



FUGITIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Criminal Investigations

8.11 Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF)

- A. **Policy:** The USMS OCDETF Program is part of the Investigative Operations Division (IOD). IOD maintains oversight responsibility, program management, financial accountability and employee supervision for the OCDETF program.
- B. **Purpose:** This directive establishes the procedures for the OCDETF program. The mission of OCDETF, "is to identify, investigate, and prosecute the most significant drug trafficking and money laundering organizations and their related enterprises, and to disrupt and dismantle the operation of those organizations in order to reduce the drug supply in the United States."
- C. **Participants:** As a mandated OCDETF program participant, the USMS complies with the OCDETF national guidelines and standards established by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and section 1050 of P.L. 100-690. The USMS will exhibit flexibility in the application of the OCDETF guidelines to allow district offices to meet the unique law enforcement priorities, special requirements, and demands resulting from OCDETF activities. Mandated OCDETF participants are:
1. United States Marshals Service
 2. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
 3. Drug Enforcement Administration
 4. Federal Bureau of Investigation
 5. Internal Revenue Service
 6. United States Coast Guard
 7. United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement
 8. Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys
 9. DOJ Criminal Division, NDDS and AFMLS
- D. **General Policy:** All USMS OCDETF activity:
1. Funds appropriated to the OCDETF program will be spent in their entirety on OCDETF fugitive investigations, training, equipment, and program management
 2. Agency reimbursements for the OCDETF program will not be considered as offsetting revenues to reduce the base level funding in agency non-OCDETF operations
 3. The allocation of OCDETF resources will be made in accordance with section 1055 of PL 100-690 and annual appropriations legislation
 4. IOD maintains oversight responsibility, program management, and employee supervision for the

b2

OCDETF program

5. All OCDETF reimbursable positions are assigned to IOD and allocated in accordance with section 1055 of P.L. 100-690
6. IOD is responsible for the accountability and reporting of all OCDETF resources as prescribed by OCDETF national guidelines
7. All OCDETF positions (operational, administrative, and contractors) require a top-secret security clearance.

E. USMS OCDETF Organizational Structure: The USMS OCDETF program structure parallels the national OCDETF program guidelines. The USMS will maintain appropriate representation on the national, regional, and district levels.

1. **National Structure**

a. OCDETF Executive Committee: communicates policy, reviews resource allocations, and coordinates the development and maintenance of the OCDETF program. The OCDETF Executive Committee reviews and recommends resolution of policy disputes that cannot be resolved at the district or regional level and/or among agencies, upon recommendation of the Operations Chiefs Group. The Executive Committee meets at least annually. This committee is chaired by the Deputy Attorney General that includes:

- (1) Director, OCDETF
- (2) Director, United States Marshals Service
- (3) Assistant Attorney General, DOJ Criminal Division
- (4) Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration
- (5) Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- (6) Director, Executive Office for the United States Attorneys
- (7) Chairperson, Attorney General's Advisory Committee
- (8) Deputy Secretary, Department of Treasury
- (9) Chief, Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation
- (10) Assistant Secretary, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- (11) Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- (12) Commandant, United States Coast Guard
- (13) Director, National Drug Intelligence Center

b. Operations Chiefs Group: provide regular and special multi-regional operational coordination, shares information on agency program management, provides policy implementation and guidance on budget development and resource allocations, designs projects to enhance the OCDETF program, manages and communicates agency OCDETF program. This group is responsible for the development and changes to the Attorney General's priority list of international drug and money laundering targets. This group meets at least quarterly or as needed, is chaired by the OCDETF Director that includes:

- (1) Assistant Director IOD, United States Marshals Service

62

- (2) Criminal Division Section Chief, Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering Section
- (3) Criminal Division Chief, Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Section
- (4) Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, FBI
- (5) Deputy Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys
- (6) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement, Department of Treasury
- (7) Director, Operations Policy and Support, IRS
- (8) Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- (9) Assistant Director, Field Operations, BATF
- (10) Director, Coast Guard Investigative Service, United States Coast Guard
- (11) Chairperson, Attorney General's Advisory Committee, Controlled Substances Subcommittee

c. Washington Agency Representative Group (WARG): formulates and discuss OCDETF policy, procedures and issues that impact the OCDETF program. The WARG provides program coordination and special multi-regional operational coordination at the agency level and may recommend policy dispute resolution to the OCDETF Operations Chiefs Group and/or Executive Committee. The WARG meets as needed, is chaired by the OCDETF Director and includes senior representatives from:

- (1) United States Marshals Service (the USMS-OCDETF program manager is the WARG representative)
- (2) Drug Enforcement Administration
- (3) Federal Bureau of Investigation
- (4) Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- (5) Internal Revenue Service
- (6) United States Coast Guard
- (7) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- (8) Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys
- (9) Criminal Division, NDDS and AFMLS
- (10) Senior representatives from other offices may serve on the WARG such as, the Criminal Division, the Tax Division, Justice Management Division, the Office of Justice Programs, the National Drug Intelligence Center, the Financial Crime Enforcement Network, the Justice and Treasury Asset Forfeiture Staff, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Secret Service, and the U.S. Postal Service.

