacuations or sheltering related to the storm. This statement was translated into Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Haitian Creole, Korean, and Vietnamese; and was sent out to Federal and community partners, and immigration advocates, as well as posted on [CRCL's webpages](#) and [Facebook page](#). The DCCT also collaborated with FEMA's Office of Equal Rights and Office of Disability Integration and Coordination to develop a [statement and guidance for states, localities, and other Federal recipients](#) on their obligations to carry out disaster response and recovery activities in a non-discriminatory manner.



Secretary Napolitano and FEMA Deputy Administrator Richard Serino speak with local residents at a temporary shelter in Staten Island, New York.

*Image courtesy of FEMA.*

CRCL also made a significant contribution by deploying one of our DCCT staff to FEMA's Joint Field Office (JFO) in New York to address disability-related and other civil rights issues on the ground. While at the New York JFO, our staff member supported FEMA's Disability Integration Advisor in conducting field assessments of mass care shelters and disaster recovery centers to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities; engaging with community stakeholders and the New York City Mayor's Office to identify and address disability issues; launching a housing initiative to integrate disability accessibility considerations into all aspects of the Federal disaster housing mission being coordinated out of the JFO; and collaborating with all levels of government to ensure that repairs are made to critical accessibility features such as ramps, lifts, and electricity for power wheel chairs.

In addition, CRCL supported language access related to the storm by providing 4,000 “*I Speak*” pocket guides to assist FEMA and other frontline recovery workers in identifying the more than 25 languages being spoken among disaster survivors with limited English proficiency in New York and New Jersey.

## **CRCL Leads Countering Violent Extremism Efforts in Pakistan**

One of CRCL’s policy advisors recently returned from a year-long detail to Pakistan, after being selected by the U.S. State Department to establish a Community Engagement Office at the U.S. Embassy there. As a Pakistani-American who speaks fluent Urdu, our advisor was uniquely positioned to develop on-the-ground CVE strategies that spoke directly to the Pakistani people.

The Office began their work by conducting an assessment of each region of Pakistan to determine where radicalization was primarily taking place. The team then developed a targeted media campaign that included 26 products ranging from billboards and newspaper advertisements, social media content, music and videos by popular Pakistani bands, and a dramatic webisode series and animated series; all of which were produced in Urdu and five additional regional languages. In addition, the Office also took steps to make existing U.S. State Department programs more community-focused by employing a community engagement model based on CRCL’s model that involved partnering with Pakistani community groups and stakeholders to reach the people. The number of citizens who saw the media products significantly increased over the year, while overall efforts garnered a 30 percent increase in awareness and attitudes towards stopping violent extremism.



A stakeholder meeting with CRCL policy advisors in Pakistan.

## **National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month**



*CRCL plays a vital role in the Department’s human trafficking prevention efforts through their work with the DHS Blue Campaign. In 2012, CRCL provided subject matter expertise to develop training for experts who investigate and prosecute human trafficking crimes. This year, CRCL*

*will continue this work with the creation of roll call videos for local law enforcement to better explain their roles in the [U Visa certification process](#) and [requests for Continued Presence](#).*

***Read more about these efforts in the message below from Alice Hill, Senior Counselor to Secretary Napolitano, which is featured on the [DHS Blog](#):***

On December 31, 2012, President Barack Obama [proclaimed January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month](#) to recognize the vital role we can play in eliminating all forms of human trafficking. And as we begin a new year, we also mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, a powerful reminder to rededicate ourselves to bringing an end to slavery and human trafficking.



Human trafficking is a horrendous crime and at DHS, we are committed to doing all we can to prevent it. Every year, we initiate hundreds of investigations and make arrests, while providing support for victims through the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Victim Assistance Program. To protect victims, we also provide immigration assistance in the form of [Continued Presence](#), [T visas](#) and [U visas](#). DHS also works to educate state and local law enforcement and members of the public on how to identify victims of human trafficking and report the crime. Through the [Blue Campaign](#), the Department's unified voice in combating human trafficking, DHS works in collaboration with law enforcement, government, non-governmental and private organizations to protect the basic right of freedom, and to bring those who exploit human lives to justice.

In October, Secretary Napolitano joined Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and Amtrak President and CEO Joseph Boardman to [announce a new partnership](#) among DHS, the Department of Transportation and Amtrak to broaden our network of partners in our fight to prevent human trafficking. Amtrak is using training and awareness materials developed by the Blue Campaign to educate all of its employees, including Amtrak Police Department officers, on potential indicators of human trafficking. We further broadened our network of committed partners last fall when Secretary Napolitano joined INTERPOL Secretary General Ronald Noble in France to sign a joint statement reaffirming a mutual commitment to combating human trafficking. Broadening our network of domestic and international partners is just one way to help us identify and rescue victims, and help bring perpetrators to justice.

While we pay close attention today and this month, we must continue this fight every day. I encourage you to get involved by [learning](#) about the indicators of human trafficking and how to report it to the proper authorities.

Everyone has a role in identifying and combating human trafficking, and together we can help protect innocent victims and prevent this form of modern-day slavery. To learn more about human trafficking and what you can do, please visit [www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign](http://www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign) and the Blue Campaign [Facebook page](#).

## **CRCL on the Road,** **November – January**

### ***November 1 – Orlando, Florida***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

### ***November 13 – New York City, New York***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

### ***November 20 – Houston, Texas***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

### ***November 29 – Los Angeles, California***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

### ***November 7 – Seattle, Washington***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

### ***November 14-15 – Nashville, Tennessee***

CRCL sponsored the National Fusion Center Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties Conference and Workshop.

### ***November 26 – Boston, Massachusetts***

CRCL participated in the BRIDGES roundtable meeting, in coordination with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

### ***December 6 – Chicago, Illinois***

CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

***December 11-12 – New York City, New York***  
CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

***December 14 – Detroit, Michigan***  
CRCL participated in the ALPACT meeting.

***January 10 – Columbus, Ohio***  
CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

***January 10 – Denver, Colorado***  
CRCL convened its quarterly community engagement roundtable with diverse ethnic and community-based organizations.

***January 24 – Boston, Massachusetts***  
CRCL participated in the BRIDGES roundtable meeting, in coordination with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

***January 30 – Detroit, Michigan***  
CRCL will participate in the BRIDGES roundtable meeting, in coordination with the U.S. Attorney's Office.

### **Additional information, and contacting us**

The goal of this periodic newsletter is to inform members of the public about the activities of the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, including: how to make complaints; ongoing and upcoming projects; opportunities to offer comments and feedback; etc. We distribute our newsletters via an email list and make them available to community groups for redistribution. We also post information pulled from the newsletter on a webpage, [CRCL at Work](#). If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, want to request back issues, or have other comments or questions, please let us know by emailing [crcloutreach@dhs.gov](mailto:crcloutreach@dhs.gov). If you are on this list, but no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send an email to the same address asking us to unsubscribe you. For more information, including on how to make a civil rights or civil liberties complaint about DHS activities, see [www.dhs.gov/crcl](http://www.dhs.gov/crcl).

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