d. USMS-OCDETF Program Manager

- (1) Ensures agency adherence to OCDETF policies and procedures as defined in the OCDETF national guidelines and section 1055 of P.L. 100-690;
- (2) Serves as the USMS representative on the Washington Agency

b2

Representatives Group;

- (3) Supervise regional coordinators;
- (4) Accountable for all USMS OCDETF resources;
- (5) Disseminates performance measures for evaluating the success of the OCDETF program and monitors agency efforts;
- (6) Provides liaison between headquarters and regional components of OCDETF agencies and the OCDETF Executive Office;
- (7) Assists in preparing the annual OCDETF budget requests for the USMS;
- (8) Supports, formulates, and participates in OCDETF sponsored training initiatives and regional conferences;
- (9) Participates in performance reviews of judicial districts, as required by the OCDETF Executive Office; and
- (10) Schedule and conducts regular reviews of each OCDETF region for the purpose of meeting with Regional and District Coordination Groups to discuss issues of significance to the OCDETF program and its participants, to evaluate each region's progress in following its strategic plan, ensure OCDETF program goals are being met in active/open investigations, to review overtime reimbursement records for accuracy and program compliance, to obtain "best practices" within the region and to resolve specific problems that may arise at the regional or district level.

2. Regional Structure

- a. Advisory Council: Each OCDETF region has an Advisory Council that includes the United States Attorney from each district and a senior law enforcement official(s) from each member agency. The Advisory Council is accountable to the Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General in all matters concerning OCDETF in their region. Advisory Council meets or communicates regularly to:
 - (1) Monitor current and emerging drug trafficking patterns within their regions and the availability of law enforcement resources for OCDETF investigations;
 - (2) Formulates comprehensive regional strategies for Federal, state, and local law enforcement response to drug trafficking threats, and develops national drug enforcement strategies;
 - (3) Communicates and coordinates between Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, particularly with regard to law enforcement support programs and initiatives (e.g., HIDTA);
 - (4) Ensures that OCDETF resources are fully committed to the investigation and prosecution of OCDETF cases.
 - (5) The USMS representative to the Advisory Council is a United States Marshal (USM) from one district within the region. The USM selected by IOD serves a one year term and then is replaced by another USM from within the region.
- b. Regional Coordination Group: includes the designated Assistant U.S. Attorney (AUSA) and one senior / supervisory Agent Coordinator from each OCDETF member agency. Each Regional Coordination Group will:
 - (1) Assist the Advisory Council in monitoring current and emerging drug trafficking patterns within the region and in performing all other responsibilities of the

h2

Advisory Council;

- (2) Evaluate and approve all Investigation Initiation Forms;
- (3) Monitor the activities, progress and performance of the OCDETF program within the region;
- (4) Facilitate the appropriate exchange of drug enforcement information between agencies, and between districts and regions when an OCDETF matter has multi-jurisdiction implications, including establishing mechanisms for ensuring that appropriate attention and response is given to contacts and requests for assistance in OCDETF cases across region and district boundaries;
- (5) Manages the OCDETF State and Local Overtime Program within the region including audits and entering into reimbursable agreements; and
- (6) Facilitates the availability of additional resources to support OCDETF cases.

c. Regional Coordinator: is responsible for the successful operation of the OCDETF program within his/her region. The coordinator will:

- (1) Serve as the USMS representative to the Regional Coordination Group
- (2) Ensure that the Regional OCDETF program is conducted in accordance with established OCDETF and USMS agency guidelines
- (3) Support USMS district offices by disseminating program information to all USMS offices within their region
- (4) Secure additional resources to assist USMS districts in OCDETF fugitive investigations
- (5) Receive and review IIFs from the field offices within their region to determine OCDETF suitability and ensure that all proposed investigations meet OCDETF standards
- (6) Formulates the USMS component of the Regional Strategic plan
- (7) Identifies needs and problem areas in achieving USMS OCDETF goals
- (8) Conduct internal administrative audits to identify OCDETF fugitives
- (9) The USMS Regional Coordinator, as required by the national OCDETF guidelines, will be a full-time senior investigator with no conflicting collateral duties and assigned to the U.S. Attorneys Office in the OCDETF core city. The OCDETF core cities are:
 - (a) Boston, MA
 - (b) New York, NY
 - (c) Atlanta, GA
 - (d) Miami, FL
 - (e) Houston, TX
 - (f) St. Louis, MO
 - (g) Baltimore, MD

b2

(h) Chicago, IL

(i) San Francisco, CA

3. **District Coordination Group:** Each Federal Judicial district has an OCDETF district Coordination Group. The USA OCDETF Coordinator directs this group that includes a senior representative from member agencies and at least one representative of state or local law enforcement. The district U.S. Marshal or designee, the district OCDETF DUSM, or Regional Inspector represents the USMS on this group.

a. OCDETF District Representative: Each district has a collateral duty position that will:

- (1) Serve as liaison with district AUSA OCDETF Coordinator and the USMS Regional Inspector
- (2) Provide monthly reports to USMS Regional Coordinator on district OCDETF activities
- (3) Participate / coordinate OCDETF fugitive investigations
- (4) Represents the USMS at district OCDETF meetings and case reviews

b2